

John Waters Quotes

*People, Thinking, Book, Mean, Years, School, Art, Trying, Gay, Fun, Long,
Way, Looks, Sex, Kids, Home, Hate, Careers, Real, Want*

It wasn't until I started reading and found books they wouldn't let us read in school that I discovered you could be insane and happy and have a good life without being like everybody else.

~John Waters

My idea of rich is that you can buy every book you ever want without looking at the price and you're never around assholes. That's the two things to really fight for in life.

~John Waters

Don't sleep with people who don't read.

~John Waters

My idea of an interesting person is someone who is quite proud of their seemingly abnormal life and turns their disadvantage into a career.

~John Waters

True success is figuring out your life and career so you never have to be around jerks.

~John Waters

[My catholic education] sticked with me. It caused the rage I had to make 'Pink Flamingos.'

~John Waters

Without obsession, life is nothing.

~John Waters

I thank God I was raised Catholic, so sex will always be dirty.

~John Waters

So many great people are dead, and so many assholes I know are still alive. Karma's bullshit. I wish it was true, but it ain't.

~John Waters

Being rich is not about how much money you have or how many homes you own; it's the freedom to buy any book you want without looking at the price and wondering if you can afford it.

~John Waters

Do we secretly idolize our imagined opposites, yearning to become the role models for others we know we could never be for ourselves?

~John Waters

The "Texas Chainsaw Massacre" hitchhiker really made people never want to hitchhike again - the hitcher, the show. Hitchhiking is always vaguely sexual.

~John Waters

I like hard movies; I like ones that are basically the opposite of a date movie.

~John Waters

I pride myself on the fact that my work has no socially redeeming value.

~John Waters

The Easter Bunny is a major reason for heroin addiction in America.

~John Waters

People vomited at my movies; not because of the movie but because they were drunk. I took credit anyway.

~John Waters

I could never kill myself. I approve of suicide if you have horrible health. Otherwise it's the ultimate hissy fit.

~John Waters

I would never do hard-core pornography, because it looks too much like

open-heart surgery.

~John Waters

Sometimes I wish I was a woman, just so I could have an abortion.

~John Waters

There was a cultural war going on, the '60s was going on. All the film critics were square.

~John Waters

Hitchhiking, intrinsically, is sexual and dangerous. At the same time I never really felt scared. I was scared that nobody would pick me up and that I'd be waiting by the side of the road for a week.

~John Waters

You have to remember that it is impossible to commit a crime while reading a book.

~John Waters

To understand bad taste one must have very good taste.

~John Waters

If you can make someone laugh who's dead set against you, that's the first step to winning them over to your side.

~John Waters

I'm here today because of LSD. LSD gave me the confidence to be who I am today. Completely.

~John Waters

Wouldn't you rather your kid be a drug dealer than a drug addict?

~John Waters

I respect everything I make fun of.

~John Waters

To me, racist jokes are not funny. I am politically correct, in a weird way. I like to push the boundaries that are politically correct.

~John Waters

I built a career on negative reviews. I didn't get a good review ever until Fran Lebowitz gave me a good review in Interview. That was the first good review I got in 10 years.

~John Waters

And my little sister Chrissy, for teaching me that life is nothing if you're not obsessed.

~John Waters

Stop blaming your parents. If you're really angry at 60 years old, you're an idiot! You've got to work some of it out.

~John Waters

Life is a rotten lottery.

~John Waters

I always wanted to be a juvenile delinquent but my parents wouldn't let me.

~John Waters

My films can be considered political action against the tyranny of good taste.

~John Waters

I don't trust anyone that hasn't been to jail at least once in their life.

~John Waters

I think that in America there is a new movement of underground movies

that wants to kick the ass of independent films that they think whine too much.

~John Waters

I always say you need something weird on your face and some good shoes and nobody looks in the middle.

~John Waters

...Don't let me ever hear you say, 'I can't read fiction. I only have time for the truth.' Fiction is the truth, fool! Ever hear of 'literature'? That means fiction, too, stupid.

~John Waters

Contemporary art hates you.

~John Waters

My hobby is extreme Catholic behavior - before the Reformation.

~John Waters

When I started my goal was to make a successful underground movie. I started making movies in the mid-60s. Underground cinema then only lasted about two or three years.

~John Waters

"How could you think of such awful things?" liberal critics always ask. "How else could I possibly amuse myself?" I always wonder.

~John Waters

Some call me director, producer, filmmaker. I prefer to call myself pube-king.

~John Waters

To me, beauty is looks you can never forget. A face should jolt, not soothe.

~John Waters

I want to be harder to reach, not easier.

~John Waters

I'm thrilled to have a completely new audience that I can get from Court TV, without it being my own trial. That was the only other way I would have gotten it.

~John Waters

I understand why people want to look up their friends - usually they want to see what people they've wanted to have sex with look like.

~John Waters

As far as socially redeeming value, I hope I don't have any.

~John Waters

If you're not sure you could love your children, please don't have them, because they might grow up and kill us.

~John Waters

People always ask me what I'm doing on the subway, but I love it! Sometimes I like to ride in the front car and look out the window at the rats.

~John Waters

I get dumber as the day goes along. Every second of the day that goes along, I get stupider.

~John Waters

I never had any desire to get a tattoo. If I was ever going to get one, I would get a plain anchor with a rope around it, the most unimaginative possible tattoo, like Popeye had.

