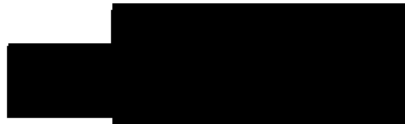


Leandro batista

Key west high school

12th grade



J.rolison



jofi.rolison@keysschools.com

The American dream has been shown to be the perfect life. The life you will have when moving to America. The nice house with the yard, the car, and your family all living comfortably. The United States is perfect, and they give us the perfect life, and with that you can live the "American dream." The dream also has the other side where it is not perfect and the world makes mistakes; we make mistakes. So the 18th amendment, regardless of becoming repealed by the 21st amendment, still protects the rule of law and helps adhere to the American dream.

This amendment was ratified in 1919, which prohibited the manufacture, sale, and transportation of alcohol in the United States. This amendment came out of the temperance movement, which stated that alcohol was a cause of problems in American society, such as crime, poverty, and unstable families. Rather than solving the problem by prohibiting alcohol, this only contributed to the spread of illegal activity. This demonstrates the fact that even laws enacted for the right reasons can still be unsuccessful.

Court cases from this era included the case of *Olmstead v. United States*. In this case, the Supreme Court allowed evidence to be used from a wiretap without a warrant, demonstrating the tension between the enforcement of the amendment and the rights of the individual. This is an example of the tension between the rule of law and the government's attempt to enforce an unpopular

law. Rather than strengthening trust in the legal system, Prohibition often weakened it, as many Americans ignored or actively resisted the law.

The failure of the Eighteenth Amendment led to its repeal by the Twenty-first Amendment to the United States Constitution in 1933. This is relevant to our discussion of the American Dream because of its significance to the flexibility of the Constitution and the rule of law. This flexibility is important to our understanding of the American Dream because of its relevance to our understanding of failure and how it is not permanent but rather an opportunity for improvement.

This connects to our discussion of the American Dream very well. The tale of the Eighteenth Amendment reveals to us that our success in this country is not based on perfection but rather on improvement. Just as humans fail and learn from their mistakes, so too does our country. However, with the rule of law, we do so in an orderly fashion. Even though we failed to improve with the implementation of prohibition, we did learn an important lesson about the rule of law and our need for change.

The Eighteenth Amendment is a clear example of how failure is a part of the American Dream. Did it succeed in solving all of the problems related to alcohol, no not at all, but it showed how the rule of law can guide a nation through failure and toward success. The ability of people to recognize failure, correct it, and continue moving toward a better future is what allows people to chase and achieve their American Dream.

Work Cited

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