

# Irving Kristol

## Quotes

*People, Years, Believe, Ideas, Girl, Reality, Conservative, Modern, Military,  
Young, Political, Hayek, Christian, Want, Book, Children, Today, Community,  
Country, Love Is*

Democracy does not guarantee equality of conditions - it only guarantees equality of opportunity.

~Irving Kristol

Even if we can't be happy, we must always be cheerful.

~Irving Kristol

One can be unhappy before eating caviar, even after, but at least not during.

~Irving Kristol

The enemy of liberal capitalism today is not so much socialism as nihilism.

~Irving Kristol

A conservative is a liberal mugged by reality.

~Irving Kristol

If you believe that no one was ever corrupted by a book, you have also to believe that no one was ever improved by a book.

~Irving Kristol

Nostalgia is one of the legitimate and certainly one of the most enduring of human emotions; but the politics of nostalgia is at best distracting, at worst pernicious.

~Irving Kristol

The major political event of the twentieth century is the death of socialism.

~Irving Kristol

A welfare state, properly conceived, can be an integral part of a conservative society.

~Irving Kristol

The really difficult moral issues arise, not from a confrontation of good and evil, but from a collision between two goods

~Irving Kristol

The danger facing American Jews today is not that Christians want to persecute them but that Christians want to marry them.

~Irving Kristol

An intellectual may be defined as a man who speaks with general authority about a subject on which he has no particular competence.

~Irving Kristol

The liberal paradigm of regulation and license has led to a society where an 18-year-old girl has the right to public fornication in a pornographic movie - but only if she is paid the minimum wage.

~Irving Kristol

...only liberal organizations are clearly designated [in the press] as "nonpartisan, nonprofit." Non-liberal research organizations are always identified as "right-wing" or "conservative."

~Irving Kristol

Power breeds responsibilities, in international affairs as in domestic - or even private. To dodge or disclaim these responsibilities is one form of the abuse of power.

~Irving Kristol

It was a new kind of class war - the people as citizens versus the politicians and their clients in the public sector.

~Irving Kristol

You have to know one big thing and stick with it. The leaders who had one very big idea and one very big commitment. This permitted them to create something. Those are the ones who leave a legacy.

~Irving Kristol

If you care for the quality of life in our American democracy, then you have to be for censorship.

~Irving Kristol

.. the most intelligent defender of capitalism in the modern period is Friedrich Hayek.

~Irving Kristol

Young people, especially, are looking for religion so desperately that they are inventing new ones. They should not have to invent new ones; the old religions are pretty good.

~Irving Kristol

I have observed over the years that the unanticipated consequences of social action are always more important, and usually less agreeable, than the intended consequences.

~Irving Kristol

A neoconservative is a liberal who's been mugged by reality. A neoliberal is a liberal who's been mugged by reality but has refused to press charges.

~Irving Kristol

Being frustrated is disagreeable, but the real disasters of life begin when you get what you want.

~Irving Kristol

A liberal is a person who sees a fourteen-year-old girl performing sex acts onstage and wonders if she's being paid minimum wage.

~Irving Kristol

No modern nation has ever constructed a foreign policy that was

acceptable to its intellectuals

~Irving Kristol

The problem is efforts by liberals to establish a wall between religion and society, in the guise of maintaining the wall between church and state.

~Irving Kristol

I regard myself to have been a young Trotskyite and I have not a single bitter memory.

~Irving Kristol

What rules the world is idea, because ideas define the way reality is perceived.

~Irving Kristol

There is nothing like a parade to elicit the proper respect for the military from the populace.

~Irving Kristol

People need religion. It's a vehicle for a moral tradition. A crucial role. Nothing can take its place.

~Irving Kristol

**Related Links:**

- People Quotes
- Years Quotes
- Believe Quotes
- Ideas Quotes
- Girl Quotes
- Reality Quotes
- Conservative Quotes
- Modern Quotes
- Military Quotes
- Young Quotes
- Political Quotes
- Hayek Quotes
- Christian Quotes
- Want Quotes
- Book Quotes
- Children Quotes
- Today Quotes
- Community Quotes
- Country Quotes
- Love Is Quotes