

Ivan Illich

Quotes

School, People, Men, Learning, Teaching, Believe, Suffering, Education, Medicine, Health, Technology, Needs, Thinking, Government, Country, Support, Goal, Rich, Attitude, Meaningful

Modern medicine is a negation of health. It isn't organised to serve human health, but only itself, as an institution. It makes more people sick than it heals.

~Ivan Illich

We must rediscover the distinction between hope and expectation.

~Ivan Illich

School is the advertising agency which makes you believe that you need the society as it is.

~Ivan Illich

The true miracle of modern medicine is diabolical. It consists in making not only individuals but whole populations survive on inhumanly low levels of personal health.

~Ivan Illich

Effective health care depends on self-care; this fact is currently heralded as if it were a discovery.

~Ivan Illich

We can only live changes: we cannot think our way to humanity. Every one of us, every group, must become the model of that which we desire to create.

~Ivan Illich

The myth of unending consumption has taken the place of the belief in life everlasting.

~Ivan Illich

School has become the world religion of a modernized proletariat, and makes futile promises of salvation to the poor of the technological age.

~Ivan Illich

Schools teach the need to be taught.

~Ivan Illich

Jesus was an anarchist savior. That's what the Gospels tell us.

~Ivan Illich

We cannot go beyond the consumer society unless we first understand that obligatory public schools inevitably reproduce such a society, no matter what is taught in them.

~Ivan Illich

I don't want to die of some disease I want to die of death

~Ivan Illich

What kinds of things and people might learners want to be in contact with in order to learn?

~Ivan Illich

The public school has become the established church of secular society.

~Ivan Illich

In a consumer society there are inevitably two kinds of slaves: the prisoners of addiction and the prisoners of envy.

~Ivan Illich

Carry a candle in the dark, be a candle in the dark, know that you're a flame in the dark.

~Ivan Illich

Learning from programmed information always hides reality behind a screen.

~Ivan Illich

School is an institution built on the axiom that learning is the result of teaching. And institutional wisdom continues to accept this axiom, despite overwhelming evidence to the contrary.

~Ivan Illich

It is really an alienation to believe that learning is the result of teaching.

~Ivan Illich

There is no greater distance than that between a man in prayer and God

~Ivan Illich

The pupil is ... 'schooled' to confuse teaching with learning, grade advancement with education, a diploma with competence, and fluency with the ability to say something new.

~Ivan Illich

Together we have come to realize that for most men the right to learn is curtailed by the obligation to attend school.

~Ivan Illich

Leadership does not depend on being right.

~Ivan Illich

The future depends more upon our choice of institutions which support a life of action than on our developing new ideologies and technologies.

~Ivan Illich

People need new tools to work with rather than new tools that work for them.

~Ivan Illich

School prepares for the alienating institutionalization of life by teaching

the need to be taught.

~Ivan Illich

The depersonalization of diagnosis and therapy has changed malpractice from an ethical into a technical problem.

~Ivan Illich

Man must choose whether to be rich in things or in the freedom to use them.

~Ivan Illich

The household became the place where the consumption of wages takes place.

~Ivan Illich

At the moment of death I hope to be surprised.

~Ivan Illich

If you want to change society then you must tell an alternative story.

~Ivan Illich

The State shall make no law with respect to the establishment of education.

~Ivan Illich

Culture makes pain tolerable by interpreting it's necessity; only pain perceived as curable is intolerable.

~Ivan Illich

The most important thing you learn at school is that learning only happens by being taught.

~Ivan Illich

The medical establishment has become the major threat to health.

~Ivan Illich

Losses of a kind of satisfaction that have no market equivalent don't show up in the calculations of economists.

~Ivan Illich

The new experience that has replaced dignified suffering is artificially prolonged, opaque, depersonalized maintenance.

~Ivan Illich

To hell with the future. It's a man-eating idol.

~Ivan Illich

To deschool means to abolish the power of one person to oblige another.

~Ivan Illich

In both rich and poor nations consumption is polarized while expectation is equalized.

~Ivan Illich

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