

# Harry Browne Quotes

*Government, People, Liberty, Giving, Political, Want, War, Country, Rights, Law,  
Choices, Believe, World, Responsibility, Thinking, Important, Libertarian,  
Inspirational, Fighting, Politician*

The government is good at one thing. It knows how to break your legs, and then hand you a crutch and say, "See if it weren't for the government, you wouldn't be able to walk".

~Harry Browne

Freedom and responsibility aren't interconnected things. They are the same thing.

~Harry Browne

For those looking for security, be forewarned that there's nothing more insecure than a political promise.

~Harry Browne

It's important to realize that whenever you give power to politicians or bureaucrats, it will be used for what they want, not for what you want.

~Harry Browne

A great burden was lifted from my shoulders the day I realized that no one owes me anything.

~Harry Browne

The government's War on Poverty has transformed poverty from a short-term misfortune into a career choice.

~Harry Browne

When you give politicians the power to do what you think is right you're automatically giving politicians the power to do what you think is wrong.

~Harry Browne

Immigrants used to come to America seeking freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and freedom from government. Now they come looking for free health care, free education, and a free lunch.

~Harry Browne

Government cripples you, then hands you a crutch and says, 'See, if it wasn't for us, you couldn't walk.'

~Harry Browne

In almost all matters, the real question should be: why are we letting government handle this?

~Harry Browne

A little government involvement is just as dangerous as a lot - because the first leads inevitably to the second.

~Harry Browne

Disarmed citizens encourage crime and violence. Armed citizens encourage criminals to find a safer line of work.

~Harry Browne

No one ever died from smoking marijuana, but millions of people have died by believing politicians.

~Harry Browne

Profit is a reward for satisfying the desire of someone else.

~Harry Browne

It has long been apparent that many people in the media don't believe you're competent to make your own decisions.

~Harry Browne

The free market punishes irresponsibility. Government rewards it.

~Harry Browne

The coercive power of government is always a beacon to those who want to dominate others -- summoning the worst dregs of society to Washington to use that power to impose their will upon others.

~Harry Browne

Libertarians know that a free country has nothing to fear from anyone coming in or going out - while a welfare state is scared to death of poor people coming in and rich people getting out.

~Harry Browne

Government seems to operate on the principle that if even one individual is incapable of using his freedom competently, no one can be allowed to be free.

~Harry Browne

When people do things for you, it's because they want to - because you, in some way, give them something meaningful that makes them want to please you, not because anyone owes you anything.

~Harry Browne

Give government the weapons to fight your enemy and it will use them against you.

~Harry Browne

Whatever the issue, let freedom offer us a hundred choices, instead of having government force one answer on everyone.

~Harry Browne

Government is a parasite-a cancer that by nature tries to spread deeper into society. Those who want to run others' lives won't give up and start minding their own business.

~Harry Browne

Give politicians power and it certainly will be abused eventually - if not by today's politicians, then by their successors.

~Harry Browne

Republicans campaign like Libertarians and govern like Democrats.

~Harry Browne

Social Security is a fraudulent scheme in which the government collect money from you for your retirement - and immediately spend the money on something else.

~Harry Browne

You have only one life, and no one else will live it for you. Shouldn't you take the time right now to figure out what that life is all about?

~Harry Browne

The power of choice. You have it. But you forfeit it when you imagine that you can choose for others. You can't. But you can choose for yourself.

~Harry Browne

I want a government small enough to fit inside the Constitution.

~Harry Browne

Forcing people to be generous isn't humanitarian, effective, compassionate or moral. Only acts that are truly voluntary for all concerned can be truly compassionate.

~Harry Browne

It is well known that in war, the first casualty is truth - that during any war truth is forsaken for propaganda.

~Harry Browne

If a law could keep dangerous weapons out of the hands of dangerous people, there would be virtually no gun crime at all.

~Harry Browne

When you give up the hope that some advisor, some system, some source of inside tips is going to give you a shortcut to wealth, you'll finally begin to gain control over your financial future.

~Harry Browne

When you know that you're capable of dealing with whatever comes, you have the only security the world has to offer.

~Harry Browne

The important thing is to concentrate upon what you can do - by yourself, upon your own initiative.

