

## Tools to Organize and Analyze the Past: Social Institutions

# What's the **BIG** deal?

- Four tools that historians use to organize information include significance, social institutions, temporal frames (time), and spatial scales (space).
- Long-lasting patterns of meeting these basic social needs result in the creation of social institutions such as an economy, government, family, education, religion, and language.
- Using social institutions to organize and analyze an account is important for both the historian and reader.
- Analyzing and describing social institutions enables comparisons among societies.