

# Adam McKay

## Quotes

*People, Thinking, Government, America, Comedy, Want, Laughing, Hollywood,  
Directors, Ice, Failing, Way, My Favorite, Lying, Guy, Talking, Able, Running,  
Years, Ideas*

Can anything good come of a backward way of thinking like judging someone based on skin color? No way.

~Adam McKay

Creative freedom is a huge carrot.

~Adam McKay

'Blazing Saddles' is one of the funniest movies ever made.

~Adam McKay

Dave Herman as Michael Bolton is one of my favorite performances ever.

~Adam McKay

We're always looking for the backbone, the central idea, and once you have that you know everything can circle around it.

~Adam McKay

The easiest time to be funny is during a fairly serious situation. That way you can break the ice.

~Adam McKay

Nothing is funnier than confidently doing the wrong thing.

~Adam McKay

You have to be able to fail with the improv. You have to not care.

~Adam McKay

Normally when it hits two and a half, three hours, the audience gets exhausted and start yawning.

~Adam McKay

I think that the job of art and culture is to jump on that time and realize that it's there and to push it just a little bit faster.

~Adam McKay

In general foreign invested companies who come to America to start a company, to open a manufacturing business or whatnot, they actually provide much higher wages than American companies.

~Adam McKay

I have certain beliefs about how people should treat employees and how companies should be run, but I was really surprised though this process to learn that those beliefs are actually good business.

~Adam McKay

I would never call myself cultural elite, but you might be cultural elite.

~Adam McKay

I'm not against banking. Banking allowed our modern society to happen, it is essential. It connects the work through finance, so banking is good.

~Adam McKay

I could see how people get addicted to animation, and I understand why it's so great for comedy. You can do whatever you want and it just happens.

~Adam McKay

I don't think there's ever been a moment in history where that, as an artistic message, has played very well, because people in their hearts know that's terrible and a lie.

~Adam McKay

It's just funny that Americans have to contend with 2000 channels, and 60 different specific news sources, and the confusion that it creates, and the junk that we get to see is hilarious.

~Adam McKay

The crush of lobbyists on Washington and purchase of the media by corporations has created a big business-run government and a worthless press leaving Americans screwed and ill-informed.

~Adam McKay

Any time Chris Nolan wants to call me for advice, he can.

~Adam McKay

White-collar crime has been marketed - billions of dollars have been put in to have us be bored by it.

~Adam McKay

Anyone in the comedy world knows that Horatio Sanz and Chris Parnell are two of the funniest guys around.

~Adam McKay

The way you really stop Al-Qaeda is by stopping their funding. It's not by carpet-bombing or land invasions or anything.

~Adam McKay

Every time a congressman or pundit says its 'class warfare' to increase taxes on the wealthy, it's a massive lie.

~Adam McKay

For my money, I don't think there's been a better comedy than 'Kung Fu Hustle' in a lot of years. That movie just knocked me over.

~Adam McKay

Celebrities and 'famous' people are just regular folks. I know, it's a shocking and potentially dangerous statement.

~Adam McKay

I gotta say - if I clicked on a movie interview, and the first part was all about Walt Whitman, I'd love that article.

~Adam McKay

If all else fails, you can always be a pro.

~Adam McKay

We get so much information during the day that doesn't really tell us anything.

~Adam McKay

As far as how much you listen to the audience, you listen to them when they really hate something.

~Adam McKay

“Firewall” seems both scary and protective at the same time. And how often does that happen within one word besides “military” and “government”?

~Adam McKay

Hollywood is for-profit, is what Hollywood is. All the studios are owned by big, megacorporations that are the furthest thing from liberal you can possibly imagine.

~Adam McKay

Obamacare is a private mandate that will drive billions to the insurance industry, much like the auto insurance mandate. Hardly socialism. In fact, it was a Republican plan to begin with.

~Adam McKay

The easiest time to be funny is during a fairly serious situation. That way, you can break the ice. It's crazy, but even at funerals, people will get huge laughs.

~Adam McKay

I've gotten like five laughs in movies, just off guy hugs.

~Adam McKay

I'm just a giant film fan, so I love action movies out of all kinds of movies. As a film geek, it's amazing to be able to shoot this stuff.

~Adam McKay

There's a lot of things you can't control. But you can always be a pro.

~Adam McKay

You could feel America starting to ease up a little bit on racism, against blacks in certain pockets, and then suddenly The Cosby Show bubbled up and it was the right time for it.

~Adam McKay

As for movies, what's great about comedy is that if your movie gets laughs and makes money, you have freedom.

~Adam McKay

There's always way less improv than people think. The truth is something like 15 percent.

~Adam McKay

Blanket cynicism toward government has always existed.

~Adam McKay

Animals talking are very rarely funny. But animals behaving as animals - always funny.

~Adam McKay

I always give myself a little part in every movie.

~Adam McKay

Every time I wrote a sketch that was in my voice, Ferrell would just do it better.

~Adam McKay

I think what's dangerous [about comedy] is that you're coming into the room announcing your intentions.

~Adam McKay

We punch mirrors and we explore our darker selves. No, it's just an amalgam of all newscasters that we grew up with. Sort of like before there was cable, when these people were like gods.

~Adam McKay

There are so many shoot-'em-up, action, jingoistic TV shows and movies that are made every year. I think the final line is that Hollywood is populist.

~Adam McKay

Old man with an old phone. That's never not funny.

~Adam McKay

All we have is our vote. But it's powerful.

~Adam McKay

The one thing for sure is, I don't ever want to waste a movie. I don't ever want to waste effort.

~Adam McKay

Most of what's tricky about comedy is the perception of it and the audience's expectation.

~Adam McKay

David O. Russell is probably my favorite filmmaker. He's not only a great director, but he's also a great writer.

~Adam McKay

There are many aspects to directing that have a romantic place in people's minds.

~Adam McKay

The idea of 24-hour news, if you really step back, is pretty insane. Just even saying '24-hour news' almost has satire laced in it.

~Adam McKay

There's nothing the people love more than a Federal Reserve joke.

~Adam McKay

All you can really do as director is sort of set a tone.

~Adam McKay

For a documentary it's so important to find the characters and to find people who will give you access to film

~Adam McKay

In general, the final filter of Hollywood is for-profit. Nothing goes through unless it can make money.

~Adam McKay

I got the sense that Alabama is a place where people don't want handouts and don't much care for people talking out of the side of their mouth.

~Adam McKay

If you make action movies, the critics will savage you, and then your movies are outdated the following week with the new wave of special effects.

~Adam McKay



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