

Germaine Greer Quotes

*Men, Women, Children, Love, Sex, Mother, Thinking, Husband, Art, Real, War,
Struggle, People, Home, Girl, Mean, Ideas, Reality, Energy, Father*

You're only young once, but you can be immature forever.

~Germaine Greer

The tragedy of machismo is that a man is never quite man enough.

~Germaine Greer

Loneliness is never more cruel than when it is felt in close propinquity with someone who has ceased to communicate.

~Germaine Greer

Revolution is the festival of the oppressed.

~Germaine Greer

Man is jealous because of his amour propre; woman is jealous because of her lack of it.

~Germaine Greer

What we ought to see in the agonies of puberty is the result of the conditioning that maims the female personality in creating the feminine.

~Germaine Greer

Every woman knows that, regardless of all her other achievements, she is a failure if she is not beautiful.

~Germaine Greer

Libraries are reservoirs of strength, grace and wit, reminders of order, calm and continuity, lakes of mental energy, neither warm nor cold, light nor dark.

~Germaine Greer

Energy is the power that drives every human being. It is not lost by exertion but maintained by it, for it is a faculty of the psyche.

~Germaine Greer

A library is a place where you can lose your innocence without losing your virginity.

~Germaine Greer

The struggle which is not joyous is the wrong struggle. The joy of the struggle is not hedonism and hilarity, but the sense of purpose, achievement and dignity.

~Germaine Greer

Perhaps women have always been in closer contact with reality than men: it would seem to be the just recompense for being deprived of idealism.

~Germaine Greer

Probably the only place where a man can feel really secure is in a maximum security prison, except for the imminent threat of release.

~Germaine Greer

It takes a great deal of courage and independence to decide to design your own image instead of the one that society rewards, but it gets easier as you go along.

~Germaine Greer

Human beings have an inalienable right to invent themselves.

~Germaine Greer

I think that testosterone is a rare poison.

~Germaine Greer

The high-heeled shoe is a marvellously contradictory item; it brings a woman to a man's height but makes sure she cannot keep up with him.

~Germaine Greer

Freedom is fragile and must be protected. To sacrifice it, even as a

temporary measure, is to betray it.

~Germaine Greer

The compelled mother loves her child as the caged bird sings. The song does not justify the cage nor the love the enforcement.

~Germaine Greer

Older women can afford to agree that femininity is a charade, a matter of colored hair, ecru lace and whalebones, the kind of slap and tat that transvestites are in love with, and no more.

~Germaine Greer

After centuries of conditioning of the female into the condition of perpetual girlishness called femininity, we cannot remember what femaleness is.

~Germaine Greer

Australia is a huge rest home, where no unwelcome news is ever wafted on to the pages of the worst newspapers in the world.

~Germaine Greer

Guilt is one side of a nasty triangle; the other two are shame and stigma. This grim coalition combines to inculcate women themselves of the crimes committed against them.

~Germaine Greer

A garden is a kinetic work of art, not an object but a process, open-ended, biodegradable, nurturant, like all women's artistry. A garden is the best alternative therapy.

~Germaine Greer

There are poems about the internet and about the shipping forecast but very few by women celebrating men.

~Germaine Greer

The surest guide to the correctness of the path that women take is joy in the struggle. Revolution is the festival of the oppressed.

~Germaine Greer

Human beings have an unalienable right to invent themselves; when that right is pre-empted it is called brain-washing.

~Germaine Greer

If you think you are emancipated, you might consider the idea of tasting your own menstrual blood - if it makes you sick, you've got a long way to go, baby.

~Germaine Greer

We in the West do not refrain from childbirth because we are concerned about the population explosion or because we feel we cannot afford children, but because we do not like children.

~Germaine Greer

Soccer is an art more central to our culture than anything the Arts Council deigns to recognize.

~Germaine Greer

If women understand by emancipation the adoption of the masculine role then we are lost indeed.

