

Ed Koch Quotes

*New York, People, Country, Believe, Want, Thinking, Cities, Years, Law, Way,
President, Mayors, Firsts, Killing, Running, Government, Rights, Politics,
Children, Manhattan*

The fireworks begin today. Each diploma is a lighted match. Each one of you is a fuse.

~Ed Koch

I'm not the type to get ulcers. I give them.

~Ed Koch

There was always a love-hate relationship with New York in the rest of the country, but I made them feel more love than hate.

~Ed Koch

If they don't want to pay for it, they can stop drinking it.

~Ed Koch

You punch me, I punch back. I do not believe it's good for one's self-respect to be a punching bag.

~Ed Koch

Stereotypes lose their power when the world is found to be more complex than the stereotype would suggest. When we learn that individuals do not fit the group stereotype, then it begins to fall apart.

~Ed Koch

The art of creation is older than the art of killing.

~Ed Koch

If you agree with me on 9 out of 12 issues, vote for me. If you agree with me on 12 out of 12 issues, see a psychiatrist.

~Ed Koch

I said, to be a New Yorker you have to live here for six months, and if at the end of the six months you find you walk faster, talk faster, think faster, you're a New Yorker.

~Ed Koch

You don't have to love them. You just have to respect their rights.

~Ed Koch

Deals are my art form. Other people paint beautifully on canvas or write wonderful poetry. I like making deals, preferably big deals. That's how I get my kicks.

~Ed Koch

I can explain it to you, but I can't comprehend it for you.

~Ed Koch

I know many writers who first dictate passages, then polish what they have dictated. I speak, then I polish - occasionally I do windows.

~Ed Koch

In a neighborhood, as in life, a clean bandage is much, much better than a raw or festering wound.

~Ed Koch

In action be primitive; in foresight, a strategist.

~Ed Koch

If you seek violence, we will seek to put you in jail.

~Ed Koch

But enough of me. Lets talk about you. What do you think of me?

~Ed Koch

To learn something new every day is still exciting!

~Ed Koch

Clinton has more important things to worry about. He not only risks being destroyed historically, like Afghanistan's Buddha statues; he also could end up going to jail.

~Ed Koch

Maybe he just looks good compared to the bores he's running against.

~Ed Koch

It's a lot more fun being a critic than being the one criticized.

~Ed Koch

[The UN should remain in New York] because every country needs a cesspool. And the UN is always interesting as a theater of the absurd.

~Ed Koch

Be different-if you don't have the facts and knowledge required, simply listen. When word gets around that you can listen when others tend to talk, you will be treated as a sage.

~Ed Koch

We're in the hands of the state legislature and God, but at the moment, the state legislature has more to say than God.

~Ed Koch

The best way to lose weight is to close your mouth - something very difficult for a politician. Or watch your food - just watch it, don't eat it.

~Ed Koch

Should we be rewriting history just to make people feel good? That's not history, that's psychiatry.

~Ed Koch

I wake up every morning and say to myself, Well, I'm still in New York. Thank you, God.

~Ed Koch

The knife of corruption endangered the life of New York City. The

scalpel of the law is making us well again.

~Ed Koch

I'm just a simple Jewish boy from the Bronx.

~Ed Koch

I was born at the age of twelve on a Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer lot.

~Ed Koch

If I traveled to the end of the rainbow as Dame Fortune did intend, Murphy would be there to tell me the pot's at the other end.

~Ed Koch

Citizens, thank you for all your birthday wishes. I am 88 years old today and still lucky to live in the greatest city in the world.

~Ed Koch

The person who is bent on killing you will follow you wherever you are.

~Ed Koch

Tree killing is arborcide.

~Ed Koch

I'm confident President Obama will continue his unambiguous commitment to the Jewish state in his second term.

~Ed Koch

Have you ever lived in the suburbs? It's sterile. It's nothing. It's wasting your life.

~Ed Koch

Water, water, everywhere, Atlantic and Pacific. But New York City's got them beat, Our aqua is terrific!

~Ed Koch

Anybody who suggests that I run for governor is no friend of mine. It's a terrible position, and besides, it requires living in Albany, which is small-town life at its worst.

~Ed Koch

The key to success in politics: Never forget, seldom forgive.

~Ed Koch

God gave me a very good hand to play over my 88 years. I have no regrets.

~Ed Koch

It is not possible to remake the world. You can fix parts, but you can't remake the world.

~Ed Koch

I'm coming to the end of my life. I do reflect on what I've done for the 85 years that I have been given so far. And I'm proud of what I've done.

~Ed Koch

I was drafted into the Army when I was 19 and came out at age 22. Most people that I knew didn't think they'd come home alive. I didn't think I would either, so I was happy when I did.

~Ed Koch

If you turn your back on these people, you yourself are an animal. You may be a well-dressed animal, but you are nevertheless an animal.

~Ed Koch

I changed the city of New York. I gave people back their morale.

~Ed Koch

Jews have always thought that having someone elevated with his head above the grass was not good for the Jews. I never felt that way. I

believe that you have to stand up.

~Ed Koch

Whenever I leave Manhattan, I get the bends!

~Ed Koch

I have a social life. But I don't discuss it.

~Ed Koch

I want to come back as me.

~Ed Koch

We should sell them to our worst enemies, the Russians and the Cubans.

~Ed Koch

I never doubted that I would be a good mayor. I never did.

~Ed Koch

Life is indeed precious, and I believe the death penalty helps affirm this fact.

~Ed Koch

Tone can be as important as text.

~Ed Koch

Carter couldn't elect a dog-catcher.

~Ed Koch

I don't want to leave Manhattan, even when I'm gone.

~Ed Koch

I intend to vote for President George W. Bush in the next election, because in my view, he is best able to wage the war against

international terrorism.

~Ed Koch

I don't believe that in our society that we should have guns.

~Ed Koch

I probably have another two or three years. Or I can pass tomorrow, but it doesn't make a difference to me.

~Ed Koch

I love being the mayor. I want to be the mayor forever.

~Ed Koch

However, they ignore the fact that the First Amendment is intended to protect only against government sanctions for exercising free speech rights, not private actions.

~Ed Koch

Don't tell me this is a difficult problem. If it weren't difficult, it wouldn't be a problem.

~Ed Koch

I'm not an author, but before I became mayor, I wasn't a mayor.

~Ed Koch

...the mayor should not be advancing a policy that encourages [illegal] immigrants to think of New York City as their safe haven.

~Ed Koch

The most guileful amongst the reporters are those who appear friendly and smile and seem to be supportive. They are the ones who will seek to gut you on every occasion.

~Ed Koch

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