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Who Wants to Be a Billionaire?

By April Soto

Having billions of dollars is usually everyone's biggest wish. Having so much money can either be a blessing or a curse. It all depends on how well someone is with money, and their will power to say "no" to negative influences for example drugs and alcohol. In my opinion being a billionaire has many positives a few would be absolutely no struggle to make ends meet, living the American Dream, and helping those who need it.

Being a billionaire would mean making ends meet, and not living paycheck to paycheck. Many families live on an income that is below poverty line. In the state of Oklahoma 17.2 percent of Oklahomans are estimated to be living in poverty during the given year "National Priorities". Struggling with a family depending on one or both parents is by far very stressful. When having a family a parent wants to give their child or children a good life with plenty of amazing experiences, and be able to pay for a good college education.

Everyone does not have the same definition for the American Dream. The definition of the "American Dream" has changed over the course of history, the quote by James Truslow Windslow in 1931 hit home in my heart. James Windslow said, "Life should be better and richer and fuller for everyone with opportunity for each according to ability and achievement." It also brings a song to my memory called "Billionaire" by Travie McCoy and Bruno Mars. They sing about all the perks of being a billionaire, what they would do about the recession, and how they would help everyone around the world in need. In one verse he sings "I'll probably take whatever's left and split it up so everyone that I love can have a couple bucks. Not a single tummy around me would know what hungry is eating good sleeping soundly. I know we all have a similar dream." Those quotes are two different versions of the American Dream.

There are countless charities all over the world. My charities of choice would be Oklahoma's Children's Cancer Association (OCCA), and the World Vision Organization

(WVO). There is nothing that hurts my heart more than to see a child with any type of cancer or a child going hungry. Here is a good quote by Albert Pine, "What we do for ourselves dies with us, what we do for others and the world remains and is immortal." I would have to say becoming a billionaire can either make you or break you. Being able to keep oneself from falling into the wrong habits whether it is a drug or alcohol addiction can be a challenge. Growing up poor my mother and stepfather stole for us to eat, and sometimes we would go to bed hungry. I went through a life changing experience when my stepfather won 250,000 dollars from the New Mexico lottery. He now has nothing to show for it due to drugs which caused us to be poor and go hungry in the first place. I learned who I do not want to be, how I do not want to live, and what not to do. Money can bring out the bad in people, but it can also bring out the good in others. Therefore, whether it is the ease of stress from my shoulders, my desire to live the American Dream, or helping those in need, I could trust that I would be

a good billionaire like Opera. That woman has a heart of gold.

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