

Abigail Cesar

Professor Lux

Start Time: 10:01

End Time: 10:16

The American Dream: Fact or Fiction?

In our modern times, the "American Dream" frequently suggests the idea that anyone can succeed if they put their mind's to it. However, is this belief true or is it just a promising myth?

Yes, perseverance and hard work can improve our likelihood of success, but they cannot guarantee it. Individual success is influenced by a multitude of variables, including: a person's environment, their access to resources, and systemic restrictions on their progress.

Due to a lack of access to high-quality education, healthcare, and social and cultural capital, it's safe to assume that children from low-income families face major barriers to reaching their desired economic success. Similar to this, no matter how hard they try, those who experience prejudice because of their ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or other characteristics may struggle to succeed.

The notion that success is purely the consequence of perseverance and hard effort ignores the influence of variables like privilege, luck, and structural biases on results. In conclusion, while perseverance and hard effort can help one succeed, in modern America, "making it" is not always enough.