

## History in the Making

Looking at my life, I have studied so many events that everything has become familiar in a way, where events that are happening in my lifetime, I can recognize as a part of the broader aspect of history.

\* Represent patterns that happen throughout the timeline

Certain footnotes have been selected for events that are particularly important to my life.

2007

The creation of Netflix. NASA reached Mars. The invention of the Iphone was released<sup>1</sup>. Tesla unveiled its first car. The US stock market collapses. Virginia Tech shootings. Bridge in Minneapolis partially collapses.\*

2008

The election of Barack Obama. The US government financial bailout. Continuation of the US housing crisis<sup>2</sup>. Lehman Brothers bank collapses.

2009

Cryptocurrency and Bitcoin are introduced. The miracle on the Hudson. Russia shuts off gas supplies to Europe through Ukraine.\* Israel and Hamas declare a ceasefire in the Gaza War.\* Swine Flu Pandemic.\*

2010

Earthquake in Haiti<sup>3</sup>. Snowmageddon. Instagram comes out.

2011

Osama Bin Laden is killed. Snapchat comes out. Fukushima nuclear disaster.

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<sup>1</sup> This was in my opinion the revolution of the decade and possibly the century. The invention of the iphone that is used by billions of people each day has had an immense impact on the lives of me and everyone around me. I don't know someone over the age of 13 who does not have a phone. To me it has really just become a way of life. This marked a major milestone of the digital revolution that has consumed all of society, and will be written in the history books.

<sup>2</sup> Though I learned very little in my school, my parents made me watch The Big Short, a movie that tells a story about the 2008 housing crisis, and the effects that it had on all kinds of people. I just loved this movie because it made me feel so smart at the time that I knew what Mortgage meant. But in all seriousness, after watching this movie and hearing all of the grownups talking about it, it just makes me feel fortunate and interested to see how the crisis will be studied. I highlighted this one because we are briefly beginning to learn about this in APUSH even though it was just 15 years ago.

<sup>3</sup> I wanted to mention this particularly because this was the first time where I saw impoverished people who had gone through great suffering. My mom helped with a film that covered the catastrophe in Haiti, and after watching it, I have always felt a sense of urgency when people are in need to find a way to help.

2012

Hurricane Sandy. NASA lands its first rover on mars.

2013

Boston Marathon Bombing. Death of Nelson Mandela<sup>4</sup>. Partial US government shut down. Same sex legislation is formed in many countries.

2014

Ebola Outbreak. Emergence of ISIS.

2015

Iran Nuclear Deal. Charleston Church Shootings. Paris Climate Agreement.

2016

Election of Donald Trump<sup>5</sup>.

2017

Women's March<sup>6</sup>. Total Solar Eclipse. #MeToo Movement.

2018

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<sup>4</sup> I'm not sure why this particular moment I can remember, but I know when and where it happened. After going to the doctor's appointment, I was turning onto El Camino Real and I remember my mom mentioning it to my older sister who had learned about him. This memory of the car turning onto the street and them talking about it has strangely stuck with me all of these years.

<sup>5</sup>My mom and dad were closely following the election as they were huge supporters of Hillary Clinton, primarily my mom, and she was horrified at what would happen if Donald Trump became president. I remember we used to make jokes about how we would move to Canada if he won, or we bought Donald Trump toilet paper and a Panda. We never thought it would happen, and as the night went on, the race was getting closer and closer. Eventually I went to sleep and the next morning I hopped out of bed and met my dad in the middle of the hallway, where I asked him the question that everyone seemed to be wondering. He grumbled in his deep voice confirming what we all thought was a fantasy and I was shocked. I remember going to school and there was that feeling when something had happened the day before. Everyone was talking about it.

<sup>6</sup>My mom set it up so that my whole family was supposed to go to the women's march in San Francisco. The day of, my dad was supposed to meet up with us, but there was some sort of error where he didn't and I remembered the rage that my mom had. Up to that point, I had never seen my parents fight, or even have an argument for that matter. I knew this had to be pretty important. After driving for a little more than an hour, we got to the downtown of San Francisco, and I wasn't the most thrilled to be there. But that all changed once my mom got a Caramel Apple. It was pouring rain and we had no rain gear and this woman gave us some panchos. I was also thrilled because my mom let me curse during the protest which was insane to me.

