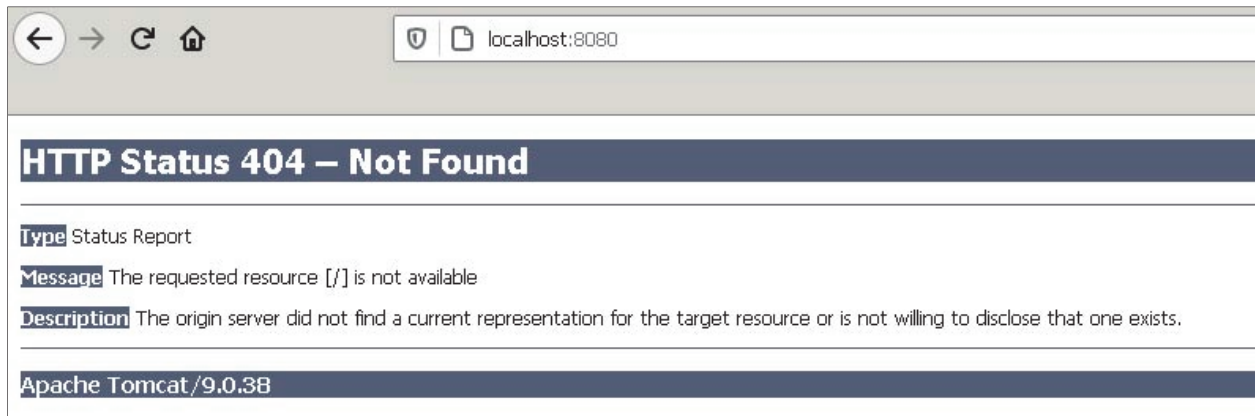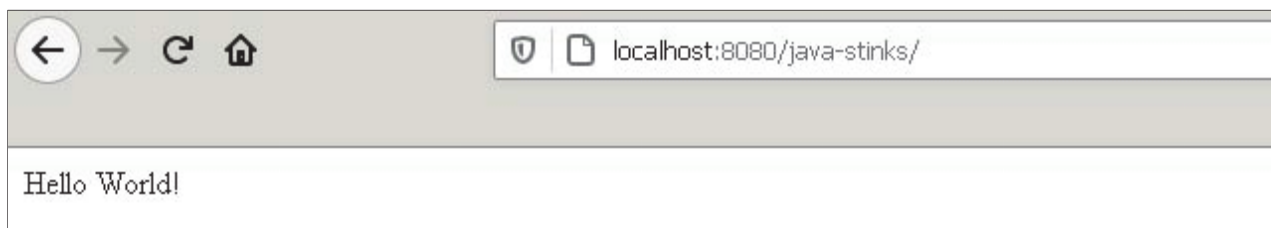I had an issue where everything seemed to be setup right, but after running a spring project my page was 404.
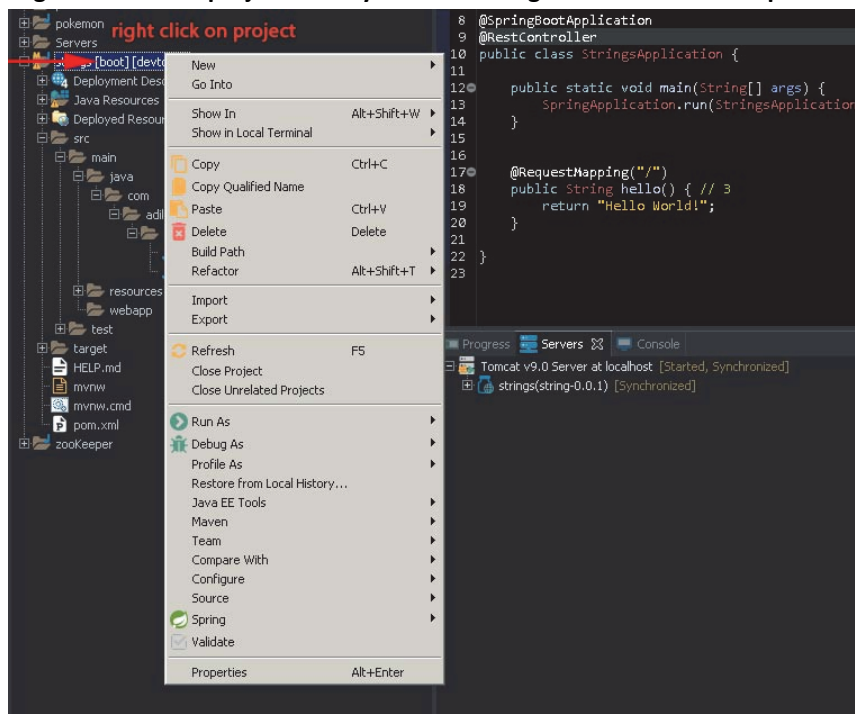

