

Match the episodes in US history with the pictures.

- 1 – 1776 Declaration of Independence including the main ideas of the American Dream
- 2 – 1620 Pilgrims from Europe landing in America to escape religious and political persecution
- 3 - 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century immigrants arriving at Ellis Island to live the values of the American Dream
- 4 - 19<sup>th</sup> century- the Frontier- settlers moving westwards (western expansion)
- 5 - 1963 Civil Rights Movement for equal rights for blacks, against racial discrimination/racial segregation
- 6 - 21<sup>st</sup> century illegal immigration from Mexico to escape poverty and drug-related crime

Lösung: 1-B, 2-A, 3-D, 4-C, 5-E, 6-F

Read the following information to understand the concept of the American Dream.

The American Dream or American way of life is considered a concept of life and society, which was already developed by the first settlers arriving in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. But it was given this name only in the 1930s, when the American philosopher James Truslow Adams reminded the American citizens of that idea and its values in the time of the world economic crisis.

In the Declaration of Independence (1776) and in the Bill of Rights (1790) the Founding Fathers already laid down, what this concept means: **the Promised Land**

- If you work hard, you can make it./Frm rags to riches – individual responsibility for success or failure
- but also community sense – stronger ones in society help weaker ones
- state only sets a framework which leaves as much freedom as possible to the individual
- values of the American Dream: human rights/ basic democratic rights/ human qualities like strong will, pioneer sense, optimism, pragmatism, ambition etc.
- human rights: -human dignity
  - freedom of the individual
  - equality – of opportunity (the same chances)/under law (the same rights, fair treatment under law)
- basic democratic rights: -freedom of religion/of press/of opinion/of assembly, right to vote etc.