

George Packer Quotes

*Thinking, War, Class, Party, Country, Book, People, Political, Trump, Games,
Reading, America, Jobs, Democracy, Years, College, President, Age, Feelings,*

Answers

Ideology knows the answer before the question has been asked. Principles are something different: a set of values that have to be adapted to circumstances but not compromised away.

~George Packer

Inequality hardens society into a class system. Inequality divides us from one another... Inequality undermines democracy.

~George Packer

At the heart of the matter is a battle between wish and fear. Fear generally proves stronger than a wish, but it leaves a taste of disappointment on the tongue.

~George Packer

I think that bias is not a fixed thing. It's not as though some people are biased and others are not. It ebbs and flows. It can be manipulated. It changes according to a person's circumstances.

~George Packer

I don't know if it's a male thing, but I've always been interested in how people respond to the stresses and dangers of war, how they react under fire. In the extremity of war, character is revealed.

~George Packer

There's a great book about that, "The Breaking Point" by Stephen Koch . It won't improve your opinion of [Ernest] Hemingway.

~George Packer

You don't have to be foreign policy expert to succeed as president, but you have to have ice water for blood.

~George Packer

American politics can produce great men and women, but it is profoundly insular.

~George Packer

When Donald Trump in one speech said I love the poorly educated - which was a remarkable thing to say - he was saying those are my people.

~George Packer

When Donald Trump says make America great again, we know whose America that is.

~George Packer

We all know who Donald Trump's talking to.

~George Packer

I will find any excuse to go into somebody's study or ask them what they are reading. I can't think of too many other things that say what goes on in someone's head than the books they have.

~George Packer

It's kind of funny to read the work of ex-Marines and soldiers because what they said to me as a reporter was only a fraction of what they were thinking and feeling and saying to one another.

~George Packer

What goes on in a person's head, what impels them to a political choice, it's a pretty complicated question.

~George Packer

There's the basket of deplorables, who are bigots of various stripes, misogynists, anti-Muslim, racists, homophobes.

~George Packer

I don't know how we continue to do politics in a democracy if we simply can't listen to one another, if we simply close the door and say you are

beyond redemption.

~George Packer

With work increasingly invisible, it's much harder to grasp the human effects, the social contours, of the Internet economy.

~George Packer

Putin stands for the opposite of a universal ideology; he has become an arch-nationalist of a pre-Cold War type, making mystic appeals to motherland and religion.

~George Packer

Globalization looked like it was going to answer all the economic questions of class. Turned out not to be the case.

~George Packer

Under Bill Clinton we had a roaring economy that looked really good.

~George Packer

I think it's important for Americans to try to understand each other a little better.

~George Packer

This is why mustard gas is such a danger or any weapon of mass destruction is such a dangerous thing because it - it's victims become everyone in the end.

~George Packer

If Hillary Clinton becomes president, how is she going to be able to get the country behind her when she seems like a political figure from another era?

~George Packer

I do think Donald Trump would be a catastrophic turn in American

history.

~George Packer

Politics should be, you know, as exciting as literature, as exciting film.

~George Packer

Politics should seize the imagination.

~George Packer

When you go to Washington and get off at Union Station, as I sometimes do, and see the Capitol building, I get this hopeless feeling that comes over me.

~George Packer

This is what Newt Gingrich has wrought - is a politics in which it's very easy to destroy and very hard to build.

~George Packer

I'm reading a bunch of fiction by Afghan and Iraq War veterans for a New Yorker piece. There hasn't been that much, but it's starting to come out, and some of the fiction is really good.

~George Packer

I am reading "The Yellow Birds" by Kevin Powers and "Redeployment" by Phil Klay . Both Powers and Klay are Iraq War vets. Klay's stories are remarkable.

~George Packer

We will have a more just society as soon as we want one.

~George Packer

We have all the information in the universe at our fingertips, while our most basic problems go unsolved year after year...All around, we see dazzling technological change, but no progress.

~George Packer

The invisibility of work and workers in the digital age is as consequential as the rise of the assembly line and, later, the service economy.

~George Packer

Surrendering to jargon is a sign of journalism's dismal lack of self-confidence in the optimized age of content-management systems.

~George Packer

It's a cliché that the Senate is broken, and like most clichés, it's true.

~George Packer

It seems preposterous now, but Amazon began as a bookstore.

~George Packer

I really do put it on Bill Clinton's presidency as the time when the Democrats became the party of the college degree as the key to success in life.

~George Packer

Like an odorless gas, [inequality] pervades every corner of the United States and saps the strength of the country's democracy. But it seems impossible to find the source and shut it off.

~George Packer

Inequality saps the will to conceive of ambitious solutions to large collective problems, because those problems no longer seem very collective.

~George Packer

Character is destiny, and politicians usually get the scandals they deserve, with a sense of inevitability about them.

~George Packer

Twitter is crack for media addicts.

~George Packer

Amazon's identity and goals are never clear and always fluid, which makes the company destabilizing and intimidating.

~George Packer

Much of the international unease with the Sochi Games has focused on the threat of terrorism, Putin's domestic repressiveness, and the Russian campaign of anti-gay propaganda.

~George Packer

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