

# Barbara Jordan Quotes

*People, Immigration, Party, Government, Believe, Country, America,  
Inspirational, Community, Peace, Citizens, Political, Mistake, Responsibility,  
Want, Play, Ideas, Order, Men, Destiny*

If the society today allows wrongs to go unchallenged, the impression is created that those wrongs have the approval of the majority.

~Barbara Jordan

We, as human beings, must be willing to accept people who are different from ourselves.

~Barbara Jordan

Just remember the world is not a playground but a schoolroom. Life is not a holiday but an education. One eternal lesson for us all: to teach us how better we should love.

~Barbara Jordan

Today, I am an inquisitor. I shall not sit here and be an idle spectator to the diminution, the subversion, the destruction of the Constitution.

~Barbara Jordan

Education remains the key to both economic and political empowerment.

~Barbara Jordan

A nation is formed by the willingness of each of us to share in the responsibility for upholding the common good.

~Barbara Jordan

Do not call for black power or green power. Call for brain power.

~Barbara Jordan

Think what a better world it would be if we all, the whole world, had cookies and milk about three o'clock every afternoon and then lay down on our blankets for a nap.

~Barbara Jordan

What the people want is very simple - they want an America as good as

its promise.

~Barbara Jordan

It is a privilege to serve people, a privilege that must be earned, and once earned, there is an obligation to do something good with it.

~Barbara Jordan

I believe that women have a capacity for understanding and compassion which a man structurally does not have, does not have it because he cannot have it. He's just incapable of it.

~Barbara Jordan

The majority of the American people still believe that every single individual in this country is entitled to just as much respect, just as much dignity, as every other individual.

~Barbara Jordan

Life is too large to hang out a sign: 'For Men Only.'

~Barbara Jordan

How do we create a harmonious society out of so many kinds of people? The key is tolerance -- the one value that is indispensable in creating community.

~Barbara Jordan

For our immigration policy to make sense, it is necessary to make distinctions between those who obey the law, and those who violate it.

~Barbara Jordan

"We, the people." It is a very elegant beginning. But when that document was completed on the 17th of September in 1787, I was not included in that "We, the people."

~Barbara Jordan

One thing is very clear: Illegal immigrants are not entitled to benefits.

~Barbara Jordan

If you are dissatisfied with the way things are, then you have got to resolve to change them.

~Barbara Jordan

It is both a right and a responsibility of a democratic society to manage immigration so that it serves the national interest.

~Barbara Jordan

There is no obstacle in the path of young people who are poor or members of minority groups that hard work and preparation cannot cure.

~Barbara Jordan

Let each person do his or her part. If one citizen is unwilling to participate, all of us are going to suffer. For the American idea, though it is shared by all of us, is realized in each one of us.

~Barbara Jordan

Justice of right is always to take precedence over might.

~Barbara Jordan

We must exchange the philosophy of excuse - what I am is beyond my control for the philosophy of responsibility.

~Barbara Jordan

The Supreme Court has always been the last bastion of the protection of our freedoms.

~Barbara Jordan

If we promise as public officials, we must deliver. If we as public officials propose, we must produce.

~Barbara Jordan

I have faith in young people because I know the strongest emotions which prevail are those of love and caring and belief and tolerance.

~Barbara Jordan

It is reason, and not passion, which must guide our deliberations, guide our debate, and guide our decision.

~Barbara Jordan

When do any of us ever do enough?

~Barbara Jordan

I live a day at a time. Each day I look for a kernel of excitement. In the morning, I say: 'What is my exciting thing for today?' Then, I do the day. Don't ask me about tomorrow.

~Barbara Jordan

We are a people in a quandary about the present. We are a people in search of our future. We are a people in search of a national community.

~Barbara Jordan

We have a positive vision of the future founded on the belief that the gap between the promise and reality of America can one day be finally closed. We believe that.

~Barbara Jordan

We want to be in control of our lives. Whether we are jungle fighters, craftsmen, company men, gamesmen, we want to be in control. And when the government erodes that control, we are not comfortable.

~Barbara Jordan

We can certainly defuse the intensity of the anti-immigrant feeling if we

can bring some reality to the discussion by showing that they are not using that many resources.

~Barbara Jordan

If youre going to play the game properly, youd better know every rule.

~Barbara Jordan

The imperative is to define what is right and do it.

~Barbara Jordan

The earth is bread we take and eat.

~Barbara Jordan

Let us heed the voice of the people and recognize their common sense. If we do not, we not only blaspheme our political heritage, we ignore the common ties that bind all Americans.

~Barbara Jordan

We believe that the people are the source of all governmental power; that the authority of the people is to be extended, not restricted.

~Barbara Jordan

What we have to do is strike a balance between the idea that government should do everything and the idea, the belief, that government ought to do nothing. Strike a balance.

~Barbara Jordan

Fairness is an across-the-board requirement for all our interactions with each other ...Fairness treats everybody the same.

~Barbara Jordan

A government is invigorated when each of us is willing to participate in shaping the future of this nation.

~Barbara Jordan

I think it no accident that most of those emigrating to America in the 19th century identified with the Democratic Party. We are a heterogeneous party made up of Americans of diverse backgrounds.

~Barbara Jordan

The citizens of America expect more. They deserve and they want more than a recital of problems.

~Barbara Jordan

Our concept of governing is derived from our view of people. It is a concept deeply rooted in a set of beliefs firmly etched in the national conscience, of all of us.

~Barbara Jordan

I never intended to be a run-of-the-mill person.

~Barbara Jordan

We are a people trying not only to solve the problems of the present: unemployment, inflation... but we are attempting on a larger scale to fulfill the promise of America.

~Barbara Jordan

We are a heterogeneous party made up of Americans of diverse backgrounds.

~Barbara Jordan

In other times, I could stand here and give this kind of exposition on the beliefs of the Democratic Party and that would be enough. But today that is not enough. People want more.

~Barbara Jordan

I have confidence that we can form this kind of national community.

~Barbara Jordan

A spirit of harmony can only survive if each of us remembers, when bitterness and self-interest seem to prevail, that we share a common destiny.

~Barbara Jordan

...for the system to be credible, people actually have to be deported at the end of the process.

~Barbara Jordan

The stakes ... are too high for government to be a spectator sport.

~Barbara Jordan

Things which matter cost money, and we've got to spend the money if we do not want to have generations of parasites rather than generations of productive citizens.

~Barbara Jordan

If you're going to play the game [politics] properly, you'd better know every rule.

~Barbara Jordan

I never wanted to be run of the mill.

~Barbara Jordan

[It is] one of the most complex and emotional issues of our time.

~Barbara Jordan

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