

ation itself and the political pressures on the researcher interested in impact.

2. Attitudes of the people involved in and affected by the impact situation are often ambivalent, inconsistent and contradictory.
3. Those who have most to gain, particularly in short term monetary terms, are often least sympathetic to the effects of impact, especially negative effects.
4. The longer-term effects, particularly those involving permanent structural changes in the community, are rarely perceived in the early stages of an impact situation.
5. An impact situation will exacerbate existing ills in the community.
6. The impact situation will often be used as a scapegoat for a variety of problems, thus increasing the difficulty in separating out "normal" from "impact-induced" situations.
7. Individual and group perceptions of impact will change through time.
8. Very few people or administrative structures are geared to cope with the very rapid social and economic changes that an impact situation demands.

Impact can be defined as the stress of a rapidly changing situation. The more rapid the change, the greater the effects of stress. Stress can be personal, institutional, physical, environmental, social, economic. The idea of stress can be related to the concept of carrying capacity, that there are certain limits, actual or perceived, to the amount of activity that can be tolerated in a certain area. For example, the Tanana Valley experiences strong temperature inversions in winter in which ice fog conditions occur. The thermal power station (coal-fired) in downtown Fairbanks, auto exhaust fumes and burning oil or wood for domestic heating exacerbate this condition. The influx of more people means more houses with heaters and more