

Harry A. Blackmun Quotes

Death Penalty, Abortion Laws, Decision, Race, Atheism, Government, Human Rights, Pregnancy, Heart, Men, Penalties, Years, Tinkering, Court, Two, Being Yourself, Ethos, United States, Association, Feminist

Disapproval of homosexuality cannot justify invading the houses, hearts and minds of citizens who choose to live their lives differently.

~Harry A. Blackmun

In order to get beyond racism, we must first take account of race. There is no other way. And in order to treat some persons equally, we must treat them differently.

~Harry A. Blackmun

The right to privacy... is broad enough to encompass a woman's decision whether or not to terminate her pregnancy.

~Harry A. Blackmun

I hope you will be yourself, human, even a little sentimental, possessed of a sense of humor and a sense of humility. . . . There are arrogant people in this world and, what is worse, arrogant judges.

~Harry A. Blackmun

If there is any truth to the old proverb that "one who is his own lawyer has a fool for a client," the Court now bestows a constitutional right on one to make a fool of himself.

~Harry A. Blackmun

A government cannot be premised on the belief that all persons are created equal when it asserts that god prefers some

~Harry A. Blackmun

From this day forward, I no longer shall tinker with the machinery of death.

~Harry A. Blackmun

The states are not free, under the guise of protecting maternal health or potential life, to intimidate women into continuing pregnancies.

~Harry A. Blackmun

Who is to say that 5 men 10 years ago were right whereas 5 men looking the other direction today are wrong.

~Harry A. Blackmun

If [a United States Supreme Court Justice is] in the doghouse with the Chief [Justice], he gets the crud. He gets the tax cases.

~Harry A. Blackmun

From this day forward, I no longer shall tinker with the machinery of death. ... I fell morally and intellectually obligated simply to concede that the death penalty experiment has failed.

~Harry A. Blackmun

The right of an individual to conduct intimate relationships in the intimacy of his or her own home seems to me to be the heart of the Constitution's protection of privacy.

~Harry A. Blackmun

By placing discretion in the hands of an official to grant or deny a license, such a statute creates a threat of censorship that by its very existence chills free speech.

~Harry A. Blackmun

What the Court really has refused to recognize is the fundamental interest all individuals have in controlling the nature of their intimate associations.

~Harry A. Blackmun

The death penalty experiment has failed.

~Harry A. Blackmun

The flaw in the statute is that in all its applications, it operates on a fundamentally mistaken premise that high solicitation costs are an accurate measure of fraud.

~Harry A. Blackmun

This Court repeatedly has recognized that the whole subject of the domestic relations of husband and wife belongs to the laws of the States and not to the laws of the United States.

~Harry A. Blackmun

We're all eccentrics. We're nine prima donnas.

~Harry A. Blackmun

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