

Antonin Scalia

Quotes

*Law, Scary, Thinking, People, Mean, Rights, Believe, Sex, Christian, Melting,
Government, Gun, Order, Race, Years, Children, Long, Purpose, States,
Fighting*

It is difficult to maintain the illusion that we are interpreting a Constitution, rather than inventing one.

~Antonin Scalia

What is a moderate interpretation of the text? Halfway between what it really means and what you'd like it to mean?

~Antonin Scalia

A Bill of Rights that means what the majority wants it to mean is worthless.

~Antonin Scalia

If we cannot have moral feelings against homosexuality, can we have it against murder? Can we have it against other things?

~Antonin Scalia

Devout Christians are destined to be regarded as fools in modern society. We are fools for Christ's sake. We must pray for courage to endure the scorn of the sophisticated world.

~Antonin Scalia

Day by day, case by case, the Supreme Court is busy designing a Constitution for a country I do not recognize.

~Antonin Scalia

Certainly the Constitution does not require discrimination on the basis of sex. The only issue is whether it prohibits it. It doesn't.

~Antonin Scalia

I even accept for the sake of argument that sexual orgies eliminate social tensions and ought to be encouraged.

~Antonin Scalia

In a big family the first child is kind of like the first pancake. If it's not

perfect, that's okay, there are a lot more coming along.

~Antonin Scalia

For in order for capitalism to work -- in order for it to produce a good and a stable society -- the traditional Christian virtues are essential.

~Antonin Scalia

In the eyes of government we are just one race here. It is American.

~Antonin Scalia

One can be sophisticated and believe in God. Reason and intellect are not to be laid aside where matters of religion are concerned.

~Antonin Scalia

Words have meaning. And their meaning doesn't change.

~Antonin Scalia

Campaign promises are - by long democratic tradition - the least binding form of human commitment.

~Antonin Scalia

When did it become unconstitutional to exclude homosexual couples from marriage? 1791? 1868, when the 14th Amendment was adopted?

~Antonin Scalia

The right of parents to direct the upbringing of their children is among the unalienable rights with which the Declaration of Independence proclaims 'all Men are endowed by their Creator.'

~Antonin Scalia

This is an execution, not surgery. Where does that come from, that you must find the method of execution that causes the least pain?

~Antonin Scalia

Interior decorating is a rock-hard science compared to psychology practiced by amateurs.

~Antonin Scalia

There is nothing new in the realization that the Constitution sometimes insulates the criminality of a few in order to protect the privacy of us all.

~Antonin Scalia

The attitude of people associating guns with nothing but crime, that is what has to be changed. I grew up at a time when people were not afraid of people with firearms.

~Antonin Scalia

But I also believe that a lot of gun owners would agree that AK-47s belong in the hands of soldiers, not on the streets of our cities.

~Antonin Scalia

To many Americans, everything from the Easter morning to the Ascension had to be made up by the groveling enthusiasts as part of their plan to get themselves martyred.

~Antonin Scalia

Words no longer have meaning if an Exchange that is not established by a State is "established by the State".

~Antonin Scalia

If it were up to me, I would put in jail every sandal-wearing, scruffy-bearded weirdo who burns the American flag. But I am not king.

~Antonin Scalia

This is so absurd that it has, to my knowledge, never been contemplated.

~Antonin Scalia

A search is a search, even if it happens to disclose nothing but the bottom of a turntable.

~Antonin Scalia

Is it really so easy to determine that smacking someone in the face to find out where he has hidden the bomb that is about to blow up Los Angeles is prohibited by the Constitution?

~Antonin Scalia

The court's job is to uphold the Constitution and you don't call that off in times of crisis. Would the framers have allowed this practice?

~Antonin Scalia

Why in the world would you have it interpreted by nine lawyers?

~Antonin Scalia

The wise do not investigate such silliness.

~Antonin Scalia

Certainly one cannot ban cross burning in the sanctity of his bedroom.

~Antonin Scalia

To be honest about it, that is the view of Christians taken by modern society. Surely those who adhere to all or most of these traditional Christian beliefs are to be regarded as simpleminded.

~Antonin Scalia

People look at rights as if they were muscles â€” the more you exercise them, the better they get.

~Antonin Scalia

A journalistic purpose could be someone with a Xerox machine in a basement.

~Antonin Scalia

It would be gross understatement to say that the Telecommunications Act of 1996 is not a model of clarity. It is in many important respects a model of ambiguity or indeed even self-contradiction.

~Antonin Scalia

The Court today completes the process of converting Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 from a guarantee that race or sex will not be the basis for often will.

~Antonin Scalia

A law can be both economic folly and constitutional.

~Antonin Scalia

[The Freedom of Information Act is] the Taj Mahal of the Doctrine of Unanticipated Consequences, the Sistine Chapel of Cost-Benefit Analysis Ignored.

~Antonin Scalia

The Constitution does not trust judges to make determinations of criminal guilt.

~Antonin Scalia

It's a long, uphill fight to get back to original orthodoxy. We have two 'originalists' on the Supreme Court. That's something.

~Antonin Scalia

Rather than rewriting the law under the pretense of interpreting it, the Court should have left it to Congress to decide what to do about the Act's limitation of tax credits to state Exchanges.

~Antonin Scalia

You could have 50 different states having 50 different regulations... until they were all litigated out.

~Antonin Scalia

The principal purpose of stare decisis is to protect reliance interest and further stability in the law.

~Antonin Scalia

Why can't the state accede to the public's wishes?

~Antonin Scalia

[If critics of the Pledge of Allegiance persuaded the public it should be changed] then we could eliminate under God from the Pledge of Allegiance, that could be democratically done.

~Antonin Scalia

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