

John Paul Stevens

Quotes

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Anonymity is a shield from the tyranny of the majority.

~John Paul Stevens

After all, a district judge who gives harsh sentences to Yankees fans and lenient sentences to Red Sox fans would not be acting reasonably even if her procedural rulings were impeccable.

~John Paul Stevens

Even in high school, a rule that permits only one point of view to be expressed is less likely to produce correct answers than the open discussion of countervailing views.

~John Paul Stevens

The interest in encouraging freedom of expression in a democratic society outweighs any theoretical but unproven benefit of censorship.

~John Paul Stevens

The government must pursue a course of complete neutrality toward religion.

~John Paul Stevens

Our love cannot be measured, it just is.

~John Paul Stevens

Whenever we remove a brick from the wall that was designed to separate religion and government, we increase the risk of religious strife and weaken the foundation of our democracy.

~John Paul Stevens

A democracy cannot function effectively when its constituent members believe laws are being bought and sold.

~John Paul Stevens

Although it may not be a castle, [it is the] functional equivalent of a hotel

room, a vacation and retirement home or a hunting and fishing cabin.

~John Paul Stevens

Although NFL teams have common interests such as promoting the NFL brand, they are still separate, profit-making entities, and their interests in licensing team trademarks are not necessarily aligned

~John Paul Stevens

The level of discourse reaching a mailbox simply cannot be limited to that which would be suitable for a sandbox.

~John Paul Stevens

It is not our job to apply laws that have not yet been written.

~John Paul Stevens

I think this country would be much better off if we did not have capital punishment.... We cannot ignore the fact that in recent years a disturbing number of inmates on death row have been exonerated.

~John Paul Stevens

To show a well-founded fear of persecution, an alien need not prove that it is more likely than not that he or she will be persecuted in his or her home country.

~John Paul Stevens

Requiring that an execution be relatively painless...actually undermines the very premise on which public approval of the retribution rationale is based.

~John Paul Stevens

The graphic emphasis placed on those first lines is rather hard to square with the proposition that the monument expresses no particular religious preference.

~John Paul Stevens

When the commission finds that a pig has entered the parlor, the exercise of its regulatory power does not depend on proof the pig is obscene.

~John Paul Stevens

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