~Germaine Greer

Until women themselves reject stigma and refuse to feel shame for the way others treat them, they have no hope of achieving full human stature.

~Germaine Greer

Developing the muscles of the soul demands no competitive spirit, no killer instinct, although it may erect pain barriers that the spiritual athlete must crash through.

~Germaine Greer

Poetry exists partly to undermine the certainties of an accepted intellectual system, by opening a fissure of awareness at which the reality of the unconquered world may enter.

~Germaine Greer

A garden is the best alternative therapy.

~Germaine Greer

The management of fertility is one of the most important functions of adulthood.

~Germaine Greer

Mother is the dead heart of the family spending father's earnings on consumer goods to enhance the environment in which he eats, sleeps, and watches the television.

~Germaine Greer

The essence of pleasure is spontaneity.

~Germaine Greer

Act quickly, think slowly.

~Germaine Greer

People who are really happy do not concern themselves with convincing others of the fact.

~Germaine Greer

Psychoanalysis is the confession without absolution.

~Germaine Greer

Security is the denial of life

~Germaine Greer

The only causes of regret are laziness, outbursts of temper, hurting others, prejudice, jealousy, and envy.

~Germaine Greer

Sex is more fun than cars but cars refuel quicker than men.

~Germaine Greer

Women are reputed never to be disgusted. The sad fact is that they often are, but not with men; following the lead of men, they are most often disgusted with themselves

~Germaine Greer

The consequences of militancy do not disappear when the need for militancy is over.

~Germaine Greer

The most popular image of the female despite the exigencies of the clothing trade is all boobs and buttocks, a hallucinating sequence of parabolae and bulges.

~Germaine Greer

Even crushed against his brother in the Tube the average Englishman pretends desperately that he is alone.

~Germaine Greer

Our life-style contains more Thanatos than Eros, for egotism, exploitation, deception, obsession and addiction have more place in us than eroticism, joy, generosity and spontaneity.

~Germaine Greer

Every human body has its optimum weight and contour, which only health and efficiency can establish. Whenever we treat women's bodies as aesthetic objects without function we deform them.

~Germaine Greer

I didn't fight to get women out from behind vacuum cleaners to get them onto the board of Hoover.

~Germaine Greer

All societies on the verge of death are masculine. A society can survive with only one man; no society will survive a shortage of women.

~Germaine Greer

Bras are a ludicrous invention; but if you make bralessness a rule, you're just subjecting yourself to yet another repression.

~Germaine Greer

Security is when everything is settled, when nothing can happen to you; security is the denial of life.

~Germaine Greer

Evolution is what it is. The upper classes have always died out; it's one of the most charming things about them.

~Germaine Greer

Love, love, love - all the wretched cant of it, masking egotism, lust, masochism, fantasy under a mythology of sentimental postures.

~Germaine Greer

The principle of the brotherhood of man is narcissistic... for the grounds for that love have always been the assumption that we ought to realize that we are the same the whole world over.

~Germaine Greer

Gillard is as likeable as Rudd is charmless. She is self-deprecating; he is ludicrously vainglorious. She is a mistress of understatement; he is a ranter.

~Germaine Greer

Gender reassignment is an exorcism of the mother

~Germaine Greer

Perhaps catastrophe is the natural human environment, and even though we spend a good deal of energy trying to get away from it, we are programmed for survival amid catastrophe.

~Germaine Greer

The house wife is an unpaid employee in her husband's house in return for the security of being a permanent employee.

~Germaine Greer

In any library in the world, I am at home, unselfconscious, still and absorbed.

~Germaine Greer

One may not reach the dawn save by the path of the night.

~Germaine Greer

The sight of women talking together has always made men uneasy; nowadays it means rank subversion.

~Germaine Greer

Freud is the father of psychoanalysis. It had no mother.

~Germaine Greer

The drug which makes sexuality palatable in popular mythology.

~Germaine Greer

I find that those men who are personally most polite to women, who call them angels and all that, cherish in secret the greatest contempt for them.