March For Our Lives protest. California Wildfires<sup>7</sup>.

2019

Notre Dame Fire. Amazon Rainforest fires. Flooding of Venice. Impeachment of Donald Trump.

2020

Australian bushfires. COVID-19 Outbreak<sup>8</sup>. Black Lives Matter movement<sup>9</sup>. Beirut Explosion.

2021

US Capital Riot<sup>10</sup>. Suez Canal Blockage. Israel-Palestine Conflicts\*. Miami Building Collapse. Taliban takeover of Afghanistan<sup>11</sup>. Haiti Earthquake. Omicron Variant.

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<sup>7</sup>These fires were particularly memorable out of a series of fires that we have had because they were threatening the family cabin that my grandparents owned. Up in northern California, where we had spent every summer, the fires were mere miles away, and as it crept closer, we were also so fearful of what would happen. Lucky for us, the firefighters were able to stop it on the one road in between the fire and our cabin. This one really resonates with me though because while it wouldn't have ruined my life, it definitely would have had a big impact where so many memories were made.

<sup>8</sup>I think we all knew this one was coming... For me, the first time I heard about the idea of a pandemic was from Shane Garrison before school. He was talking about how there were some people on a plane that came to the US from China with a disease but I didn't think much of it. Then the news hit hard fast. Thursday night March 12th, my parents decided that we were going to stay home from school the following day. And I was worried that I was going to miss school work... Then the cruise ships hit. School ended up closing the following day, and we all thought that we were just getting a 2 week break. Little did we know, that 2 week break ended up turning into a full year of the lockdown stuck in my room playing Minecraft and getting fat. We were all so happy to not have to be in school, and then the google meets and zooms started to emerge. What started out as a 2 week vacation turned into 4 and then 6 and then the rest of the school year online. Nobody knew what was happening. All I remember feeling was that I had to be safe because I was a child. That was my insurance. My family stayed inside of our properties as much as possible and the only reason we would go out was when my mom would go to the store, and I kid you not, get 40 brown bags full of food and supplies which would last us weeks. I spent hours lounging around on my devices, as my parents scrambled to find something to do over the summer. We thought that we would begin the next school year in-person, but it would take another 8 months before we would get to hybrid learning. By that point everyone was SO ready to go back to in-person even if it meant we had to do real school. We slowly started making our transitions back into the real world.

<sup>9</sup>As the Pandemic was entering into its full swing, I remember that the BLM movements were also raging after the deaths of George Floyd and Brianna Taylor. I even went to a protest in downtown Los Altos where we were met with thousands of people marching up and down the streets. I felt like it was really cool to be a part of a movement that so many others were a part of.

<sup>10</sup>This was the initial event that prompted me to write this whole overview. This event for me is most clear. It was a wednesday morning and we had this weird schedule where I had like a 2 hour break with no classes. After seeing a Tik Tok about potatoes, I was inspired to create these fried concoctions and so I was in the kitchen making this stuff. I'm not sure what prompted me, maybe it was my mom, but I turned on the news to see a helicopter surrounding the US capitol building as a huge mass of people were outside rioting. There were reporters who were talking about the reasons but I just felt like it was so interesting that I was watching this piece of history unfold right in front of my eyes in real time. At that point they were showing the same shot of the rioters and nobody really knew what was happening. There was the general idea that the people were challenging the legitimacy of the 202 election, but it was really just unclear why there was so much violence. We wouldn't learn about all the details until weeks later but I remember the national guard was sent in surrounding the building. The days following, huge protests in support and against ensued, and I just followed like a hawk the stories because I wanted to be that Primary source that we had always talked about in history class. I also thought it was just super interesting.

<sup>11</sup>This was also a huge event that I was watching like a Hawk. I felt a serious sense of patriotism and urgency to get the troops out of Afghanistan. As the days went by I remember seeing awful images and videos of civilians falling from US cargo airplanes. What felt like a forever stage of everyone waiting eventually faded out of

2022

Russian Invasion of Ukraine<sup>12</sup>. Uvalde School Shooting. Overturning of Roe V Wade.

2023

Silicon Valley Bank Collapse. Maui Wildfire. Israel Hamas Conflict.