I tried "Googling" for an answer and still could not find a solution. So after playing around I eventually I found out that the **artifact** name we give to our projects becomes the root URL (at least on my machine – win7x64, tomcat 9+, and Java 15). So when I type in the **artifact** name after **localhost:8080**, the page loads up as it should…as seen here:
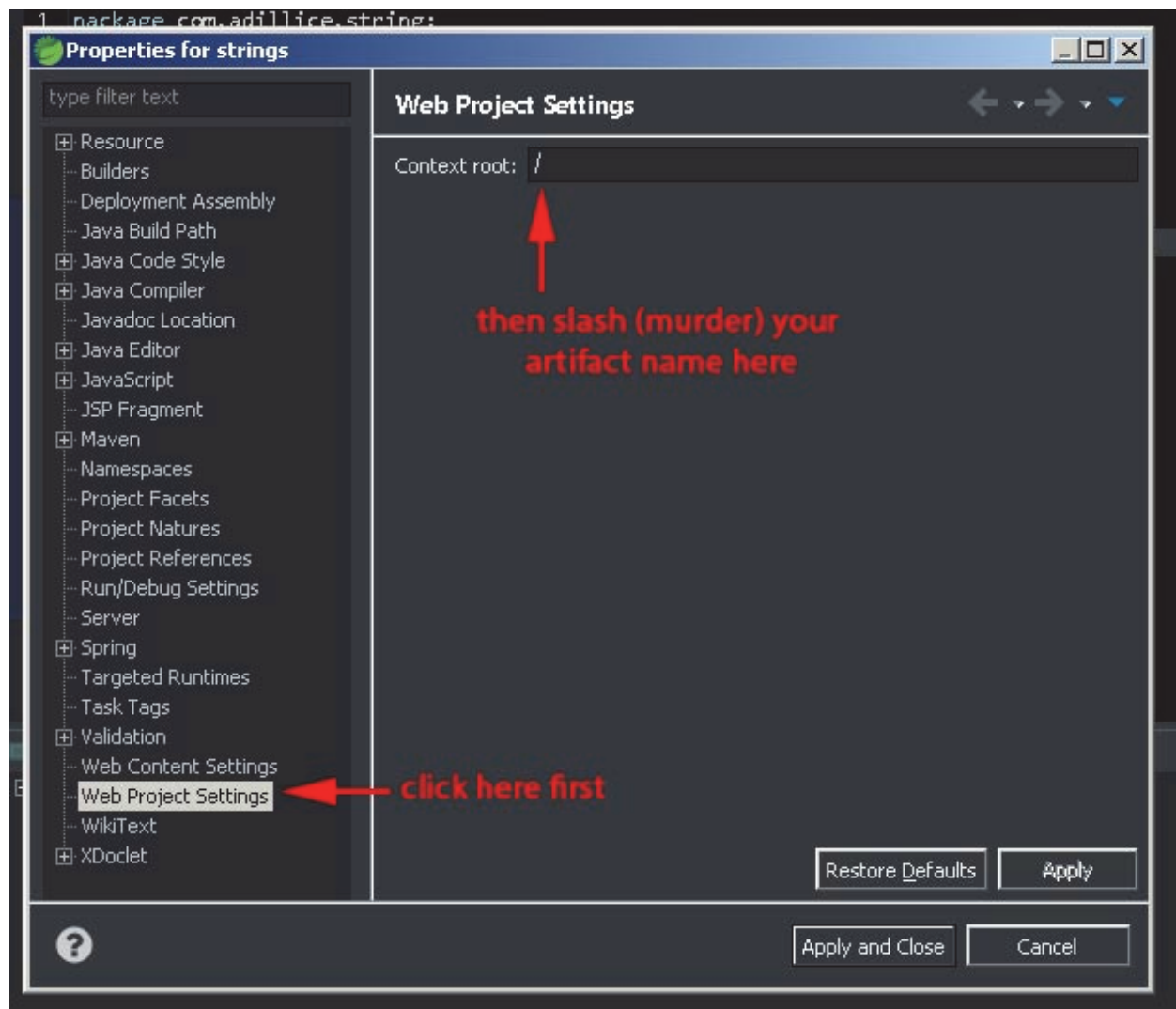

However I want my projects to be on the root domain. So this is what I did to fix this little problem.
-Right click on the project name you are working on and click on "Properties" at the bottom of the menu.
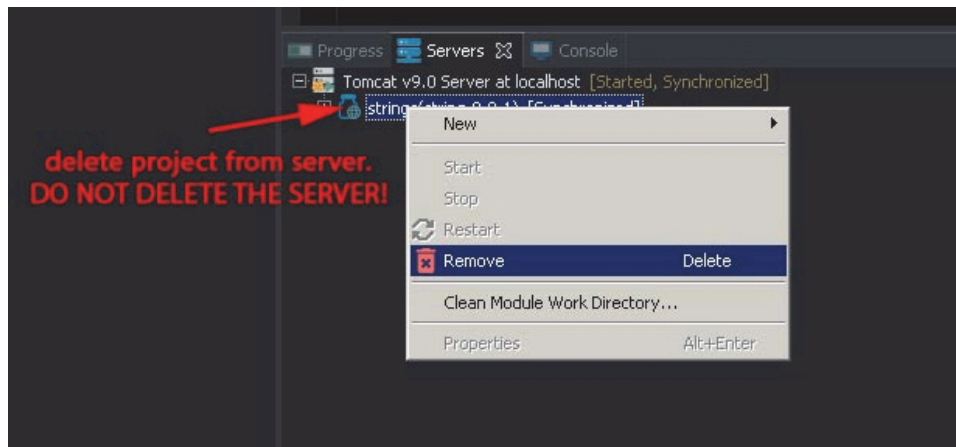
-The go to "Web Project Settings" and change the artifact name in the "Context root" field!!!!

You can put anything there and your site URL will be set that value for its "home". I put a slash so my project always starts at the root domain.

-One last thing! Now you have to remove the project from the server and re-add it (and you may have to do it a few more times) because it seems tomcat (or spring app) seem to cache the pages pretty hard. This could be just my machine though. However to be safe this is what I did to get it to work.

Remove the project from the server (**right-click > remove**). If you don't have the server tab you can go to **Window > Show View > Other …** then find your server in the list. It's a useful tab.

Then just re run the project as seen below…(this adds the project back to the server and should restart it) If not just rerun the server manually by clicking the **"run as…"** button at the top.