

John Oliver Quotes

*People, Thinking, America, Sound, Trying, Comedy, World, Want, Comedian,
Two, Kind, Knows, Mean, British, Voice, Politician, New York, Laughing, Jobs,
Racist*

You don't need people's opinion on a fact. You might as well have a poll asking: 'Which number is bigger, 15 or 5?' or 'Do owls exist?' or 'Are there hats?'

~John Oliver

Drug companies are a bit like high school boyfriends - they're much more concerned with getting inside you than being effective once they're in there.

~John Oliver

News is not a game show. You don't win a car if you happen to be right.

~John Oliver

Economics is like the Dutch language - I'm told it makes sense, but I have my doubts.

~John Oliver

One thing that America is objectively exceptional at is overreacting whenever anyone accuses them of not being exceptional.

~John Oliver

The Confederate flag is one of those things that should only be seen on t-shirts, belt buckles and bumper stickers to help the rest of us identify the worst people in the world.

~John Oliver

Anybody who claims to be excited for April Fools' Day is probably a sociopath.

~John Oliver

Once you learn how to make people laugh, then you get to choose exactly how you want to make them laugh.

~John Oliver

Democracy is like a tambourine, not everyone can be trusted with it.

~John Oliver

People are always going to say stupid things, and you're always going to be able to make jokes about that, but it should be the last thing you add in, because it's the easiest thing.

~John Oliver

Politics has become infused with narcissism in America.

~John Oliver

Ads are baked into content like chocolate chips into a cookie. Except, it's actually more like raisins into a cookie - because nobody f-â€•-â€•-ing wants them there.

~John Oliver

It's a great time to be doing political satire when the world is on a knife edge.

~John Oliver

When you're dealing with serious subjects, there is a pressure to be absolutely sure that you know what you're doing.

~John Oliver

Congress never loses its capacity to disappoint you.

~John Oliver

Campaign ads are the backbone of American democracy if American democracy suffered a gigantic spinal injury.

~John Oliver

I feel more at home knowing I'm not really at home. It takes all the pressure off you trying to fit in!

~John Oliver

The moment I accept that there's an artistic, redeeming quality in puns, I have a horrible feeling I'll get hooked.

~John Oliver

Southern people are bigger-hearted and kinder than I had any right to expect.

~John Oliver

It's pretty physically unsettling, living life on a visa.

~John Oliver

You don't need people's opinion on a fact.

~John Oliver

Being a Mets fan is like lending someone a lot of money and you just know that you'll never get paid back.

~John Oliver

Congratulations, Congress! 77% disapproval rating! You may be about to become the English language's most offensive C-word.

~John Oliver

Mr. President, no one is saying you broke any laws, we're just saying it's a little bit weird you didn't have to.

~John Oliver

I think puns are not just the lowest form of wit, but the lowest form of human behavior.

~John Oliver

There are some people who watch NASCAR for the highly skilled driving - but most people watch it for the crashes.

~John Oliver

Sometimes it's good to remember how bad food can be, so you can enjoy the concept of flavour to the fullest.

~John Oliver

I have exactly as much rhythm as you think I have.

~John Oliver

Australia turns out to be a sensational place, albeit one of the most comfortably racist places I've ever been in. They've really settled into their intolerance like an old resentful slipper.

~John Oliver

I'm always interested in audience interaction. Not so much aggressive audience interaction - I'm genuinely interested in how people see things.

~John Oliver

When you see people say crazy things on our show, they mean this stuff, and that's easy to forget: They're not joking.

~John Oliver

Pumpkin spice lattes are egg nog for morning people.

~John Oliver

There are two kinds of hecklers: the destructive and constructive hecklers.

~John Oliver

I can't relax. I find vacations problematic.

~John Oliver

Iran is the middle child of the Axis of Evil. Iraq is the oldest child and gets the lion's share of the attention, and North Korea is the crazy baby.

~John Oliver

It's exciting to have a role in anything that's Claymation, just because you're always intrigued by what a clay wizard version of yourself would be.

~John Oliver

There is an inherent hope and positive drive to New Yorkers.

~John Oliver

Sarah Palin has been hired back by Fox News, and she only left five months ago. She has now effectively quit quitting. She can't even commit to being uncommitted.

~John Oliver

A Southern accent is not a club in my bag.

~John Oliver

The poverty line is like the age of consent: if you find yourself parsing exactly where it is, you've probably already done something very, very wrong.

~John Oliver

People, I guess, generally come to see me do stand-up with a working knowledge of my broad sense of humor on The Daily Show ... I don't think anyone would mistake me as an actual anchor.

~John Oliver

We invented words; we'll tell you how they're supposed to sound.

~John Oliver

I would hate to meet myself at 15.

~John Oliver

If you've been here, in New York, it has been dominated by the UN General Assembly, the annual event where delegates come from all over the world to f*** up this city's traffic.

~John Oliver

Florida, just because you're shaped like some combination of a gun and a d*ck doesn't mean you have to act that way.

~John Oliver

As a general rule, no one should ever be allowed to say there is no history of racial tension here, because that sentence has never been true anywhere on Earth.

~John Oliver

I'm British. I don't really have access to my emotions on a daily basis.

~John Oliver

If you want to do something evil, put it inside something boring.

