**DOCUMENT T5**

**The Colonisation of North America**

**(Dee Brown), Bury My Hearth at Wounded knee (1971)**

It was written by Dee Brown. It is an extract from "Bury My Hearth at Wounded knee".

The introducing title is worth beinganalized since it convais a different point of view about the reason why English people that considered themselves Puritan and persecuted moved to North America.

Suffice it to say that the extract is part of the text published in 1971 that is much later in time than the actual experience.

Speaking about "an Indian History of the American West" implies taking into consideration a different historic angle from what we generally accepted. Indian History implies that now events and facts are told by descendants of Native Indian people, that ones that were living in the North America when the Separatists first and the Pilgrims later settled in their lands.

The text is indeed a research report and therefore worth to be considered, since it takes into consideration a multiplicity of points of view.

The text starts making it loud and clear that the survival of the Pilgrims that arrived in America by the Mayflower was mainly due to the attitude of the Natives.

The text also provides the reader with informations about the kind of support provided by the Indians. They not only helped the English to survive after a dangerous voyage, they also gave them different kind of advice to grow agricoltural products for their autonomous survival such as "how to catch fish", gavee them "some seed corn" and showed them "how to plant and cultivate it".

The function of the first sequence is therefore a clear denial of all that said in William Bradford's history of Plymouth plantation (1650-1651). More than three centuries were necessary for the Indians' voice through their descendants could be heard.

The second paragraph informs the reader that after a first period of calm and peaceful coexistence and life on the lands of North America a second period followed during which a larger and larger number of colonists arrived in America and called for materials and land to be given to them. There is also record, according to which in 1625 Samoset through a ritual and ceremony that belonged to their civilisation "transferring the land the land and made his mark on a paper for them".

Such research unrutes the general idea about the pilgrims voyage since it implies that they were more immigrants looking for a better life than the possibility to simply profess their puritan religion. With time arrived many other colons but they didn’t respect the Samoset ceremony and became hostile to the indigenous. The Native Americans endured the colons until Massasoit’s death, chief of Wampanoags, in 1662. By this moment the indigenous were sent back into the wilderness.