

The main thesis of “The Collapse of the Beothuk World” and “The Beothuk on the Eve of their Extinction” is about their demise and how the Europeans may or may not have contributed to it. “The Collapse of the Beothuk World” was written to give a different perspective on Europeans settlement while “The Beothuk on the Eve of their Extinction” was written to prove once again, that the Europeans had no business on this land.

Looking at “The Beothuk on the Eve of their Extinction”, it talks about how the Europeans did not impact the Beothuk people at first but they started to when “...European populations settled and grew in Newfoundland during the eighteenth century, their economy became increasingly diversified. Eighteenth century settlers not only fished for cod during the spring, as they had always done, but they also took up salmon fishing, trapping and hunting.” (Holly, "The Beothuk on the Eve of their Extinction," P. 82) Now, the other paper states that “...it is not possible to determine the size of the Beothuk population at the time of the European contact.” (Pastore, "The Collapse of the Beothuk World," P. 55) This is saying that this group of people could have possibly been going extinct before Europeans settled. It seems up in the air as to what happened on this land at this time and it is unfortunate that this is an extinct group and that we can't even get an oral history to determine a little clearer what may have happened.

Work Cited

Holly Jr, Donald H. "The Beothuk on the Ever of their Extinction." *Arctic Anthropology*. Volume 37. Issue 1 (2000): P 79-95.

Pastore, Ralph. "The Collapse of the Beothuk World." *Acadiensis: journal of the History of the Atlantic Region*. Volume 37, Issue 1 (1989): P 52-71.