

# J. C. Watts

## Quotes

*Thinking, Community, Believe, Character, Children, People, Black, Oklahoma,  
School, Opportunity, Men, Color, Party, Dream, House, Years, African  
American, America, Country, Strong*

Character is doing the right thing when nobody's looking. There are too many people who think that the only thing that's right is to get by, and the only thing that's wrong is to get caught.

~J. C. Watts

It doesn't take a lot of strength to hang on. It takes a lot of strength to let go.

~J. C. Watts

Republicans think that the NAACP is the only voice in the black community. It is a voice in the black community. But it's not the only voice.

~J. C. Watts

Having a Republican candidate speak at the NAACP convention is like trying to build a house starting at the roof. If you don't have a foundation, the roof isn't going to stand.

~J. C. Watts

I'm secure in who I am. I don't need the validation of those that would say, you have to be a certain thing in order to be accepted. I'm comfortable going against the grain if I need to.

~J. C. Watts

Governor is not the position to have in Oklahoma. It is the head coach of Oklahoma or Oklahoma State or Tulsa.

~J. C. Watts

It takes a lot of strength to let go.

~J. C. Watts

Character is doing the right thing when nobody's looking.

~J. C. Watts

My views on everything from welfare to a balanced budget to affirmative action can be traced to what Buddy and Helen Watts taught me as a young boy growing up poor but proud in Eufaula.

~J. C. Watts

We have seen the Democrat solution to an energy crisis; it's called California.

~J. C. Watts

Everyone tries to define this thing called Character. It's not hard. Character is doing what's right when nobody's looking.

~J. C. Watts

I never got into politics for it to be a career.

~J. C. Watts

Everything I am I owe to my faith and secondly to parents who were old school.

~J. C. Watts

I would love to be associated with some sports organization. I was a journalism major. That's kind of intriguing, to do something in the political-commentary arena.

~J. C. Watts

You take a poor black child. Give him a good education, tell him he's somebody, that God didn't create junk when he created him, and that black child will create his own affirmative action.

~J. C. Watts

I embrace my blackness, just as I do my conservatism and my Christianity, but I don't want to be defined or pigeonholed by any one of the many elements that make up my character.

~J. C. Watts

If you are explaining, you are losing.

~J. C. Watts

A Black man voting for the Republicans makes about as much sense as a chicken voting for Col. Sanders.

~J. C. Watts

Death and taxes may be inevitable, but they shouldn't be related.

~J. C. Watts

We need to remember that politics is all about people, not programs. We shouldn't want to take the humanness out of the political arena.

~J. C. Watts

Some might think that George W. Bush had his shortcomings, but let me tell you something - history's going to be kind to George W. Bush.

~J. C. Watts

Serving in Congress has been more than an honor; it has been one of the most exhilarating experiences of my life ... It has been a wonderful ride. It has been a wonderful journey.

~J. C. Watts

The measure of a man is not how great his faith is, but how great his love is. We must not let government programs disconnect our souls from each other.

~J. C. Watts

When it comes to the American dream, no one has a corner on the market. All of us have an equal chance to share in that dream.

~J. C. Watts

I would caution all of us or I would remind all of us that any candidate that we support, they are going to be flawed.

~J. C. Watts

In addition, there is one title I cherish a great deal more than Congressman and that is the title of... Dad.

~J. C. Watts

I have often said one of the reasons more blacks don't support Republicans is because they don't trust the GOP establishment.

~J. C. Watts

The American dream does not happen by asking Americans to accept what's immoral and wrong in the name of tolerance.

~J. C. Watts

There is a direct correlation between education, stable families and incarceration and crime.

~J. C. Watts

There can't be opportunity or jobs without investment and profit.

~J. C. Watts

One of the Republicans' major products is dream making. People are dying to get into this country... not out of it.

~J. C. Watts

Like any group that has endured much, African Americans have created a strong and mutually reinforcing sense of group identity. That's not a bad thing in and of itself.

~J. C. Watts

I still get to preach 14, 15 times a year. But you have to make a living.

~J. C. Watts

I believe government should be loyal to parents, teachers and children.

~J. C. Watts

Too many Americans live by Republican principles of faith, family, hope and opportunity, but vote for Democrats out of sheer habit.

~J. C. Watts

The more I ponder some of the boneheaded decisions GOP candidates have made of late, I can't bring myself to believe that they are serious about capturing more than about 8 percent of the black vote.

~J. C. Watts

They said that I had sold out and (am an) Uncle Tom. And I said well, they deserve to have that view. But I have my thoughts. And I think they're race-hustling poverty pimps.

~J. C. Watts

There's a whole lot more to the African-American community than entertainment and sports.

~J. C. Watts

To say America can have strong leadership without strong character is to say we can get water without the wet.

~J. C. Watts

You always hear 'black Republican,' but you never hear 'white Democrat.' We've got to get beyond the labels and stereotypes. Other people have hang-ups about it. I don't.

~J. C. Watts

As an Oklahoma quarterback, you learn to perform under pressure.

~J. C. Watts

If a 25-year old can't read and write and he or she isn't gaining marketable skills, it doesn't matter if a Republican or a Democrat is in

the White House. His or her future will be bleak.

~J. C. Watts

Good policy makes good politics and what I've done has been good politics.

~J. C. Watts

Americans are hungry for a discussion on policy solutions to the problems in their communities that work.

~J. C. Watts

Education is a bipartisan issue that concern all communities of color and should be first, last and always about the student learning.

~J. C. Watts

My work in the House of Representatives, at this time in my life, is completed. It is time to return home.

~J. C. Watts

I am willing to compete on my merits and on my character - not with the color of my skin. We talk about being a color-blind society, but I don't think the political process could actually handle that.

~J. C. Watts

If diversity is O.K. for God, it ought to be O.K. for Republicans.

~J. C. Watts

I don't know if anybody has moved up the ladder more quickly than I have.

~J. C. Watts

Individual responsibility, hard work, paying attention in school, faith, family all these things are important.

~J. C. Watts

I think Newt Gingrich has a proven track record of changing Washington and getting results.

~J. C. Watts

My father taught that the only helping hand you're ever going to be able to rely on is the one at the end of your sleeve.

~J. C. Watts

There is a war being waged right now on prayer and religion by liberals who are taking every opportunity to make America as God-less as possible.

~J. C. Watts



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