

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Dreams Across Generations

**Directions:** Read each generational perspective below. Then answer the questions that follow, comparing how different Americans have imagined the American Dream over time.

**Baby Boomers (Born approx. 1946-1964):** Grew up after World War II during a time of strong economic growth. Many believed success meant owning a house, having a steady job, and supporting a family. Working hard for stability and a middle-class lifestyle was a major focus.

What did Baby Boomers see as the main goals of the American Dream?

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**Generation X (Born approx. 1965-1980):** Came of age during shifting economies and the rise of technology. Work-life balance became more important, along with independence and personal achievement. Many wanted freedom to choose their own path rather than follow tradition.

How did Gen X ideas about success differ from those of Baby Boomers?

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**Millennials (Born approx. 1981-1996):** Grew up with rapid advances in computers and the internet, but also faced the Great Recession. Education and meaningful work became big priorities. Many wanted jobs that made a difference and valued experiences over material things.

What new priorities shaped Millennials' version of the Dream?

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**Generation Z (Born approx. 1997-2012):** Growing up in a digital world, this generation values equality, mental well-being, and creativity. They often see the Dream as making positive change, being accepted for who they are, and finding success in new industries like technology and social media.

How does Gen Z's Dream show a shift toward social values and identity?

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