2024...

**If there is one thing that I would like you to take away from all of this, it is that we should not panic when there are huge changes being made in the world around us. My old history teacher once told me that even if big changes seem new and scary, society and the world has most likely been through it in some shape or form, and that we have made it out the other end no matter what disaster or conflict. Even if everything around you seems like it is burning away like a fire storm that we faced on multiple occasions, there is always a way out.**

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/main-events-of-2007/articleshow/2649758.cms?from=mdr>

## **Rough Annotated Bibliography**

### **It's all just history repeating itself**

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my view and worries of my day to day life, but the lives that were lost and the purpose of the war, I still think about. This kind of connection to the idea of Vietnam and whether this was really worth all of the hardship, especially since the Taliban so quickly took back over after the Us left, just like the communist Vietnamese so long ago.

<sup>12</sup> Similar to the election of Donald Trump back in 2016, when I got to school the following morning from the initial invasion, every single person in Period 1 history class was talking about it. We normally had this activity Called "News, Views, Confused," where we would talk about things that we were wondering about. Usually there would not be much to talk about, but that morning, Mr. Heiken did not need to really wait for anyone to say it. It really felt like it was the Elephant in the Room.

This piece was really intriguing because of the complexity of the different perspectives that were presented throughout. I think that because all of these people are tech leaders and innovators, they can be perceived as the most reliable guess for where an industry might head. But in all honesty, I don't think anyone can know what is going to happen. As one of my friends' dad put it ,” I might have been successful on Wall Street, but 90% of the time, we had no idea where things were headed, and if someone tells you otherwise, they are either lying to you or to themselves.” This quote really has resonated with me because he is a very successful man who has led a great career, and he is one of the most honest people I have ever met. Now I know that this passage was just the best guess of many leaders, but in order for them to tell what is going to happen to the best of their ability, they look to the past. Many cited specific events like the 30 years war in Europe, or ideas of enlightenment that reflect the digital and technological innovation that is occurring right now. In addition, there was another piece from this text that caught my eye when reading it, which was from Mark Jaimason, a Professor at the University of Florida. He said that when there are big changes going on in society, especially technological revelations such as the industrial revolution, there will always be who take advantage and abuse others, and he recognized that when you look back at this, such as the child Labor laws that were present, you can see reflections of this in the technology revolution happening right now, like the labor of children in foreign countries, being paid cents every hour.

### **History Doesn't Repeat Itself, But it Often Rhymes**

I thought that this article was particularly interesting because it took a very in depth stance into the political, economic, and racial aspects of America, which we have been studying in my APUSH class for the past couple of months. He highlighted the reflection between the racial culture and social acceptance by pointing out the two men that raised their arms in the Olympics to symbolize the black power, similar to the athletes more recently in the past couple of years who have knelt during the national anthem. He also delves into the problem of gun violence and the lack of control that consumes society. I can tell that the author is trying to show what little change has happened in legal and societal rules to prove a point. He also pulls at the strings of nationalism in the text, suggesting that we Americans should shift our focus from belief in the power of the US, to fixing the problems that we continue to have. I think that the overarching topic of the article was a call to action rather than a report, and I think it is trying to say that people need to open their eyes to problems that people are having, and try to change it.

### **Our unraveling World is History Repeating Itself**

I think this was the article that was most prevalent with me because of all of the recent events that have unfolded in just the past 3 years. I remember the unfolding of January 6. Riot that happened over quarantine. At the kitchen I was watching the TV, while making potatoes and I remember hearing my mom tell me to turn on the TV. At that point I saw the protest happening outside the capital and I never

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would have thought that it would become so violent. Looking back years later, I was still so stunned that I had been a part of history sitting thousands of miles away, but I knew that this was going to be a big event. Another example was during the Russian invasion of Ukraine. I remembered walking into my world history class, and everyone was talking about it. We had this activity called “News, Views, Confused” and before anyone got a chance to say anything, my teacher started discussing it, and we all seemed to be in shock. Looking back to the other proxy wars just like in this passage, you can obviously see the similarities, despite many of them being a lot larger. This is why I think that history is just so interesting. From my learning, it was obvious how these events would be talked about in the future just like how we talk about these events from hundreds of years ago.