

# THOUGHTS

## POLITICS

Compiled by

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Chris Clayton () said: "Politics is derived from two words - poly, meaning many, and tics, meaning small blood-sucking insects [parasites]."

Ambrose Bierce () said: "A lawyer is the larval stage of a politician."

J K Galbraith () said: "Under capitalism, man exploits man. Under communism, it's precisely the opposite."

H L Mencken () said: "The whole aim of practical politics is to keep the populace alarmed (and hence clamorous to be led to safety) by menacing it with an endless series of hobgoblins, all of them imaginary."

Milton Friedman () said: "The government solution to any problem is usually at least as bad as the problem."

Jay Leno () said: "If God had wanted us to vote, he would have given us candidates."

Clarence Darrow () said: "When I was a boy, I was told that anyone could become President. I'm beginning to believe it."

Ian Walsh () said: "A politician will always be there when he needs you."

Adlai Stevenson () said: "In America any boy may become president and I suppose it's just one of the risks he takes."

Adlai Stevenson () said: "I like Republicans, and I would trust them with anything in the world except public office."

Adlai Stevenson () said: "It is not enough to have every intelligent person in the country voting for me - I need a majority."

Adlai Stevenson () said: "Richard Nixon is the kind of politician who would cut down a redwood tree, and then mount the stump and make a speech on conservation."

Richard Nixon () said: "I would have made a good pope."

Richard Nixon () said: "The voters have spoken - the bastards."

Anonymous said: "[Richard] Nixon could tell two separate lies out of different corners of his mouth at the same time."

John Koski () said: "A fascist is anyone who disagrees with you."

Otto von Bismarck () said: "When you say that you agree to a thing in principle you mean that you have not the slightest intention of carrying it out in practice."

An Italian Proverb says: "Governments are like underwear. They need to be changed often and for the same reason."

George Walden () said: "The public say they are getting cynical about politicians. They should hear how politicians talk about them."

P J O'Rourke () said: "Politicians are interested in people in the same way that dogs are interested in fleas."

P J O'Rourke () said: "Giving money and power to government is like giving whisky and car keys to teenage boys."

Henry Adams () said: "Politics is the systematic organization of hatred."

Benjamin Disraeli () said: "Mr Speaker, I withdraw my statement that half the cabinet are asses - half the cabinet are not asses."

George Carlin () said: "Politics is so corrupt, even the dishonest people get screwed."

J K Galbraith () said: "Nothing is so admirable in politics as a short memory."

Jay Leno () said: "Politics is Hollywood for ugly people."

Mort Sahl () said: "Ronald Reagan won the election because he ran against Jimmy Carter. Had Regan run unopposed, he would have lost."

Ronald Reagan () said: "I have orders to be awakened at any time in case of a national emergency, even if I'm in a cabinet meeting."

Ronald Reagan () said: "Politics is supposed to be the second oldest profession. I have come to realise that it bears a very close resemblance to the first."

Gore Vidal () said: "If you want to rise in politics in the United States there is one subject you must stay away from, and that is politics."

Will Rogers () said: "There ought to be one day, just one day, when there is open season on [US] senators."

Groucho Marx () said: "Politics is the art of looking for trouble, finding it everywhere, diagnosing it wrongly and applying unsuitable remedies."

Ralph Nader () said: "The only difference between the Republican and Democratic parties is the velocity with which their knees hit the floor when corporations knock on their door."

Roy Chubby Brown () said: "I've decided to take up a life of crime, but I can't decide which political party to join."

Texas Guinan () said: "A politician is a fellow who will lay down your life for his country."

John Quinton () said: "Politicians are people who, when they see light at the end of the tunnel, order more tunnel."

Peter Ustinov () said: "I did not become a politician because I could not stand the strain of having to be right all the time."

Charles de Gaulle () said: "A politician never believes anything he says, so he is always amazed when other people do."

Will Rogers () said: "I'm offended by political jokes. Too often they get elected."

Sydney Smith () said: "Minorities are almost always in the right."

Bobcat Goldthwait () said: "It's easy to be politically correct and a liberal when you live in a gated community."

Willis Player () said: "A liberal is a person whose interests aren't at stake at the moment."

David Letterman () said: "The white House is giving George W Bush intelligence briefings. You know, some jokes just write themselves."

George W Bush () said: "I think the voters underestimate me."

Tony Benn () said: "When there is a great cry that something should be done, you can depend on it that something remarkable silly probably will be done."

Henry Kissinger () said: "Ninety percent of politicians give the other ten percent a bad reputation."

Henry Kissinger () said: "University politics make me long for the simplicity of the Middle East."

Will Rogers () said: "A fool and his money are soon elected."

Edwin W Edwards () said: "The cardinal rule of politics: never get caught in bed with a dead girl or a live boy."

Denis Healy () said: "Being criticized by Geoffrey Howe is like being savaged by a dead sheep."

Kin Hubbard () said: "If there is anything a public servant hates to do it's doing something for the public."

Jeremy Hardy () said: "No one grows up wanting to be a junkie, eating Utterly Butterly or listening to Phil Collins but capitalism wears you down."

Saki () said: "Prime Ministers are wedded to the truth, but like other married couples they sometimes live apart."

Amanda Platell () said: "Working in Westminster is like having the nutters on the bus beside you every day."

Anthony Burgess () said: "The US presidency is a Tudor monarchy plus telephones."

Harry Hill () said: "Am I the only one to think that John F Kennedy was killed by a peanut allergy?"

George Burns () said: "Too bad all the people who know how to run the country are busy driving cabs or cutting hair."

Bernard Ingham () said: "Many journalists have fallen for the conspiracy theory of government. They would produce more accurate work if they adhered to the cock-up theory."

Alan Clark () said: "There's nothing so improves the mood of the party as the imminent execution of a senior colleague."

Lord Derby () said: "The duty of an opposition is very simple: to oppose everything, and propose nothing."

Nikita Krushev () said: "Politicians are the same all over. They promise to build a bridge even when there is no river."

Lyndon B Johnson () said: "Let him join our campaign. I'd rather have him inside our tent pissing out that outside our tent pissing in."

Lyndon B Johnson () said: "Gerald Ford is so dumb he can't fart and chew gum at the same time."

Lyndon B Johnson () said: "They couldn't pour piss out of a shoe if the instructions were written on the heel."

George Bernard Shaw () said: "A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul."

George Orwell () said: "Clement Atlee reminds me of a dead fish before it has had time to stiffen."

Woody Allen () said: "How the hell would I know why there are Nazis? I don't even know how a can opener works."

Mark Twain () said: "Reader, suppose you were an idiot. And suppose you were a member of Congress. But I repeat myself."

W C Fields () said: "I never vote for anybody; I always vote against."

Ken Livingstone () said: "If voting changed anything, they'd abolish it."

Trevor Bayliss () said: "Tony Blair has as much charisma as a pair of dentures grinning in a glass of water."

Anonymous said: "When Gordon Brown leaves a room, the lights go on."

Denis Healy () said: "John Prescott has the face of a man who clubs baby seals to death."

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