

# Al Sharpton Quotes

*People, Thinking, President, Believe, Cities, Kings, Running, America, Country,  
White, Community, Police, Two, Giving, Long, Moving, Rights, Mean,  
Government, Black*

My ordination in the Church of God in Christ was at age 9, and I later became a Baptist minister, which I am today.

~Al Sharpton

We're not anti-police... we're anti-police brutality.

~Al Sharpton

The dream was not to put one black family in the White House, the dream was to make everything equal in everybody's house.

~Al Sharpton

I grew up in the 1950s and '60s, when it was almost a holiday when a black act would go on Ed Sullivan.

~Al Sharpton

I do believe that the party has a bunch of elephants running around in donkey clothes.

~Al Sharpton

We have defeated Jim Crow, but now we have to deal with his son, James Crow Jr., esquire.

~Al Sharpton

I've never seen a prosecutor hold a press conference to discredit the victim.

~Al Sharpton

I've seen enough things to know that if you just keep on going, if you turn the corner, the sun will be shining.

~Al Sharpton

If Jews want to get it on, tell them to pin their yarmulkes back and come over to my house.

~Al Sharpton

Life is about not where you start, but where you're going. That's family values.

~Al Sharpton

But resist we much. We must and we will much about that be committed.

~Al Sharpton

While the rest of the country waves the flag of Americana, we understand we are not part of that. We don't owe America anything - America owes us.

~Al Sharpton

Who defines terrorists? Today's terrorist is tomorrow's friend.

~Al Sharpton

It seems some have chosen to ignore or have simply forgotten the big-picture vision promoted by Dr. King and his kin.

~Al Sharpton

When you're dealing with boycotts, you don't need everyone. You just need enough to be effective.

~Al Sharpton

America has to make America become a better place for all Americans, and that`s all of us participating.

~Al Sharpton

As a Baptist minister, I don't have the right to impose my views on anyone else. If committed gay and lesbian couples want to marry, that is their business; none of us should stand in their way

~Al Sharpton

There are white n\*ggers. I've seen a lot of white n\*ggers in my time.

~Al Sharpton

I am in hell already. I am in Israel.

~Al Sharpton

What's wrong with denouncing white interlopers?

~Al Sharpton

My ministry's always been one of social activism. I think a responsible minister must be at some levels involved in the social order.

~Al Sharpton

We may switch presidents, but we're just going to switch legs and keep on marching.

~Al Sharpton

The United States government has the obligation to educate all young people in this country.

~Al Sharpton

We need an amendment that gives us the right to vote protected by the federal government and the Constitution.

~Al Sharpton

We're not willing to give black leaders second chances because, in most cases, we're not willing to give them first chances.

~Al Sharpton

We need to make some real fundamental change from the Constitution down in this country.

~Al Sharpton

Dr. King's general principles are universal. But the things he confronted took place in another era.

~Al Sharpton

If you play the theatrics too much, you get in the way of your own cause.

~Al Sharpton

I very rarely read any fiction. I love biographies; I read about all kinds of people. I love theology and some philosophy.

~Al Sharpton

Dr. King used Gandhi's commitment to non-violence and to passive resistance.

~Al Sharpton

We blacks had problems in the '60s and we solved them by marching. We've still got problems - let's march.

~Al Sharpton

If Charlton Heston can have a constitutional right carry a rifle, why can't grandma have a constitutional right to health care?

~Al Sharpton

I can't see how an unarmed man rejecting a drug deal ended up dead.

~Al Sharpton

During my 2004 presidential campaign, I was fond of saying that it was high time for the Christian right to meet the right Christians.

~Al Sharpton

Better to die of something than to die in old age of nothing.

~Al Sharpton

If O.J. had been accused of killing his black wife, you would not have seen the same passion stirred up.

~Al Sharpton

I've never done anything else in my life other than preach and be an activist. Way before I was known.

~Al Sharpton

Let me just say that we are under the consent decree. There are people in our city [Baltimore] along with the police department and advocates who believe that this is absolutely the right thing to do.

~Al Sharpton

I feel that it is our moral obligation to stand and to be courageous with these families, and particularly Cindy, that have become the conscience of this nation.

~Al Sharpton

We won't back down! We won't be trumped!

~Al Sharpton

I've seen too much in life to give up.

~Al Sharpton

Getting Democrats organized is like herding cats.

~Al Sharpton

John Lewis is an icon in our society.

~Al Sharpton

National Action Network, the group I founded, has affiliates or chapters in over 40 cities around the country.

~Al Sharpton

I think that whoever is the attorney general, you don't want them to be as a yes person for any particular constituency.

~Al Sharpton

John Lewis being attacked as "talk, talk, talk" by president-elect [Donald] Trump because he said he didn't consider him a legitimate president.

~Al Sharpton

We just have to hope and pray that this man [Donald Trump] is changed in terms of how he views the world community.

~Al Sharpton

The unfortunate part is there's not enough balance in the legislative chambers, and particularly the senate that has to do that confirmation for there to be enough pushback.

~Al Sharpton

I won vice president of my student body in high school. That doesn't mean anything.

