

# 13 HABITS OF THE MIND

The **National Council for History Education** made a list of thirteen habits that many people do when studying history. This is my version of that list:

- ① **PAST SIGNIFICANCE** - or - what did the past folk think was important to them
- ② **IMPORTANCE** - or - what really matters and what doesn't
- ③ **HISTORICAL EMPATHY** - or - stop thinking of now; think like you lived then
- ④ **SHARED HUMANITY** - or - think of what we all share as human beings
- ⑤ **CHANGE/CONSEQUENCE** - or - think how we can change things
- ⑥ **CHANGE/CONTINUITY** - or - think about how all things do not stay the same
- ⑦ **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - or - not everything has a solution - live with it!
- ⑧ **AVOID MONOCAUSALITY** - or - things happen because of many many causes
- ⑨ **TENATIVE NATURE** - or - not ALL past lessons can cure today's problems
- ⑩ **PEOPLE** - or - notice people who made a difference (both good and bad)
- ⑪ **UNINTENDED/UNEXPECTED** - or - sometimes things happen by accident
- ⑫ **TIME/PLACE** - or - geography and history are the stages of human events
- ⑬ **EVALUATING EVIDENCE** - or - create useful questions from good research