

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

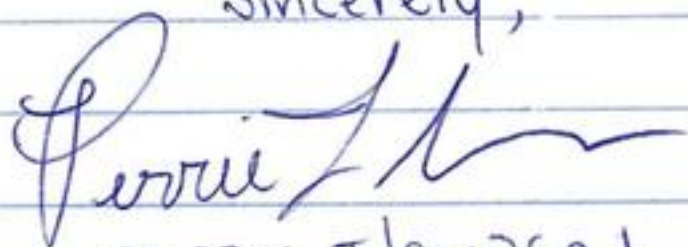
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I was reading a book called "The New Jim Crow", by Michelle Alexander. when I came across a statement that intrigued me:

"what is key to America's understanding of class is the persistent belief—despite all the evidence to the contrary—that anyone, with the proper discipline and drive, can move from a lower class to a higher class."

This statement grabbed my attention because I was one of those people who naively believed this idea that one could achieve anything he/she puts their mind to. when in all reality, this idea is a mythical notion that minorities tell our children. what's complex about this is, although many minorities are born into an America, that has well established systems designed to prevent them, or make it extremely difficult to succeed, we still can not tell our children they can not achieve their dreams. so my question is, what do we tell the 10 year old who wants to be a doctor, but is living in poverty, and is behind in school because he/she attends a poor educational system?

Sincerely,



PERRIE THOMPSON