~John Waters

No comedy should be longer than 90 minutes. There's no such thing as a good long joke.

~John Waters

Anytime you make someone laugh or satirize something, it's the best way to change someone's opinion because they're defenseless - they laugh, they listen.

~John Waters

Get on the fashion nerves of your peers, not your parents - that is the key to fashion leadership.

~John Waters

I go to colleges all the time in America, and everyone's gay, and I think how can this be? And it's only in rich schools. In poor schools, nobody's gay.

~John Waters

I'm the smartest at 8 A.M. I wake up at 6, drink three cups of Awake Tazo Tea and read five newspapers. I have to think up something every day, Monday to Friday.

~John Waters

Going to a sensational murder trial is the only way I can relax.

~John Waters

I learned that people like my work because I praise things that others don't like.

~John Waters

Watching a movie should be like hunting. Out of context, every image of the cinema is yours for a split second. Take them before they bury it.

~John Waters

I wish something on T.V. would trouble me. Then maybe I would watch it.

~John Waters

Technique is nothing more than failed style.

~John Waters

Catholics have more extreme sex lives because they're taught that pleasure is bad for you. Who thinks it's normal to kneel down to a naked man who's nailed to a cross? It's like a bad leather bar.

~John Waters

The only time I had a normal boyfriend was during the time of AIDS, so maybe that saved me. It's certainly not karma.

~John Waters

Aren't maids the ultimate art critics?

~John Waters

Censorship has been my best press agent my whole life.

~John Waters

There is right and there is wrong, I have NEVER been wrong.

~John Waters

William Castle and Alfred Hitchcock were the first director-personalities. Before then, nobody in America knew what a director was.

~John Waters

I've signed peoples' parole cards at book signings and it's very touching.

~John Waters

I don't believe in depression. There's no such thing. It's an invention. It's

bullshit, it's a cop out.

~John Waters

I can't tell the difference between the best and the worst 'cause I realize not everybody wants to have sex in the middle of a demolition derby race in the car.

~John Waters

Just make sure your children hate authority and they'll do fine.

~John Waters

I haven't changed - the public has. I'm an insider now, which is hilarious.

~John Waters

It delights me to find something that kids are doing that surprises me that seems new. That's the best feeling you can have.

~John Waters

If you ever go home with somebody and they don't have books in their house, don't sleep with them. I think that's very important.

~John Waters

How come there's no terrorism with humor, which is a great way to humiliate your enemy? It's a great time for that.

~John Waters

The anger I have about high school - which I do have because they discouraged every interest I ever had; actually I call it anti-education - that anger led to my career.

~John Waters

I live in San Francisco, I live in Provincetown. They're all the same, apart from Baltimore. Baltimore's the only cheap place left.

~John Waters

Wealth is walking into any bookshop and buying any book you want without looking at the price tag.

~John Waters

I think I technically learned some things, hopefully. But I go to the movies for characters and story and a berserk vision.

~John Waters

I never thought I had more fun when I was young than kids are having today. I think they have just as much fun. It's a different way to have fun.

~John Waters

It reinforced everything that I believe. I am an optimist. I believe in the goodness of people.

~John Waters

I think that young people understand me perfectly. I think that's the luckiest thing about my career, that I get older and they get younger, and it didn't stop with my generation.

~John Waters

I was as equally influenced by Bergman as I was [low-budget exploitation filmmaker].

~John Waters

When I was young, no one wanted to be one; now even the President of the United States would call himself an outsider. So now I'm for insiders.

~John Waters

Fame is protection if you go to a scary place. Fame is fun. A lot of

people don't say anything and you don't know they know who you are.

~John Waters

I have no interest in ever making a movie I didn't write. If they were going to take my house away, then I guess I might have to. But my agent knows not to even bother sending me the scripts.

~John Waters

Ever feel like killing somebody just to see if you could get away with it? Sure, you have. Everybody has little things that get on their nerves.

~John Waters

I think that nobody gets mad at me anymore, no matter what I say, because I don't think I'm mean. I am interested in what's next.

~John Waters

An underground hit didn't make any money and it cost a dollar to get in.

~John Waters

I have to talk about my movies. I have to give interviews to promote what I'm doing. But no one really knows my personal life. And if you don't have a personal life I feel bad for you.

~John Waters

I think the extremes are something that's really interesting to see coalesce in movies.

~John Waters

Coke didn't last long enough; it gave me a hangover for two weeks for being high for ten minutes.

~John Waters

I would describe myself as a writer that hopes to take you into my world

and help you feel a little safer.

~John Waters

The further away I am from water, the less well I do!

~John Waters

Anyone from my past I'm interested in, I've already stalked their homes. I like to go outside.

~John Waters

I have no interest in cars. I have a plain, used Buick. I could run over 10 people, and you wouldn't be able to describe my car.

~John Waters

Things are going great in every part of my life except movies. That's okay. I've got a lot of other parts of my life. I've made 15 movies. You can see any one of my movies and it says the same thing.

~John Waters

If your kid comes out of the bedroom and says he just shut down the government, it seems to me he should at least have an outfit for that.

~John Waters

Valentine's Day is my mother's birthday. If I'm wildly in love, I've sent people chicken hearts, which seems to appeal to the kind of person that I've been in love with.

~John Waters

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