

Jane Addams

Quotes

*Men, Believe, Hull House, People, Cities, Democracy, Peace, Justice, May,
Children, Ideas, Self, Intellectual, Race, Order, Expression, Thinking,
Responsibility, War, Hands*

Nothing could be worse than the fear that one had given up too soon, and left one unexpended effort that might have saved the world.

~Jane Addams

The essence of immorality is the tendency to make an exception of myself.

~Jane Addams

America's future will be determined by the home and the school. The child becomes largely what he is taught; hence we must watch what we teach, and how we live.

~Jane Addams

I dreamed night after night that everyone in the world was dead excepting myself, and that upon me rested the responsibility of making a wagon wheel.

~Jane Addams

Of all aspects of social misery nothing is so heartbreaking as unemployment.

~Jane Addams

The good we secure for ourselves is precarious and uncertain until it is secured for all of us and incorporated into our common life.

~Jane Addams

Things that make us alike are finer and stronger than the things that make us different.

~Jane Addams

Action indeed is the sole medium of expression for ethics.

~Jane Addams

Only in time of fear is government thrown back to its primitive and sole

function of self-defense and the many interests of which it is the guardian become subordinate to that.

~Jane Addams

Civilization is a method of living, an attitude of equal respect for all men.

~Jane Addams

Social advance depends quite as much upon an increase in moral sensibility as it does upon a sense of duty.

~Jane Addams

Old-fashioned ways which no longer apply to changed conditions are a snare in which the feet of women have always become readily entangled.

~Jane Addams

We forget that the accumulation of knowledge and the holding of convictions must finally result in the application of that knowledge and those convictions to life itself.

~Jane Addams

It is dreadful the way all the comfortable, happy people stay off to themselves.

~Jane Addams

You do not know what life means when all the difficulties are removed!

~Jane Addams

The worth of every conviction consists precisely in the steadfastness with which it is held.

~Jane Addams

Unless our conception of patriotism is progressive, it cannot hope to

embody the real affection and the real interest of the nation.

~Jane Addams

Much of the insensibility and hardness of the world is due to the lack of imagination which prevents a realization of the experiences of other people.

~Jane Addams

Intellectual life requires for its expansion and manifestation the influences and assimilation of the interests and affections of others.

~Jane Addams

Perhaps nothing is so fraught with significance as the human hand.

~Jane Addams

This dream that men shall cease to waste strength in competition and shall come to pool their powers of production is coming to pass all over the earth.

~Jane Addams

That person is most cultivated who is able to put himself in the place of the greatest number of other persons.

~Jane Addams

No one so poignantly realizes the failures in the social structure as the man at the bottom, who has been most directly in contact with those failures and has suffered most.

~Jane Addams

Young people need pleasure as truly as they need food and air.

~Jane Addams

I believe that peace is not merely an absence of war but the nurture of human life, and that in time this nurture would do away with war as a

natural process.

~Jane Addams

The common stock of intellectual enjoyment should not be difficult of access because of the economic position of him who would approach it.

~Jane Addams

With all the efforts made by modern society to nurture and educate the young, how stupid it is to permit the mothers of young children to spend themselves in the coarser work of the world!

~Jane Addams

Life cannot be administered by definite rules and regulations; that wisdom to deal with a man's difficulties comes only through some knowledge of his life and habits as a whole.

~Jane Addams

Keep friends close but keep enemies closer.

~Jane Addams

If the Settlement seeks its expression through social activity, it must learn the difference between mere social unrest and spiritual impulse.

~Jane Addams

Private beneficence is totally inadequate to deal with the vast numbers of the city's disinherited.

~Jane Addams

As democracy modifies our conception of life, it constantly raises the value and function of each member of the community, however humble he may be.

~Jane Addams

The classical city promoted play with careful solicitude, building the theater and stadium as it built the market place and the temple.

~Jane Addams

A very little familiarity with the poor districts of any city is sufficient to show how primitive and genuine are the neighborly relations.

~Jane Addams

Hospitality still survives among foreigners, although it is buried under false pride among the poorest Americans.

~Jane Addams

It is easy to become the dupe of a deferred purpose, of the promise the future can never keep.

~Jane Addams

democracy is that which affords a rule of living as well as a test of faith.

~Jane Addams

The cheap drama brings cause and effect, will power and action, once more into relation and gives a man the thrilling conviction that he may yet be master of his fate.

~Jane Addams

Must be grounded in a philosophy whose foundation is on the solidarity of the human race, a philosophy which will not waver when the race happens to be represented by a drunken woman or an idiot boy.

~Jane Addams

When the sense of justice seeks to express itself quite outside the regular channels of established government, it has set forth on a dangerous journey inevitably ending in disaster.

~Jane Addams

Social advance depends as much upon the process through which it is secured as upon the result itself.

~Jane Addams

The blessing which we associate with a life of refinement and cultivation can be made universal and must be made universal if they are to be permanent.

~Jane Addams

If in a democratic country nothing can be permanently achieved save through the masses of the people, it will be impossible to establish a higher political life than the people themselves crave.

~Jane Addams

The mass of men seldom move together without an emotional incentive.

~Jane Addams

Pliable human nature is relentlessly pressed upon by its physical environment.

~Jane Addams

It is as easy for most of us to keep from stealing our dinners as it is to digest them, and there is quite as much voluntary morality involved in one process as the other.

~Jane Addams

Perhaps nothing is so fraught with significance as the human hand, this oldest tool with which man has dug his way from savagery, and with which he is constantly groping forward.

~Jane Addams

An unscrupulous contractor regards no basement as too dark, no stable loft too foul, no rear shanty too provisional, no tenement room too small

for his workroom as these conditions imply low rental.

~Jane Addams

A Settlement is above all a place for enthusiasms, a spot to which those who have a passion for the equalization of human joys and opportunities are early attracted.

~Jane Addams

The impulse to share the lives of the poor, the desire to make social service, irrespective of propaganda, express the spirit of Christ, is as old as Christianity itself.

~Jane Addams

Hundreds of poor laboring men and women are being thrown into jails and police stations because of their political beliefs. In fact, an attempt is being made to deport an entire political party.

~Jane Addams

The supreme religious test of our social order is the hideous commerce of prostitution.

~Jane Addams

If the meanest man in the republic is deprived of his rights, then every man in the republic is deprived of his rights.

~Jane Addams

Even death itself sometimes fails to bring the dignity and serenity which one would fain associate with old age.

~Jane Addams

A woman should have the ballot, because without this responsibility she cannot best develop her moral courage.

~Jane Addams

The task of youth is not only its own salvation but the salvation of those against whom it rebels.

~Jane Addams

One's faith is kept alive as one occasionally meets a realized ideal of better human relations.

~Jane Addams

National events determine our ideals, as much as our ideals determine national events.

~Jane Addams

The new growth in the plant swelling against the sheath, which at the same time imprisons and protects it, must still be the truest type of progress.

~Jane Addams

That which may have sounded like righteous teaching when it was remote and wordy, will be challenged afresh when it is obliged to simulate life itself.

~Jane Addams

A wise man has told us that "men are once for all so made that they prefer a rational world to believe in and live in."

~Jane Addams

A long-established occupation may form the very foundations of the moral life, that the art with which a man has solaced his toil may be the salvation of his uncertain temperament.

~Jane Addams

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