~Harry Browne

If you ask the government to impose morality, then moral questions will be decided by whoever has the most political power.

~Harry Browne

Politicians are notoriously economically illiterate. And even when they know what would be the right thing, we don't really expect them to do it.

~Harry Browne

Security ... it's simply the recognition that changes will take place and the knowledge that you're willing to deal with whatever happens.

~Harry Browne

A secure individual...knows that the responsibility for anything concerning his life remains with himself-and he accepts that responsibility.

~Harry Browne

You are where you are today because you've chosen to be there.

~Harry Browne

Like many people, most Libertarians feel empathy and sympathy for less fortunate people. But they know you can't have perfection in a world of limited resources.

~Harry Browne

Most politicians believe in just one thing - winning elections. They'll say anything to get in office and stay there.

~Harry Browne

When paper money systems begin to crack at the seams, the run to gold could be explosive.

~Harry Browne

You don't have to buy from anyone. You don't have to work at any particular job. You don't have to participate in any given relationship. You can choose.

~Harry Browne

Some people object to libertarian ideas because there are too many irresponsible people in the world - people who will cause trouble if the government doesn't restrain them.

~Harry Browne

Everything you want in life has a price connected to it. There's a price to pay if you want to make things better, a price to pay just for leaving things as they are, a price for everything.

~Harry Browne

A welfare state is frightened of every poor person who tries to get in and every rich person who tries to get out.

~Harry Browne

It's wrong for someone to confiscate your money, give it to someone else, and call that "compassion."

~Harry Browne

You can't give the government the power to do good without also giving it the power to do bad - in fact, to do anything it wants.

~Harry Browne

A Libertarian society of unfettered individualism spreads its benefits to virtually everyone - not just those who have the resources to seize political power.

~Harry Browne

Libertarians understand a very simple fact of life: Government doesn't work. It can't deliver the mail on time, it doesn't keep our cities safe, it doesn't educate our children properly.

~Harry Browne

Get your money out of the country before your country gets your money out of you

~Harry Browne

The problem with politics isn't the money; it's the power.

~Harry Browne

What we really need is compassion of the mind - compassion for others that is directed intelligently and produces truly compassionate results.

~Harry Browne

Each person is living for himself; his own happiness is all he can ever personally feel.

~Harry Browne

Once upon a time, government budgets were balanced, our money was sound, the streets were safe, and taxes imposed by all levels of government took less than 10% of our income.

~Harry Browne

Government doesn't work. You work, I work, Federal Express works, Microsoft works, the Salvation Army works, Alcoholics Anonymous works, but government doesn't.

~Harry Browne



Not only can no one predict the future, we don't understand the present - and there isn't even any certainty about the past.

~Harry Browne

Everyone will experience the consequences of his own acts. If his acts are right, he'll get good consequences; if they're not, he'll suffer for it.

~Harry Browne

There was no military reason to drop atomic bombs on Japan. They were used as terrorist weapons - killing innocent people to influence other people.

~Harry Browne

Can you think of a single area of government in which George Bush hasn't already made things worse than Bill Clinton did?

~Harry Browne

Voluntary association produces the free market - where each person can choose among a multitude of possibilities.

~Harry Browne

Government doesn't work. That's the first lesson we must learn if we want to improve society.

~Harry Browne

You owe it to yourself to be the best person possible. Because if you are, others will want to be with you, want to provide you with the things you want in exchange for what you're giving to them.

~Harry Browne

America rules the world - by force.

~Harry Browne

I have no temptation to vote, to campaign, to try and stop a candidate

who promises new follies.

~Harry Browne

For most of our history, Americans enjoyed both liberty and security from foreign threats.

~Harry Browne

While most people in TV, radio, and the press have treated me wonderfully, some of the most important people want to pretend I don't exist.

~Harry Browne

World War II has always been of great interest to me. I've known for decades that it was just one more war the politicians suckered us into.

~Harry Browne

If the Fed had a war on abortion like its war on poverty or war on drugs, within five years men would be having abortions!

~Harry Browne

I'm sorry that I can't snap my fingers and undo 50 years of bad American foreign policy.

~Harry Browne

Find out what people want and help them get it.

~Harry Browne

The best kept secret in the investing world: Almost nothing turns out as expected.

~Harry Browne

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