

## Jim Cullen The American Dream

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Tragic Novels, René Girard and the American Dream  
The Politics of the American Dream  
Proceedings, American Philosophical Society (vol. 94, no. 3)  
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Annual Report of the Board of Education for the Year Ending ...  
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the american dream is one of the most familiar and resonant phrases in our national lexicon so familiar that we seldom pause to ask its origin its

history or what it actually means in this fascinating short history jim cullen explores the meaning of the american dream or rather the several american dreams that have both reflected and shaped american identity from the pilgrims to the present cullen notes that the united states unlike most other nations defines itself not on the facts of blood religion language geography or shared history but on a set of ideals expressed in the declaration of independence and consolidated in the constitution at the core of these ideals lies the ambiguous concept of the american dream a concept that for better and worse has proven to be amazingly elastic and durable for hundreds of years and across racial class and other demographic lines the version of the american dream that dominates our own time what cullen calls the dream of the coast is one of personal fulfillment of fame and fortune all the more alluring if achieved without obvious effort which finds its most insidious expression in the culture of hollywood

this book draws on the philosopher rené girard to argue that three twentieth century american novels jeffrey eugenides's *The Virgin Suicides* rick moody's *The Ice Storm* and richard yates's *Revolutionary Road* are tragedies until now girardian literary analysis has generally focused on representations of human desire in texts and neglected both other emotions and the place of tragedy carly osborn addresses these omissions by using girardian theory to present evidence that novels can indeed be tragedies the book advances the scholarship of tragedy that has run from aristotle to nietzsche to terry eagleton proposing a new way to read modern novels through ancient traditions in addition this is the first work to examine the place of women as victims or in girardian terms scapegoats in twentieth century fiction specifically by considering the representation of women's bodies and ambivalence about their identities in deploying a rich and vivid array of tragic tropes the virgin suicides the ice storm and revolutionary road participate in a deep rooted american tragic tradition tragic novels the american dream and rené girard will be of interest to those working at the intersection of philosophy and literature as well as girard specialists

the politics of the american dream analyzes the role of the american dream in contemporary american political culture utilizing analytic political theory ghosh creates a unique picture of dream politics and shows the effect on the landscape of american politics

understanding the source of our current political and social malaise through our emotional responses to it we are in an explosive cultural moment whatever explanation for this is offered inequalities disaffection of political institutions traumatic memory woke culture the rise of populism

the dominance of technology it is the inescapable fact that we are in a period of palpable malaise in explosive emotions sociologist eva illouz explores the source of our discontent through a number of key emotions hope disappointment envy resentment jealousy anger fear anxiety shame nostalgia jealousy and love are all embedded in the institutions of social life these institutions corporations the consumer market the university the nation state marriage and sexuality shape our emotional lives illouz argues that hope was the emotional foundation of modernity shaping ambition and promising improvement but today this hope has morphed into disappointment envy anger or nostalgia because she contends advanced techno capitalism has overseen both a series of transformations in modern democracies and the decay of nationalism drawing on the insights of literature and philosophy illouz outlines the psychological structure of these emotions mobilizing data from sociology and political science she examines how and why they are deployed in society unbeknownst to us she explains emotions contain and enact the key ingredients of society norms rules social structures and cultural guidelines are the invisible yet burning magma of emotions the heart of their energy emotions continue the work of society inside the self mapping our epochal malaise illouz shows how and why all our previously established structures are unraveling

this nineteenth of annual editions american history volume 1 provides convenient inexpensive access to current articles selected from the best of the public press organizational features include an annotated listing of selected world wide sites an annotated table of contents a topic guide a general introduction brief overviews for each section a topical index and an instructor s resource guide with testing materials using annual editions in the classroom is offered as a practical guide for instructors annual editions titles are supported by our student website dushkin com online

sports have long fascinated filmmakers from hollywood and beyond from bend it like beckham to chariots of fire to rocky though sports films are diverse in their approach style and storytelling modes national pastimes discloses the common emotional and visual cues that belie each sports film s underlying nationalistic impulses katharina bonzel unravels the delicate matrix of national identity sports and emotion through the lens of popular sports films in comparative national contexts demonstrating in the process how popular culture provides a powerful vehicle for the development and maintenance of identities of place across a range of national cinemas as films reflect the ways in which myths of nation and national belonging change over time they are implicated in important historical moments from cold war america to the class dynamics of 1980s thatcherite britain to the fragmented sense of nation in post unification germany bonzel shows how

sports films provide a means for renegotiating the boundaries of national identity in an accessible engaging form national pastimes opens up new ways of understanding how films appeal to the emotions using myth like constructions of the past to cultivate spectators engagement with historical events

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