**Historical Thinking Concept #2 – Cause and Consequence**

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* Change is driven by **multiple causes** and can result in **multiple consequences**. These causes and consequences can be **short term** or **long term**
* The causes that lead to a particular historical event can **vary in influence**, with some being more important than others
* Events result from different types of factors: 1) **Historical Actors** – Individuals or groups who take action that cause events and 2) The **conditions** (social, political, economic, cultural) within which the actors operate
* Historical actors cannot always predict the effect of conditions, opposing actions, and unforeseen reactions. These are **unintended consequences**.
* The events of history were **not inevitable**, any more than those of the future are. Alter a single action or condition and any given event might have turned out differently.