~John Oliver

Having a human conversation is not something I've had any training in either as a comedian or as, you know, a human being.

~John Oliver

The disconnect between America and its military is shocking.

~John Oliver

When I heard that Hitler had problems with flatulence, it's funny. What - does that make him a funny man? No. It means he had funny moments when his rear end was speaking louder than his mouth.

~John Oliver

I think I'm just a summer fling that people will soon forget.

~John Oliver

Stand-up, for me, is really more of an addiction, so you have to feed the beast whenever you can.

~John Oliver

Here in America, people come out to see what they've known you to do. In England it's like everyone comes out to tell you exactly how well they think you're doing.

~John Oliver

I did sketch comedy, but I never did improv. So I've just tried to learn as I go.

~John Oliver

I find it hard in my general life to think further than the week ahead.

~John Oliver

You just try to be true to your idea of what is funny and what is also interesting.

~John Oliver

You can write jokes at any point of the day. Jokes are not that hard to write, or they shouldn't be when it is literally your job.

~John Oliver

I'm British, so obviously I repress any powerful emotions of any kind in relation to anything.

~John Oliver

You're sonically racist, Americans. You think we all sound the same, whereas I have definitely a mongrel accent.

~John Oliver

You know that things are not going well when you lose the moral high ground to a TMZ reporter.

~John Oliver

Every empire has to get sucked down the drain. As a British person, I know how it feels.

~John Oliver

When you're doing stand-up, you want to stand onstage and, to the extent that you can, uncomplicatedly entertain.

~John Oliver

I don't know if there is some psychological thing of wanting to know where your doctor got his degree from before he comes into the medical room.

~John Oliver

People in Britain see Richard Quest as a kind of an offensive cartoon character.

~John Oliver

I'm British; pessimism is my wheelhouse.

~John Oliver

There's never any time I think I'm a real journalist, because I don't have any of the qualifications or the intentions for that.

~John Oliver

Everybody should care about facts. That is something all of us should agree on.

~John Oliver

If you vote for Democrats, you might as well give Al Qaeda a death ray and a manual.

~John Oliver

There is no greater anesthetic than sport.

~John Oliver

I know I'd be an absolutely horrendous politician.

~John Oliver

I would much rather America was a more stable, wonderful place. You know, I love it.

~John Oliver

I guess the tone of jokes is often, at best, irreverent, but it always comes from a place of deep love.

~John Oliver

Veterans' issues are quite close to my heart. I find it quite hard to talk about, actually.

~John Oliver

Welcome to The Daily Show, I'm John Oliver. Jon Stewart is still not here. He is currently living out a live-action Lord of the Rings role-playing experience deep in the New Zealand wilderness.

~John Oliver

I don't think I'm identified as the anchorman, I think I'm identified as the impostor anchorman - there's a very clear line there ... I don't think it changes the way they respond.

~John Oliver

I have a green card now, but they can take that away, yeah, they can take that away at any moment. So please don't; please let me keep it.

~John Oliver

I watch one news channel until my soul can't take it anymore. It's the background of my life.

~John Oliver

I wanted to be a soccer player. I knew that couldn't happen.

~John Oliver

British people would die for their right to drink themselves to death.

~John Oliver

I knew I was going to go into the field and make fun of people to their faces. I knew what I was getting into.

~John Oliver

Armando Iannucci is one of my heroes. As I was growing up, he was probably the most influential comic voice that I had.

~John Oliver

When you do stand-up, you're just concerned with trying to leave with some semblance of human dignity at the end of your performance.

~John Oliver

If your name is Sepp, at the bare minimum you've strangled someone in a bar fight.

~John Oliver

Americans just don't understand dry wit.

~John Oliver

I've made so many people angry that they kind of blur into one unpleasant memory of people staring at you with somewhere between passive aggression and active aggression.

~John Oliver

I care about facts the way I care about oxygen and imbibing enough water a day to live.

~John Oliver

Teenagers falling off skateboards - funny. Nut shots - funny. Breaking wind - funny. The world cannot change those. Those three things are columns upon which humor is built.

~John Oliver

By any rational metric, I am boring.

~John Oliver

I do not want to leave in [U.S.] ... I cannot make that clear enough to immigration authorities who may be listening to this interview. I don't want to leave, so please don't make me.

~John Oliver

Do you know how hard it is to kill 30 million people? It's a logistical nightmare.

~John Oliver

I think it might honestly be time for the Sunshine State to officially change its motto to the Worst State.

~John Oliver

Net neutrality: The only two words that promise more boredom in the English language are 'featuring Sting,'

~John Oliver

It really helps a comedian to be an outsider.

~John Oliver

People are friendlier in New York than London.

~John Oliver

I've always been interested in socially political, or overtly political,

comedy.

~John Oliver

I really love stand-up. I'm more than happy to do it for nothing. I've come to America to do it for nothing. It's the American Dream: Work for free.

~John Oliver

Whatever the occasion, [the Queen] has a face which demonstrably says 'I don't give a royal s**t.'

~John Oliver

When you've married someone who's been at war, there is nothing you can do that compares to that level of selflessness and bravery.

~John Oliver

Wow. Losing 95 percent of your audience in just five years. That basically makes Obama the NBC of presidents.

~John Oliver

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