

Thoughts

Freedom

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Saul Alinsky () said: "Once you accept your own death, all of a sudden you are free to live. You no longer care about your reputation... You no longer care except so far as your life can be used tactically - to promote a cause you believe in."

John C. Calhoun (1782-1850) said: "It is a great and dangerous error to suppose that all people are equally entitled to liberty."

Clarence Darrow () said: "Freedom comes from human beings, rather than from laws and institutions."

Erich Fromm () said: "Man is forbidden to eat from the tree of knowledge of god and evil. He acts against God's command... From the standpoint of the Church, which represents authority, this is essentially sin. From the standpoint of man, however, this is the beginning of human freedom."

Eric Hoffer () said: "When people are free to do as they please, they usually imitate each other."

Judge Learned Hand () said: "Liberty is so much latitude as the powerful choose to accord the weak."

Henrik Ibsen (1828-1906) said: "You should never have your best trousers on when you turn out to fight for freedom and truth."

Hiram Johnson (1866-1945) said: "The first casualty when war comes is truth."

Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free.
Emma Lazarus (1849-1887)
[The New Colossus - Verse inscribed on the Statue of Liberty]

John Lindsay () said: "Those who suppress freedom always do so in the name of law and order."

Archibald Mac Leish () said: "What is freedom? Freedom is the right to choose; the right to create for yourself the alternatives of choice. Without the possibility of choice, and the exercise of choice a man is not a man but a member, an instrument, a thing."

John Milton () (Paradise Lost) said: "Better to reign in Hell, than serve in Heav'n." [Spoken by Satan]

Baron de Montesquieu (1689-1755) said: "A nation may lose its liberties in a day, and not miss them in a century."

Friedrich Nietzsche (1844-1900) said: "The masters have been abolished; the morality of the common man has triumphed."

George Savile Marquis of Halifax (1633-1695) said: "When people contend for their liberty, they seldom get anything by their Victory but new masters."

George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950) said: "Liberty means responsibility. That is why most men dread it."

Thucydides (471?-401? B.C.) said: "For we both alike know that into the discussion of human affairs the question of justice enters only where the pressure of necessity is equal, and that the powerful exact what they can, and the weak grant what they must."

Daniel Webster (1782-1852) said: "The contest for ages has been to rescue liberty from the grasp of executive power."

Oscar Wilde (1854-1900) said: "We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars."

Tennessee Williams () said: "To be free is to have achieved your life."

Woodrow Wilson () said: "The history of liberty is the history of resistance... (it is a) history of the limitation of governmental power."

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