

Hugo Black Quotes

*Government, Country, Law, Religious, Justice, Rights, Mean, People, Writing,
Views, Support, Judging, Church, Responsibility, Men, War, Believe, Wind,
Heart, Thinking*

The press was to serve the governed, not the governors.

~Hugo Black

I was brought up to believe that Scotch whisky would need a tax preference to survive in competition with Kentucky bourbon.

~Hugo Black

A union of government and religion tends to destroy government and to degrade religion.

~Hugo Black

Among religions in this country which do not teach what would generally be considered a belief in the existence of God are Buddhism, Taoism, Ethical Culture, Secular Humanism and others.

~Hugo Black

There can be no equal justice where the kind of trial a man gets depends on the amount of money he has.

~Hugo Black

Freedom of speech means that you shall not do something to people either for the views they have, or the views they express, or the words they speak or write.

~Hugo Black

The layman's constitutional view is that what he likes is constitutional and that which he doesn't like is unconstitutional.

~Hugo Black

An unconditional right to say what one pleases about public affairs is what I consider to be the minimum guarantee of the First Amendment.

~Hugo Black

When I was 40, my doctor advised me that a man in his 40s shouldn't

play tennis. I heeded his advice carefully and could hardly wait until I reached 50 to start again.

~Hugo Black

I cannot agree with those who think of the Bill of Rights as an 18th century straitjacket, unsuited for this age...The evils it guards against are not only old, they are with us now, they exist today.

~Hugo Black

The Framers of the Constitution knew that free speech is the friend of change and revolution. But they also knew that it is always the deadliest enemy of tyranny.

~Hugo Black

The very reason for the First Amendment is to make the people of this country free to think, speak, write and worship as they wish, not as the Government commands.

~Hugo Black

Criticism of government finds sanctuary in several portions of the 1st Amendment. It is part of the right of free speech. It embraces freedom of the press

~Hugo Black

It is my belief that there are "absolutes" in our Bill of Rights, and that they were put there on purpose by men who knew what words meant and meant their prohibitions to be "absolutes."

~Hugo Black

The very first condition of lasting happiness is that a life should be full of purpose, aiming at something outside self.

~Hugo Black

Our Constitution was not written in the sands to be washed away by

each wave of new judges blown in by each successive political wind.

~Hugo Black

The Founding Fathers gave the free press the protection it must have to... bare the secrets of government and inform the people.

~Hugo Black

The First Amendment has erected a wall between church and state. That wall must be kept high and impregnable. We could not approve the slightest breach.

~Hugo Black

The lesson which wars and depressions have taught is that if we want peace, prosperity and happiness at home we must help to establish them abroad.

~Hugo Black

No person can be punished for entertaining or professing religious beliefs or disbeliefs, for church attendance or non-attendance.

~Hugo Black

I am for the First Amendment from the first word to the last. I believe it means what it says.

~Hugo Black

We believe trial judges confronted with disruptive, contumacious, stubbornly defiant defendants must be given sufficient discretion to meet the circumstances in each case.

~Hugo Black

In revealing the workings of government that led to the Vietnam War, the newspapers nobly did precisely that which the Founders hoped and trusted they would do.

~Hugo Black

The United States has a system of taxation by confession

~Hugo Black

Laws are made to protect the trusting as well as the suspicious

~Hugo Black

Freedom to publish means freedom for all and not for some. Freedom to publish is guaranteed by the constitution but freedom to continue to prevent others from publishing is not.

~Hugo Black

Loyalty must arise spontaneously from the hearts of people who love their country and respect their government.

~Hugo Black

No tax in any amount, large or small, can be levied to support any religious activities or institutions, whatever they may be called, or whatever form they may adopt to teach or practice religion.

~Hugo Black

Citizenship is no light trifle to be jeopardized any moment Congress decides to do so under the name of one of its general or implied grants of power.

~Hugo Black

Words uttered under coercion are proof of loyalty to nothing but self-interest. Love of country must spring from willing hearts and free minds.

~Hugo Black

The interest of the people lies in being able to join organizations, advocate causes, and make political "mistakes" without being subjected to governmental penalties.

~Hugo Black

The flagrant disregard in the courtroom of elementary standards of proper conduct should not and cannot be tolerated.

~Hugo Black

History showed that many people had lost their respect for any religion that had relied upon the support of government to spread its faith.

~Hugo Black

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