

FOUR SQUARE DISCUSSION: American Dream

Directions: Read the following statements and rate your level of agreement from Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree. Prepare to discuss your answer by writing a brief explanation of your opinion on the lines which follow.

1. I am positive that our generation will be financially better off than our parents' generation.

STRONGLY AGREE AGREE DISAGREE STRONGLY DISAGREE

For example, _____.

2. Although most people believe in the ideals of the American Dream, few achieve it because they are too lazy to invest the work it requires.

STRONGLY AGREE AGREE DISAGREE STRONGLY DISAGREE

This is true/false because as stated by _____, "_____."

3. The true definition of the American Dream must entail economic aspirations that include owning property.

STRONGLY AGREE AGREE DISAGREE STRONGLY DISAGREE

Evidence suggests _____.

4. The American Dream is limited by the fact stated by Steinbeck that, "Americans are a chronically restless, dissatisfied people who buck under failure, and we go mad with dissatisfaction in the face of success."

STRONGLY AGREE AGREE DISAGREE STRONGLY DISAGREE

It is my opinion that _____.

5. "The American Dream is now almost by definition unattainable, a moving target that [has] eluded people's grasp; nothing is ever enough. It has compelled Americans to set unmeetable goals for themselves and then consider themselves failures when these goals, inevitably, go unmet." David Kamp

STRONGLY AGREE AGREE DISAGREE STRONGLY DISAGREE

I would argue _____.

6. The American Dream defined as a democratic ideal that includes political freedom and economic opportunities for ALL as argued by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in his address titled "I Have a Dream" is admirable but unrealistic.

STRONGLY AGREE AGREE DISAGREE STRONGLY DISAGREE

For instance, _____.