

Poverty

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During his speech, he tried to answer three questions: What is the American dream, is it harder to achieve the American dream, and what can we do to help make it easier to achieve?

Rank stated that America was built on the idea of freedom and it has become part of our society. "Think about America's original contribution to music, jazz and rock and roll. Both are very much based on the notion of personal freedom," he said.

After interviewing many people in the process of writing his book, Rank came up with what the main essence of the American dream is. "The American dream is the freedom to pursue your passions in order to reach your potential."

This idea has been captured many times when Americans have been asked to describe the American dream. National surveys have said that Americans feel that the most

important things for this idea are the freedom to achieve almost whatever they want with hard work and the freedom to say what they want.

Many people believe that now achieving the American dream is harder than it ever was before. Rank agreed with this. Based upon survey results, approximately three-fourths of Americans currently feel that it's harder to achieve the American dream.

One person that was interviewed for the book, Jim Wilson, said when asked if he thought it was harder to achieve the American Dream, "I don't think harder even describes it. I think it's almost impossible to achieve the American dream."

Rank stated that the main reason that it has become harder to achieve this is because of the economic changes that have been happening in the last few years. He de-

scribes that nearly 80 percent of people between the ages of 25 and 80 will be in some kind of poverty, using a welfare program or unemployed.

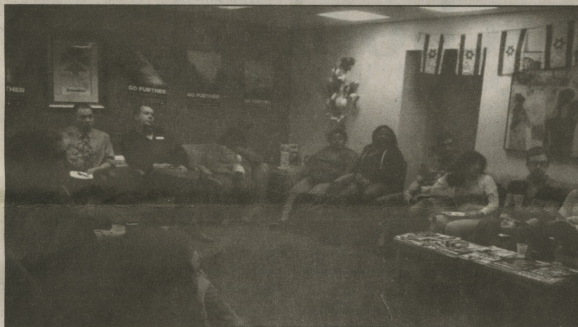
This is the main reason that it has become harder to achieve the American dream. The economic stability is a major factor for someone to pursue their dreams.

Rank said that there were at least two ways to help make this easier. One way would be to expand the number and quality of jobs that the economy is producing to help raise the economic stability. The other would be to open the avenues of opportunities so that all Americans can strive for their potential.

"America is best described by one word ... freedom," said former president Dwight Eisenhower.

Dine and Diversity

From 1



Students and faculty engage with one another at the Dine and Diversity event.

ANYA MORGULIS

Keren opened the presentation by asking attendees what they thought about when they heard the word "Israel." Among the responses were "The Bible," "Judaism," "religion," "Jesus," "conflict," "food" and even "hummus."

Keren used this as an opportunity to demonstrate that while most people associate Israel with religion, specifically Judaism, there are many other things the country and its people have to offer the world.

According to Keren, Israel is one of the most diverse countries in the world, with over 60 distinct cultures represented. It is the only free democracy in the Middle East and also the only country in the Middle East that gives all Arab citizens full, equal rights.

With a population of just over eight million people, Israel is a relatively small nation. Established on May 14, 1948, it is also a relatively new nation. While just about 75 percent of its population is Jewish, over 20 percent of residents are Arabic.

Its official languages are Modern Hebrew and Arabic. Israel is the only country in the Middle East to have its Christian population grow recently, which is a reflection of its diversity and acceptance of all people and cultures.

"Israel has a very diverse lifestyle," says Keren. "It's the only place accepting of LGBT people in the Middle East, and spousal benefits have been granted to homosexual couples there since 1994."

"I really do think they're neat," said Ezell Johnson, a student employee in the CDI, about the Dine and Diversity events. "Each time you learn about something new and different. You get to take that hour out of your daily schedule to just listen and interact with people and hear different inputs about the topic of discussion."

"I love that these events tend to share new ideas and perspectives on so many diverse topics," said Morgulis. "I am so grateful to Crasha Townsend and the entire Center for Diversity and Inclusion community for allowing us to have this forum for students to engage with new ideas. None of these topics are meant to sway opinion, but rather open your mind."

Dr. Clark

From 2

At Savannah State, he pursued a master's degree in public administration and worked his way up from housing director to director of student development.

tion of student rights. The office plays a major role in promoting and upholding the shared values and ideals of the

these cases, although Clark still maintains an active involvement in disciplinary actions.