

Abbie Hoffman

Quotes

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You measure a democracy by the freedom it gives its dissidents, not the freedom it gives its assimilated conformists.

~Abbie Hoffman

Understand that legal and illegal are political, and often arbitrary, categorizations; use and abuse are medical, or clinical, distinctions.

~Abbie Hoffman

Democracy is not something you believe in or a place to hang your hat, but it's something you do. You participate. If you stop doing it, democracy crumbles.

~Abbie Hoffman

Today is the first day of the rest of your life.

~Abbie Hoffman

I believe in compulsory cannibalism. If people were forced to eat what they killed, there would be no more wars.

~Abbie Hoffman

Peace is a very complicated concept. When the lion gobbles up the lamb and wipes his lips, then there's peace. Well, I ain't for that peace at all.

~Abbie Hoffman

The '60s are gone, dope will never be as cheap, sex never as free, and the rock and roll never as great.

~Abbie Hoffman

My critique of democracy begins and ends with this point. Kids must be educated to disrespect authority or else democracy is a farce.

~Abbie Hoffman

Become an internationalist and learn to respect all life. Make war on

machines. And in particular the sterile machines of corporate death and the robots that guard them.

~Abbie Hoffman

Sacred cows make the tastiest hamburger.

~Abbie Hoffman

The best way to educate oneself is to become part of the revolution.

~Abbie Hoffman

When decorum is repression, the only dignity free men have is to speak out.

~Abbie Hoffman

Revolution is not something fixed in ideology, nor is it something fashioned to a particular decade. It is a perpetual process embedded in the human spirit.

~Abbie Hoffman

Free speech means the right to shout 'theatre' in a crowded fire.

~Abbie Hoffman

To steal from a brother or sister is evil. To not steal from the institutions that are the pillars of the Pig Empire is equally immoral.

~Abbie Hoffman

The only way to support a revolution is to make your own.

~Abbie Hoffman

Nostalgia is a form of depression both for a society and an individual.

~Abbie Hoffman

It's too late. We can't win, they've gotten too powerful.

~Abbie Hoffman

The idea that media is there to educate us, or to inform us, is ridiculous because that's about tenth or eleventh on their list.

~Abbie Hoffman

Never impose your language on people you wish to reach.

~Abbie Hoffman

The first duty of a revolutionary is to get away with it. The second duty is to eat breakfast. I ain't going.

~Abbie Hoffman

Avoid all needle drugs, the only dope worth shooting is Richard Nixon.

~Abbie Hoffman

Maintain a sense of humor. People who take themselves too seriously are power-crazy. If they win it will be haircuts for all. Beware of power freaks.

~Abbie Hoffman

The key to organizing an alternative society is to organize people around what they can do, and more importantly, what they want to do.

~Abbie Hoffman

I think the greatest legacy of the 1960s was the general feeling that not only can you fight the powers that be, but you can win.

~Abbie Hoffman

Every rock or molotov cocktail thrown should make a very obvious political point. Random violence produces random propaganda results. Why waste even a rock?

~Abbie Hoffman

Smoking dope and hanging up Che's picture is no more a commitment than drinking milk and collecting postage stamps.

~Abbie Hoffman

The first duty of a revolutionist is to get away with it. The second duty is to eat breakfast. I ain't going.

~Abbie Hoffman

Action is the only reality; not only reality, but morality as well.

~Abbie Hoffman

There is absolutely no greater high than challenging the power structure as a nobody, giving it your all, and winning!

~Abbie Hoffman

Life-actors never rehearse and need no script. A life-actor uses whatever he has available, nothing more, nothing less.

~Abbie Hoffman

What if when they called a war, no one went?

~Abbie Hoffman

Fantasy is the only truth.

~Abbie Hoffman

I just want to do what has to be done so much. I'll never understand why everyone else doesn't feel this way.

~Abbie Hoffman

If you don't have sex and you don't do drugs, your rock 'n' roll better be awfully good.

~Abbie Hoffman

Expedience, not justice, is the rule of contemporary American law.

~Abbie Hoffman

I was probably the only professed revolutionary ever referred to as "cute."

~Abbie Hoffman

It's going to be a combination Scopes trial, revolution in the streets, Woodstock Festival and People's Park, all rolled into one.

~Abbie Hoffman

..you just get stoned, get the ideas in your head and then do 'em. And don't bullshit. I mean that's the thing about doin' that guerrilla theatre. You be prepared to die to prove your point.

~Abbie Hoffman

Once you get the right image the details aren't that important.

~Abbie Hoffman

Structure is more important than content in the transmission of information.

~Abbie Hoffman

The work that the kids saw around them was so odious, so boring, so worthless that they came to regard WORK as the only dirty four-letter word in the English language.

~Abbie Hoffman

The only reason you should be in college is to destroy it.

~Abbie Hoffman

A modern revolutionary group heads for the television station, not the factory. It concentrates its energy on infiltrating and changing the image system.

~Abbie Hoffman

Wouldn't you want to be indicted by the government for a high crime?

It's a great thrill. It's an honor. It's a compliment. It's fun. I'm enjoying every minute of it!

~Abbie Hoffman

Random political acts produce random political results. Why waste even a rock?

~Abbie Hoffman

When I appear in the Chicago courtroom, I want to be tried not because I support the NLF - which I do - but because I have long hair.

~Abbie Hoffman

It's embarrassing when you try to overthrow the government and you wind up on the Best Seller's List.

~Abbie Hoffman

Hep is a very dangerous disease that can cause a number of permanent conditions, including death, which is extremely permanent.

~Abbie Hoffman

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