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**JEREMY RIFKIN**

MEMORABLE QUOTES OF THE DAY OF 2008

**THE**

**EUROPEAN**

**DREAM**

How Europe's vision of  
the future is quietly eclipsing  
the American dream

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# The European Dream by Jeremy Rifkin

Jeremy Rifkin

The nationwide bestseller that exhibits how the yankee Dream is languishing, exceeded all over the world through a strong replacement within the way of life of the hot Europe.

What makes us (that is the U.S.) various from Europeans? There are a few profound observations to be exposed here. Now a slightly dated book, I accomplished the 1st few chapters for the sake of studying the instant ancient survey to The European Dream our present conditions and skimmed the rest. Then I took a few notes and handed it along. The following are usually not my notes yet quoted passages from the e-book that I discovered to be of the main interest: ...The American Dream...an emphasis on monetary growth, own wealth, and independence. ...The eu Dream...sustainable development, caliber of life, and interdependence.... the yankee Dream is inseparable from the country's spiritual history and deep non secular faith. the eu Dream is secular to the core....The American Dream is much too based The European Dream on own fabric development and too little inquisitive about the wider human welfare to be suitable in a global of accelerating risk, diversity, and interdependence. it's an previous dream, immersed in a frontier mentality, that has lengthily considering the fact that turn into passé....The eu Dream emphasizes neighborhood relationships over person autonomy, cultural range over assimilation, caliber of lifestyles over the buildup of wealth, sustainable improvement over limitless fabric growth, deep play over unrelenting toil, common human rights and the rights of nature over estate The European Dream rights, and worldwide cooperation over the unilateral workout of power....Over 1/2 all american citizens are devoutly religious—more so than the other industrialized people—and they only do not buy the assumption of a relativist world....Europeans... were even more wanting to critique the elemental assumptions of modernity.... (it) has a lot to do with the devastation wrought by way of international wars and the threat of a continent mendacity in close to ruins in 1945 because of blind adherence to utopian visions and ideologies....The eu vision... is own transformation instead of person fabric accumulation...focused no longer on gathering wealth but, rather, on raising the human spirit...seeks to extend human empathy, no longer territory....Americans...to be autonomous, one has to be propertied. The extra wealth...the extra self sufficient The European Dream one is.... With wealth comes exclusivity...with exclusivity...security....For Europeans...freedom is in embeddedness...access to a myriad of interdependent relationships with others.... The more...access...the extra concepts and choices...for dwelling a whole and significant life. With relationships comes inclusivity...with inclusivity comes security....To be an exceptional country, it's important to be an excellent country....The The European Dream American Dream...was intended to be particular to America.... you may in simple terms pursue the yankee Dream on American soil.... Americans...see themselves as a selected humans (and makes us such everlasting optimists) and the US because the promised land...destined for greatness (makes us keen to take extra risks...and fated to succeed) and...the American approach (as) God's way.... such a lot Europeans locate this...odd, even a bit scary....Sixty-eight percentage of the (American) public think within the devil.... extra that one-third of all americans are biblical literalists.... forty percent...believe that the realm will finish with an Armageddon conflict among Jesus and the Antichrist.... eighty two percent...believe in Heaven.... Even in

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Catholic Italy and Poland, just a 3rd of the general public say that faith is essential to them. In Germany...21 percent...Great Britain...16 percent...France...14 percent...Korea...25 percent...Japan...12 percent.... throughout Western Europe approximately part the inhabitants nearly by no means is going to church....Europeans view with alarm America's patriotic fervor and feeling of nationwide pride, and particularly America's feel of cultural superiority.... Europeans wonder whether the United States is misplaced within the past...so passionately dedicated to the traditional geographical region political model.....No govt before...had ever steered that individuals may need a correct to pursue their very own happiness....Christopher Lasch's "The tradition of Narcissism":...the patron ethos...gained one of these deep carry at the American psyche that...the younger are drowning in short-term pleasures and trivial pursuits. (see additionally Neil Postman's "Amusing Ourselves The European Dream to Death")...The hope for The European Dream fast luck has turn into pervasive throughout American culture....For hundreds of thousands of yank viewers, seeing somebody similar to themselves on television changing into famous, even for an instant, retains alive the concept that it could possibly ensue to them as well...vicariously via looking at the lucky few who beat the odds, confident that the dream remains to be alive and that their flip is coming...not the yank dream however the American daydream....By...early adulthood, they've been everywhere, performed everything, noticeable everything, and had everything. they've got little or not anything to seem ahead to or to aspire to. Their desires were spoke back even earlier than they'd an opportunity to dream them...the so much tough existence activity is motivation itself...only non permanent pleasures are left to beat back the boredom and make it via one other day....(W)e have overpowered our kids, giving them an inflated experience of ego and, with it, a trust that they're entitled to good fortune as a result of their many unique attributes.... while you're consistently being advised that every little thing you do is insightful, good conceived and suggestion out, and successfully executed, then why attempt harder? ...(T)he American Dream is not any longer considered a quest yet is looked extra as a right....(Nearly one-third of) Americans...thought a bit violence was once okay.... approximately one out of 4 (believes) that utilizing violence to get what they need is acceptable....We have continually prided ourselves on being a kingdom of civic-minded volunteers.... (Yet) the yankee personality has hardened, and...time and funds pressures and pursuit of private excitement has made us even much less prepared to appear out for the social health and wellbeing of or neighbors....(A) 3rd of all american citizens not imagine it really is possible...to dwell the yankee Dream.

## The European Dream

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