

David Schnicke

E Pluribus Unum.

The American Dream in Contemporary Hollywood Movies
and Barack Obama's Presidential Campaign

ISBN: 978-3-8288-2479-9

Umschlagabbildung: Fotografie des Autors

Umschlaggestaltung: Norman Rinkenberger | Tectum Verlag

© Tectum Verlag Marburg, 2010

Besuchen Sie uns im Internet

www.tectum-verlag.de

Bibliografische Informationen der Deutschen Nationalbibliothek

Die Deutsche Nationalbibliothek verzeichnet diese Publikation in der
Deutschen Nationalbibliografie; detaillierte bibliografische Angaben sind
im Internet über <http://dnb.ddb.de> abrufbar.

Table of Contents

Introduction	5
1 On the Nature and Theory of the American Dream	7
1.1 The American Dream's Essence.....	7
1.2 The First Dreamers	9
1.3 Proclaiming the American Dream.....	11
1.4 The Dream of Individual Success	15
1.5 The American Dream's Mythology	17
2 A Role-Model's Upward Mobility in <i>The Pursuit of Happyness</i>	23
2.1 Chris Gardner's American Dream	23
2.2 Realizing the Dream in US Society	26
2.3 The Fictional and Real-Life Authority of Chris Gardner's Dream	30
3 The Private Dream Goes Public in <i>Milk</i>	37
3.1 Harvey Milk's American Dream	37
3.2 Dreaming Along With Harvey Milk	41
3.3 The Dark Side of Harvey Milk's Dream Story	48
4 A Little Misguided in <i>Little Miss Sunshine</i>	51
4.1 A Variety of American Dream Stories	51
4.2 The American Dream Becomes a Nightmare	56
4.3 Waking Up from the American Nightmare	59
5 On the American Dream in Barack Obama's Presidential Campaign	65
5.1 Barack Obama and the American Dream.....	65
5.2 The Mythological Foundation of Obama's American Dream	69
5.3 The Success of Obama's American Dream Story	75
Conclusion.....	81
Bibliography	85