

HOMEWORK BEFORE WATCHING THE FILM

If possible, watch the trailer of the film at www.clevelandversuswallstreet.ch. What is your first impression?

- What kind of film do you expect to see?
- Discuss this in small groups. What do you think a fictional documentary film is?
- Is this a contradiction?

HOMEWORK AFTER WATCHING THE FILM

Where is it especially clear that “Cleveland versus Wall Street” is a fictional documentary film?

What do you think the following statement means: “Every documentary film is staged!” State your reasons.

Why did Jean-Stéphane Bron make his film as a fictional documentary?

- Does the film director express his own opinion in the film?
- Where and how?
- What does he want to accomplish with the film?

Explain in your own words the term “subprime” to a classmate.

Do you think the banks are to blame for this crisis?

- Why?
- In your opinion, is there anyone else to blame?

The “American dream” is mentioned several times in the film “Cleveland versus Wall Street.”

- In what contexts does it appear in the film?
- How do the people in the film understand the “American dream?”
- How would you define the “Swiss dream?”

Are there basic differences between the “American dream” and the “Swiss dream?”

Owning a single-family home was the dream of these people living in Cleveland, even though they could not afford it without the subprime loans.

- What is your current living situation: e.g. house, flat, etc.? How would you like to live in the future?
- Would you like to own a single-family home? Do you understand the desire to own your own home?
- How far would you go to make your dream come true?

Write a short text:

- a short summary about the film
- about what makes the film special
- about why you liked or didn't like the film.

GLOSSARY

English	German
mortgage	Hypothek
bond	Anleihepapier
heterogeneous home mortgages	ungleiche Haushypotheken, (dh. es wurden Subprime-Kredite mit Prime-Krediten gemischt.
uniform securities	gleichwertige Wertpapiere
securitization	Verbriefung von Krediten in Wertpapierform,
brokerage	Maklerfirma
to beguile so	jmd. täuschen
deception	Betrug, Schwindel
to enhance	erhöhen, aufwerten
subprime	Als Subprime-Markt wird ein Teil des privaten Hypothekendarlehensmarktes bezeichnet, der überwiegend aus Kreditnehmern mit geringem Einkommen sowie Eigenkapital besteht.
margin	Gewinnmarge
underlying loans	die eigentlichen Bankkrediten
stock market	Aktienmarkt
abusive lending	missbräuchliche Darlehensvergaben
foreclosure	Zwangsvollstreckung
equity	Eigenkapital
turn down	jmdn. abweisen
loan broker	Darlehensvermittler
commodity	Produkt, Handelsware
greedy	erfolgshungrig, gierig
affiliate	Partner, Tochtergesellschaft
lender	Geldgeber, Verleiher
secondary market	Der Sekundärmarkt ist der Finanzmarkt zum Handel von emittierten Wertpapieren, wie bsp. Aktien oder Anleihen.
teaser rates	verlockende (tiefe) Raten
borrower	Schuldner
inflated appraisal	aufgeblähte, überhöhte Bewertung