

## **THE AMERICAN DREAM**

Growing up in Tocowa, Mississippi, a city with a population of 42 people, I had the desire to obtain a college education. A good education was a requirement that I felt I had to achieve in order to even begin fulfilling my dreams; therefore, I went on to further my education. As a result of this, I want to help others in Mississippi to acquire a college education. In order to do this, the children need good schools to make them ready to advance their education if they so choose. The young people of America deserve to have an educational background, which will serve as the foundation of their dreams. I feel that the American dream is one that is made up of many dreams. They are all dreams that people hope have the capability of being performed in this country. The dreams begin with an education, and for this reason I feel very strongly about improving education in Mississippi. Therefore, I have made it a top priority for the enhancement of my state and, as a result, the United States.

A dream to me is a desire or goal not yet reached that a person aspires to achieve or obtain. Someone else may have reached the dream before, but that particular person has not yet reached it. When the dream becomes a reality, though, it makes room for new dreams. This leads me to believe that a dream to one person may be quite different than a dream to another. When pondering the description of the “American Dream,” I believe that there are many characteristics that make up this dream depending on the individual. The American dream can be anything from owning a home and acquiring a good job to having a good school and community.

The American dream that many Americans desire to attain is the classic one of owning a home that they can call their own in which to raise a family. Many Americans

want to work hard for their families and provide safety and security for them. They desire a good job to make this possible and one that allows them to excel or move upward in life. In order to have a good place of employment where one has the ability to rise to higher levels, one should obtain a good education. Education is the key many times to acquiring the classic American dream. A good school is a definite requirement for a good education. For this reason I am serving my state as governor of Mississippi with the desire to build excellent schools in which to provide the children with an exceptional education. Learning will prepare the young people for their future and the future of this state and nation. Educating our children will equip them with the knowledge and skills that they need to obtain a great job that will allow them to excel in life.

My vision as governor is to enhance the community by building good schools and jobs. Mississippi schools have already begun to improve, as our test scores are up and more high school students are going to college. We also have quality teachers, and the teacher pay raise has increased. Not only that, but an internet-accessible computer has been placed in every classroom in the state. These are only a few of the actions that have taken place to improve and better the quality of education in Mississippi. The state is also experiencing an increase in excellent jobs with the expansion of existing industry and the introduction of Nissan into the area. I wish for people to recognize that they can fulfill this part of the American dream here in Mississippi.

With a superior education that has the capability of resulting in an excellent job, I want the young people of Mississippi to know that this state has the resources to fulfill their dreams. I want them to see that they do not have to leave but can stay home to raise a family and accomplish their goals. The American dream is right here at their fingertips

just waiting to be revealed. As the quality of education increases in this state, the characteristic of determination will also increase. This will result in several opportunities to enhance the state and therefore fulfill the American dream, whatever it may be to that individual. The American dream does not have to exist as something unattainable. America is the country where anything can happen. The young people of Mississippi need to realize that they live in a state of opportunity, and there is nothing to stop them from accomplishing something if they work hard enough. Working hard must begin in school where the children learn how to put forth effort to achieve a goal. This is a place where these goals can come true; America is the land that makes dreams a reality.

As governor of Mississippi, I personally have made it a dream of mine to advance education in my state. I feel that learning is the only way in which the nation's future will exceed and surpass what it is today. For this reason, I have worked and continue to work very hard to fulfill goals set for the advancing of schools in Mississippi. I want the children to grow and have ideas of their own that they can call a dream. Whether the idea is to acquire a home, a family, a job, or a good school, it is my desire that today's young people know how to work to make their dreams a reality. That's just it; once their dreams become a reality they will have more room to dream.