



## I) INTRODUCTION - BECOMING A SELF-MADE MAN: A WIDESPREAD DREAM OF SINGULARITY

### A) A cultural representation of success - the power of the will and the will to power

- Owes its wealth and success solely to its own work.
- A widespread dream of elite and singularity.

### B) A compendium of contemporary morality

- The regression of the social animal
  - An individualistic amorality.
- Conflictual and competitive vision of social relations.
- An advertising myth for passive consumers comforted in their unreal ambitions.



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## II) THE HISTORY BEHIND THE SELF-MADE MAN

### A) The emergence of the self-made man

- Frederick Douglass introduced the concept in 1859.
- The notion gained prominence during the Second Industrial Revolution.

### B) A myth or a reality?

- However, challenges to the idea emerged during the 1920s with the rise of eugenicists and the Great Depression.
- In modern times, sociologists and public policy experts have emphasized the role of poverty and culture in determining success



DENIZ AKKAS

## III) A SELF-MAN: ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

### A) The discovery of the American Dream

- Arnold was born in Austria, in the 1940s. His family was not rich at all.
- He discovered the American culture, bodybuilding and movies in magazines
- He trained hard in the gym and quickly won many bodybuilding competition titles, such as Mr. Europe and mostly Mr. Universe in 1968.

### B) Moving to America: success, success, and success

- In America, Arnold trained harder and harder.
- He continued to win for 12 years, winning at least one bodybuilding title each year.
- He became an actor and played in several movies before becoming a real blockbuster action-star, with the *Terminator* saga. He then easily became a millionaire.
- He became governor of California for 8 years, overcoming his political inexperience



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