

Effects of the Europeans on the Native Americans

1.) GREED FOR GOLD -

The Europeans killed the Native Americans to get their gold. The Spanish conquered the Aztec and Incan empires and gained control of those regions.

2.) DISEASE -

Europeans brought diseases unknown to the Native Americans. They had no natural immunity to diseases such as smallpox, measles and flu. Entire villages were wiped out. Traditional Native American "medicine" had no effect.

3.) FOOD SUPPLY -

Europeans cut down the forests to make room for villages and crops. The animals (Native Americans' food) left when their homes were destroyed. Some Europeans and Americans also hunted for sport and for furs. They often over hunted. This caused the extermination of the bison. The Native Americans only hunted and killed what they needed to survive.

4.) LAND OWNERSHIP -

Native Americans believed that the land was shared by all creatures and could not be sold or given away. When tribes made treaties with the Europeans and Americans, they thought they were only giving permission to **use** the land. The Europeans and Americans thought that they had been given the land forever. This misunderstanding led to war and death.

5.) THE FRONTIER -

As the Americans pushed farther and farther west into the frontier, the Native Americans were forced off their land. This "Indian Removal" caused death among some tribes. Some were put on reservations. When railroads were built, the government also took the lands of Native Americans.

6.) WAR -

Native Americans traded furs for beads, jewelry, and other items the Europeans offered. They soon became dependent on these items. When war broke out between the French and the English, the Native Americans were forced to help their trading partners or allies. The Algonquins traded with the French. The Iroquois sided with the English. Therefore war between the French and English led to war between the Algonquins and the Iroquois. Many were killed or lost their land when the war ended. The French and Indian War and the American Revolution were two wars where the Native Americans were forced to participate.