Cullen Chapter 1 Cornell Notes

Key Quotations	Notes
"It is only because of their dream that those Americans who followed had theirs" (13). 1. Explain whether you agree or disagree with this statement. "The irreducible foundation of all varieties of Protestantism was this: a belief that the world was a corrupt place, but one that could be reformed. . . This faith in reform became the central legacy of American Protestantism and the cornerstone of what became the American Dream" (15). 2. Why is the belief in the possibility of reform so important to the idea of the American Dream?	

What are Cullen's claims about the American Dream?

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"Stoddard added that they 'would not have left England merely for their own quietness; but they were afraid that their children would be corrupted there.' From the very beginning, then, a notion that one's children might have a better life has been a core component of the American Dream" (16). 3. According to this quotation, how did fear and hope work together to motivate the Puritans?	

What are Cullen's claims about the American Dream?

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Key Quotations	Notes
"Their confidence--in themselves, in their sense of mission for their children, and in a God they believed was on their side--impelled them with ruthless zeal to gamble everything for the sake of a vision. In the process they accomplished the core task in the achievement of any American Dream; they became masters of their own destiny" (18). 4. What individual traits seem to be important in the attempt to accomplish an American Dream? How do you see these traits in modern Americans?	

What are Cullen's claims about the American Dream?