



## **Pitfall 1: Assuming that historians and secondary sources relay the “facts” of history, rather than develop interpretations of the past.**

**Example:** My textbook focuses mostly on leaders and major events, so those facts must be the most important aspects of history.



## **Pitfall 2: Judging the past using contemporary standards.**

**Example:** The government should have punished parents who allowed their children to work in factories during the early 1900s.



## **Pitfall 3: Trying to learn direct lessons from the past.**

**Example:** World War II helped end the Great Depression. The United States should have another war every time the economy goes into a recession.