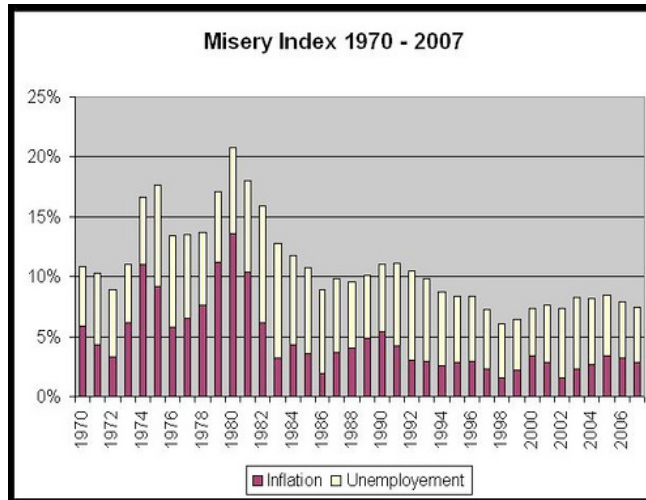


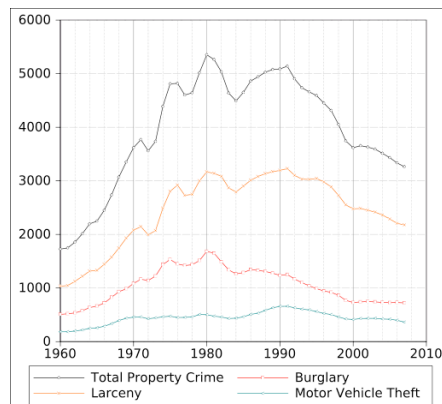
## Social and Economic Conditions the 1970s

### DOCUMENT 1



The “Misery Index” (Inflation + Unemployment)

### DOCUMENT 2



Crime Rates

### DOCUMENT 3



Arab Oil Embargo and Gasoline Shortage, 1973

### DOCUMENT 4



Gay Rights March, July 1976

## DOCUMENT 5



"It's not my victory, it's yours and yours and yours. If a gay can win, it means there is hope that the system can work for all minorities if we fight. We've given them hope."

*--Harvey Milk, after winning a seat on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1977, becoming the first openly gay person to be elected to public office in California*

## DOCUMENT 6



**Women's Liberation March, August 1970**

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. What is the “Misery Index”? What level was it at between 1970 and 1980?
2. What was the trend for violent crime rates between 1970 and the early 1980s?
3. How would a major gasoline shortage have affected Americans in the early 1970s?
4. What does Harvey Milk’s election suggest about changing attitudes toward gay Americans in the 1970s?
5. Overall, what do the documents suggest about social and economic conditions in the 1970s?
6. How might these conditions have helped make Disco music more popular? In this type of environment, why might many young people have wanted to “escape” to the disco?
7. How did American attitudes toward women and gay people appear to be changing in the 70s?
8. Think back to the performers you saw in the video of Disco hits earlier in this lesson. How might what you saw in those videos show the influence of the Women’s and Gay Rights movements? Think particularly about the performers, the way they were dressed, and the ways they expressed themselves.