

The Swerve: How the World Became Modern (most likely book being reviewed)
Stephen Greenblatt

As John Ellis points out, "in criticizing Europeans for attitudes that were simply those of their time, both Stephen Greenblatt and Said miss what was distinctive about them – their ambivalence and the strong signs of their eventual renunciation of those attitudes. And so Greenblatt and Said both preach historicism yet judge ahistorically; they both preach enlightenment values yet attack the very group that originates and spreads those values."

Just as we should not **judge** other contemporary cultures and societies by our standards, so we should not **judge** societies in the past by our standards. Popper connects **historicism** with relativism in OSE, and with holism in PH...

You are committing a classic blunder, preaching historicism yet judging ahistorically; you both preach enlightenment values yet attack the very group that originated and spread those values. It's as if you called a Neanderthal sexist because the Neanderthals stayed in the cave and cared for their young instead of risking extinction joining the hunt.