

Angela Davis

Quotes

*Thinking, People, Mean, Black, Struggle, Political, Country, Justice, Racism,
Prison, Class, Numbers, Men, Organization, Community, Brother, Jobs, Kings,
Moving, Color*

I'm no longer accepting the things I cannot change...I'm changing the things I cannot accept.

~Angela Davis

You have to act as if it were possible to radically transform the world. And you have to do it all the time.

~Angela Davis

We live in a society of an imposed forgetfulness, a society that depends on public amnesia.

~Angela Davis

When children attend schools that place a greater value on discipline and security than on knowledge and intellectual development, they are attending prep schools for prison.

~Angela Davis

Walls turned sideways are bridges.

~Angela Davis

Justice is indivisible. You can't decide who gets civil rights and who doesn't.

~Angela Davis

We must always attempt to lift as we climb

~Angela Davis

The idea of freedom is inspiring. But what does it mean? If you are free in a political sense but have no food, what's that? The freedom to starve?

~Angela Davis

We have to talk about liberating minds as well as liberating society.

~Angela Davis

I have a hard time accepting diversity as a synonym for justice. Diversity is a corporate strategy.

~Angela Davis

Revolution is a serious thing, the most serious thing about a revolutionaries life. When one commits oneself to the struggle, it must be for a lifetime.

~Angela Davis

The process of empowerment cannot be simplistically defined in accordance with our own particular class interests. We must learn to lift as we climb.

~Angela Davis

We are never assured of justice without a fight.

~Angela Davis

It is important not only to have the awareness and to feel impelled to become involved, it's important that there be a forum out there to which one can relate, an organization- a movement.

~Angela Davis

Jails and prisons are designed to break human beings, to convert the population into specimens in a zoo - obedient to our keepers, but dangerous to each other.

~Angela Davis

What this country needs is more unemployed politicians.

~Angela Davis

If they come for me in the morning, they will come for you in the night.

~Angela Davis

Racism is a much more clandestine, much more hidden kind of

phenomenon, but at the same time it's perhaps far more terrible than it's ever been.

~Angela Davis

To understand how any society functions you must understand the relationship between the men and the women.

~Angela Davis

Prisons do not disappear problems, they disappear human beings.

~Angela Davis

We know the road to freedom has always been stalked by death.

~Angela Davis

It is both humiliating and humbling to discover that a single generation after the events that constructed me as a public personality, I am remembered as a hairdo.

~Angela Davis

Radical simply means 'grasping things at the root.'

~Angela Davis

We still have to struggle against the impact of racism, but it doesn't happen in the same way. I think it is much more complicated today than it ever was.

~Angela Davis

It is essential to resist the depiction of history as the work of heroic individuals

~Angela Davis

Racism, in the first place, is a weapon used by the wealthy to increase the profits they bring in by paying Black workers less for their work.

~Angela Davis

Human beings cannot be willed and molded into non-existence.

~Angela Davis

You can't criticize people for wanting to have a decent life or wanting to live decently.

~Angela Davis

Progressive art can assist people to learn what's at work in the society in which they live.

~Angela Davis

Racism cannot be separated from capitalism.

~Angela Davis

Imprisonment has become the response of first resort to far too many of our social problems.

~Angela Davis

No march, movement, or agenda that defines manhood in the narrowest terms and seeks to make women lesser partners in this quest for equality can be considered a positive step.

~Angela Davis

Poor people, people of color - especially are much more likely to be found in prison than in institutions of higher education.

~Angela Davis

We have been basically persuaded that we should not talk about racism.

~Angela Davis

But at the same time you can't assume that making a difference 20 years ago is going to allow you to sort of live on the laurels of those victories for the rest of your life

~Angela Davis

Well for one, the 13th amendment to the constitution of the US which abolished slavery - did not abolish slavery for those convicted of a crime.

~Angela Davis

I decided to teach because I think that any person who studies philosophy has to be involved actively.

~Angela Davis

we have accumulated a wealth of historical experience which confirms our belief that the scales of American justice are out of balance.

~Angela Davis

I think the lack of critical engagement with the food that we eat demonstrates the extent to which the commodity form has become the primary way in which we perceive the world.

~Angela Davis

Well of course I get depressed sometimes, yes I do.

~Angela Davis

There is so much history of this racist violence that simply to bring one person to justice is not going to disturb the whole racist edifice.

~Angela Davis

Invisible, repetitive, exhausting, unproductive, uncreative - these are the adjectives which most perfectly capture the nature of housework.

~Angela Davis

I think in black communities today we need to encourage a lot more cross racial organizing.

~Angela Davis

A fair trial would have been no trial at all.

~Angela Davis

I guess I would say first of all that we tend to go back to the 60s and we tend to see these struggles and these goals in a relatively static way.

~Angela Davis

What I think is different today is the lack of political connection between the black middle class and the increasing numbers of black people who are more impoverished than ever before.

~Angela Davis

You can never stop and as older people, we have to learn how to take leadership from the youth and I guess I would say that this is what I'm attempting to do right now.

~Angela Davis

I never saw myself as an individual who had any particular leadership powers.

~Angela Davis

We can't talk about the black community. It's no longer a homogeneous community; it was never a homogeneous community.

~Angela Davis

Well, we see an increasingly weaker labor movement as a result of the overall assault on the labor movement and as a result of the globalization of capital.

~Angela Davis

I would suggest is that in the latter 1990s it is extremely important to look at the predicament of black people within the context of the globalization of capital.

~Angela Davis

Obviously there are some organizations that go out on the street and say we want an end to the capitalist system. But obviously that is not going to happen as a result of just assuming that stance.

~Angela Davis

Kids these days are kind of going back to Tupac and Snoop Doggy Dogg as examples of people that stand for something.

~Angela Davis

The campaign against the death penalty has been - while a powerful campaign, its participants have been those who attend all of the vigils, a relatively small number of people.

~Angela Davis

Had it not been for slavery, the death penalty would have likely been abolished in America. Slavery became a haven for the death penalty.

~Angela Davis

I'm suggesting that we abolish the social function of prisons.

~Angela Davis

I'm involved in the work around prison rights in general.

~Angela Davis

First of all, I didn't suggest that we should simply get rid of all prisons.

~Angela Davis

When Bush says democracy, I often wonder what he's referring to.

~Angela Davis

I think that has to do with my awareness that in a sense we all have a certain measure of responsibility to those who have made it possible for us to take advantage of the opportunities.

~Angela Davis

I think that the response to the OJ Simpson trial was based on a kind of sensibility that emerged out of the many campaigns to defend black communities against police violence.

~Angela Davis

It's true that it's within the realm of cultural politics that young people tend to work through political issues, which I think is good, although it's not going to solve the problems

~Angela Davis

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