

FILM "21"

Pursuit of happiness and the cities Las Vegas/ Boston



STRUCTURING

- Plot - Characters overview
- Las Vegas / Boston - change of city, change of desire
- Pursuit of happiness

POINT OF DEPARTURE

- Ben Campbell currently at MIT
- very intelligent - outstanding grades
- Big dream: study medicine at Harvard University
- \$ 300,000 for enrollment fee or Robinson-scholarship



BLACK JACK- TEAM

- Mickey Rosa very impressed by Ben
- invite Ben to his Black Jack- team
- team count cards on the weekend in Las Vegas
- Ben is very successful



PROBLEMS IN THE TEAM

- Ben gambles- loses a high sum
- Mickey leaves the team after an argument with Ben
- Try to play without their leader
- Controller Cole Williams catches Ben and give the student a beating up



BACK IN BOSTON

- Mickey stole Ben's whole money
- sent Ben down from the MIT
- Ben apologizes and offers him a deal
- in Las Vegas: winning an enormous sum, but then Cole Williams arrives at the casino

END

- Williams meets Ben and asks him for the money
- No MIT- degree, no money, what to do?

BOSTON

- world famous universities Harvard and MIT
- beginning of the path of pursuit of happiness



Boston

LAS VEGAS

- city of gambling
- typical city for the American Dream
- American Dream also in Europe



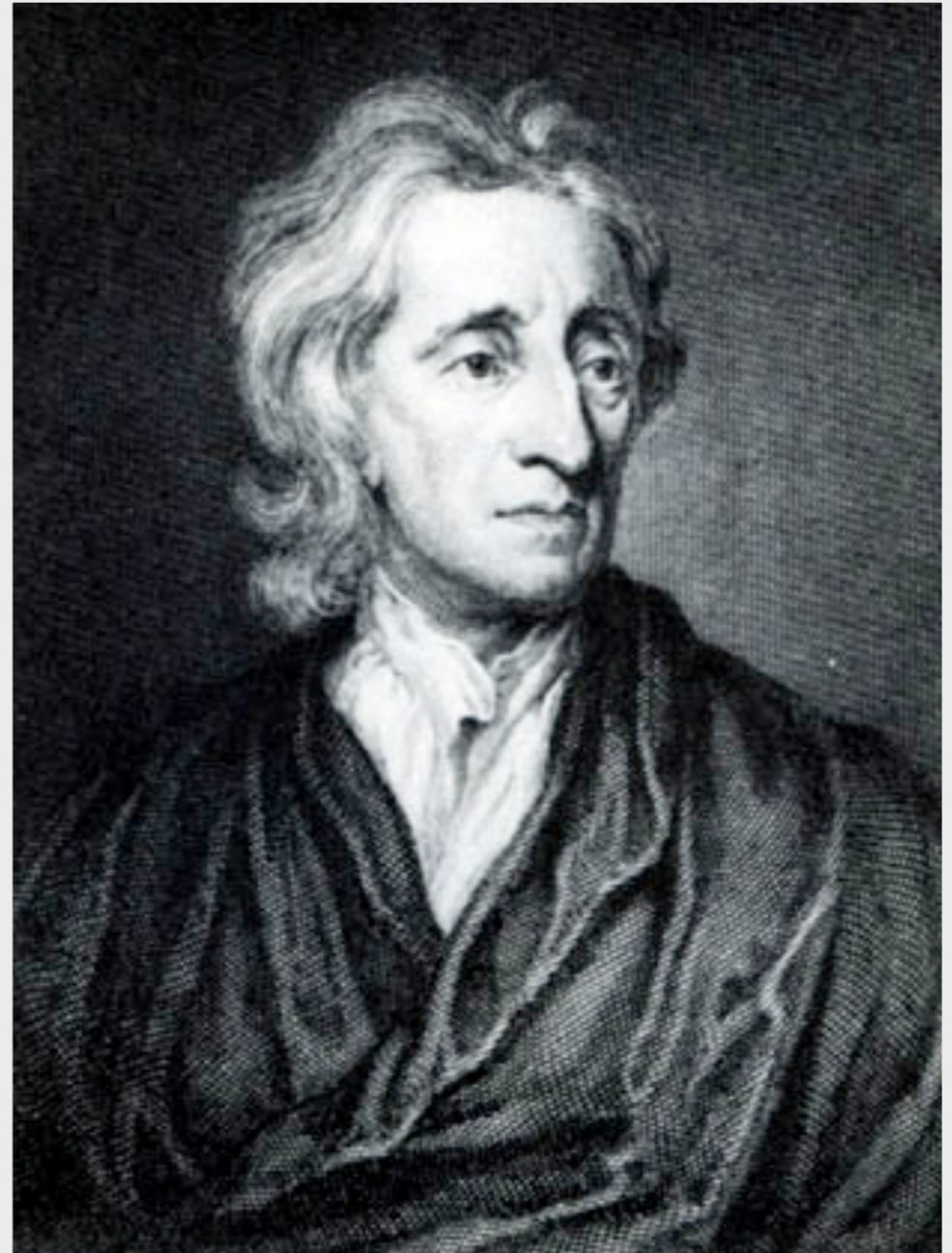
Las Vegas

PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS

- where does it come from?
- what does it mean?
- does the right exist in the film?
- does it exist in real?

WHERE DOES IT COME FROM?

- Thomas Jefferson: life, liberty and pursuit of happiness, Declaration of Independence 1776
- John Locke essay in 1690
- -> import from Europe



WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

- everybody is allowed to arrange happiness
- hard work and self- reliance will lead to freedom and greater individual satisfaction, success and wealth

DOES IT EXIST IN THE FILM?

- whole film: yes
- enrollment fee
- in Germany problem already fixed



DOES IT EXIST IN REAL?

- 96% of American: Money
- more than one job to live the American way
- run up debts
- average American spends more money than he earns



THANKS FOR LISTENING