~Al Sharpton

People in the age of [President] Obama don't dress like they did in the age of [Lyndon] Johnson. That's for sure.

~Al Sharpton

I need to hear something about how he's going to bring people together in the spirit, hopefully, of Martin Luther King Jr., and if that's not heard, then we've got to constantly challenge him.

~Al Sharpton

We must become the United States of America that represents every community, that represents every individual. And we will ultimately become a stronger nation, but right now we are a divided nation.

~Al Sharpton

We've got to look toward two years from now [January 2017] to at least provide some balance in congress.

~Al Sharpton

We cannot move forward or will not move forward if we are divided.

~Al Sharpton

I think first of all, the United States has got to adopt a policy of befriending and creating allies around the world.

~Al Sharpton

People working at the arenas are not just depending on one or two concerts. I think it gives a symbolic boost, as well as those shows do bring down some monetary investments in the city.

~Al Sharpton

I've never seen an effective boycott that didn't work.

~Al Sharpton

If a cop sees a person running out of a store with a gun he's seeing a crime. He's not seeing a person standing.

~Al Sharpton

I have the right to express myself. Once we get through expressing, do we really move forward in society.

~Al Sharpton

The GOP's freak out over Donald Trump. Just two months to Iowa, can anyone stop him?

~Al Sharpton

President Obama telling Americans not to panic in the wake of the Paris terror attacks.

~Al Sharpton



I think drugs affect poor people and people of color more than anyone.

~Al Sharpton

You can't get a solution if you won't talk to the people that have the problem. You can't ever have healing if the patient is left out of the operation room.

~Al Sharpton

I think that you can't choose leadership. You have to deal with the leadership that the people respond to.

~Al Sharpton

I think you don't support people based on one or two cases of situations. You deal with their balance over the long run.

~Al Sharpton

I wanted to say to Governor Dean, don't be hard on yourself about hooting and hollering. If I had spent the money you did and got 18 percent, I'd still be in Iowa hooting and hollering.

~Al Sharpton

Any use of the names of Eric Garner and Michael Brown, in connection with any violence or killing of police, is reprehensible and against the pursuit of justice in both cases.

~Al Sharpton

I haven't done the things I've done to be in a sitcom.

~Al Sharpton

I'm a patriot in the truest sense of the word.

~Al Sharpton

We're going to continue to move forward and fight. I just think that, unfortunately, the president-elect [Donald Trump] has chosen to

address every issue.

~Al Sharpton

I'm deeply concerned about Jeff Sessions, who has clearly expressed opposition to the use of consent decrees and has advanced a lot of this states' rights rhetoric.

~Al Sharpton

So we want to make sure that happens is that we build a relationship with the police department and the community that results in better policing and better cooperation with the community.

~Al Sharpton

I think everybody understood what happened, why this consent decree came about after the Freddie Gray situation. There was tension on both sides.

~Al Sharpton

I'm not as concerned about what Mr. [Jeff] Sessions expressed, except for the fact that he did say that, you know, these things would be enforced.

~Al Sharpton

It's a difficult thing for a city to be sued by the department of justice and to be told that your police department is systematically failing to serve the people of the state or the city.

~Al Sharpton

People have a right to be nervous and fearful. They heard what Trump said during the campaign and are wondering if he'll follow through on his promises.

~Al Sharpton

They tried to say that being gay is a sin, and I said that adultery is a sin.

Adultery is responsible for breaking up more marriages, but do we put that in the Constitution? It's absurd.

~Al Sharpton

Evangelicals catapulted George W. Bush back to the White House.

~Al Sharpton

Crime is going down everywhere but in the New York City Police Department.

~Al Sharpton

Bill Clinton strikes me as the kind of guy who goes wherever the polls lead him, rather than leading the polls.

~Al Sharpton

I'm very cautious about what appears to be things put in place that will begin to roll back some of the progress that I believe we've made.

~Al Sharpton

How do you make things fair?

~Al Sharpton

John Lewis we all know was beaten terribly, almost to an inch of his life, opened doors that will never be closed, although there are forces that are attempting to close those doors.

~Al Sharpton

I cannot imagine where we would have been without BET. Many like me who operate in black America can only get our balanced story told nationally on BET talk shows.

~Al Sharpton

I always go by instinct and then wrestle with where by instinct brought me.

~Al Sharpton

It is time to bring down the volume and bring up the program.

~Al Sharpton

James Brown lives, as long as someone steps out of their body and dances uncontrollably.

~Al Sharpton

This is not about what party you're part of. This is about right and wrong, ... the conscience of this nation.

~Al Sharpton

Some issues you just - you certainly you have to defend yourself, but you certainly don't have to denigrate others.

~Al Sharpton

But we believed if we kept on working, if we kept on marching, if we kept on voting, if we kept on believing, we would make America beautiful for everybody.

~Al Sharpton

I understand deficit spending. I was born in deficit spending.

~Al Sharpton

Somebody had to bring the truth to the doorstep of this president.

~Al Sharpton

Don't talk to us like we ignorant!

~Al Sharpton

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