

## Blackline Master 4

### Being “Civilized”



Before and after photographs were used to “sell” the residential school system to politicians and the Canadian public. The photographs were staged to demonstrate the “civilizing” benefits of the schools upon the children.

Thomas Moore before and after his entrance into the Regina Indian Residential School in Saskatchewan in 1874.

Library and Archives Canada / NL-022474

#### What To Do:

Look closely at the photographs. What did your eye go to first? Compare: clothing, hair, facial expressions, background, items in the picture, shoes, accessories, age, body stance, and other details. Complete the T-Chart with jot notes under each title.

Answer the questions on the back of this page.

Before	After

1. What do you think are some possible reasons behind the changes observed in the photographs?
2. How do you think the Aboriginal people felt about these changes to their appearance? Why would they feel that way?
3. What individuals or groups do you think are behind these changes?
4. What effect do you think these assimilative changes had on the children and on Aboriginal cultures over the long term?
5. Do any schools today have rules regarding appearance and clothing? Why?