

# Do You Have a Good Topic?



## 1. Does your topic fit the theme of History Day?

- < Not only does it fit within the theme, but will you be able to explain its tie within your project?
- < If you were asked by a judge to explain the correlation, would you be able to do so?

## 2. Can you analyze your topic?



- < You need a topic that helped shape history.
- < Judges will want you to tell them how and why your topic shaped history.
- < Can you determine historical context, alternate perspectives, significance and impact?

## 3. Is your topic too small?

- < This will be based on the number of available resources.



## 4. Is your topic too large?

- < If your topic is too large, there are too many resources to read.
- < You would spend all your time summarizing the event, rather than analyzing it, and drawing conclusions.

## 5. Are there primary source available for your topic?

- < Better History Day projects use an abundance of primary sources.
- < Be sure that you can locate some.

## 6. If you are creating an exhibit, documentary or web site, will you be able to find enough photographs, images, video footage?

- < If your topic takes place before the mid-1800's, this might be difficult.



## 7. Is your topic unique?

- < The more unique your topic, the more likely it is to do well at History Day.
- < A unique project, well-done, helps you look original and interesting from the start.



## 8. Will you enjoy researching and learning about this topic?

- < History should be fun to learn. Choose a topic that makes YOU want to learn more. You will become an expert on your topic and teach lots of people something they never knew before.

## 9. Regarding theme: YOU have the burden of proof!

- < Make sure you can show HOW your topic CHANGED history!!