~Germaine Greer

I grew up thinking there was one unpardonable sin - to be boring.

~Germaine Greer

When I was a young hippy, I thought marching naked would be a strong protest, but I don't think it would be as effective now.

~Germaine Greer

Most women still need a room of their own and the only way to find it may be outside their own home.

~Germaine Greer

Is it too much to ask that women be spared the daily struggle for superhuman beauty in order to offer it to the caresses of a subhumanly ugly mate?

~Germaine Greer

Marriage made more sense when it was indissoluble. It's the woman trying to cope with the strains of a one-parent family who will suffer most from the relaxation of the divorce laws.

~Germaine Greer

No sex is better than bad sex.

~Germaine Greer

Every time a man unburdens his heart to a stranger he reaffirms the love that unites humanity.

~Germaine Greer

Never advise anyone to go to war or to get married. Write down the advice of him who loves you, though you like it not at present. He that has no children brings them up well

~Germaine Greer

Sex for many has become a sorry business, a mechanical release

involving neither discovery nor triumph, stressing human isolation more dishearteningly than ever before.

~Germaine Greer

Many a housewife staring at the back of her husband's newspaper, or listening to his breathing in bed is lonelier than any spinster in a rented room.

~Germaine Greer

The most highly prized curve of all is that of the bosom.

~Germaine Greer

As soon as we find ourselves working at being indispensable, rigging up a pattern of vulnerability in our loved ones, we know that our love has taken the socially sanctioned form of egotism.

~Germaine Greer

Lifelong monogamy is a maniacal idea.

~Germaine Greer

Reading was my first solitary vice (and led to all others). I read while I ate, I read in the loo, I read in the bath. When I was supposed to be sleeping, I was reading.

~Germaine Greer

Womanpower means the self determination of women, and that means all the baggage of paternalistic society will have to be thrown overboard.

~Germaine Greer

Bringing up children is not a real occupation, because children come up just the same, brought or not.

~Germaine Greer

The occupational hazard of being a Playboy Bunny is the aching facial muscles brought on by obligatory smiles.

~Germaine Greer

There is no such thing as security. There never has been.

~Germaine Greer

Status ought not to be measured by a woman's ability to attract and snare a man.

~Germaine Greer

The crowning insult [of abortion] is that this ordeal is represented to her as some kind of a privilege. Her sad and onerous duty is garbed in the rhetoric of a civil right.

~Germaine Greer

If a woman never lets herself go, how will she ever know how far she might have got?

~Germaine Greer

No one goes to the toilet in novels. You'd think none of us had bladders.

~Germaine Greer

War is the admission of defeat in the face of conflicting interests.

~Germaine Greer

Women have very little idea of how much men hate them.

~Germaine Greer

Common morality now treats childbearing as an aberration. There are practically no good reasons left for exercising one's fertility.

~Germaine Greer

Men have still not realized that letting women do so much of the work for so little reward makes a man in the house an expensive luxury rather than a necessity.

~Germaine Greer

Kinkiness comes from low energy. It's the substitution of lechery for lust.

~Germaine Greer

Sadness is the matrix from which wit and irony spring; sadness is uncomfortable and creative, which is why consumer society cannot tolerate it.

~Germaine Greer

Despite a lifetime of service to the cause of sexual liberation, I have never caught venereal disease, which makes me feel rather like an Arctic explorer who has never had frostbite.

~Germaine Greer

Because love has been so perverted, it has in many cases come to involve a measure of hatred.

~Germaine Greer

Two-up is Australia's very own way of parting a fool and his money.

~Germaine Greer

Too many women are forced to abort by poverty, by their menfolk, by their parents. A choice is only possible if there are genuine alternatives.

~Germaine Greer

Only one thing is certain: if pot is legalized, it won't be for our benefit but for the authorities. To have it legalized will also be to lose control of it.

~Germaine Greer

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