

Laurence J. Peter

Quotes

Men, Work, Funny, Inspirational, Literature, Age, Two, People, Levels, Giving, Business, Jobs, Thinking, Children, Leadership, Mother, Incompetence, Life, Hierarchy, Ignorance

Originality is the fine art of remembering what you hear but forgetting where you heard it.

~Laurence J. Peter

Equal opportunity means everyone will have a fair chance at being incompetent.

~Laurence J. Peter

Competence, like truth, beauty, and contact lenses, is in the eye of the beholder.

~Laurence J. Peter

Don't believe in miracles - depend on them.

~Laurence J. Peter

An economist is an expert who will know tomorrow why the things he predicted yesterday didn't happen today.

~Laurence J. Peter

Every girl should use what Mother Nature gave her before Father Time takes it away.

~Laurence J. Peter

When in doubt or danger, run in circles, scream and shout.

~Laurence J. Peter

A man doesn't know what he knows until he knows what he doesn't know.

~Laurence J. Peter

There are two kinds of failures: those who thought and never did, and those who did and never thought

~Laurence J. Peter

Some problems are so complex that you have to be highly intelligent and well informed just to be undecided about them.

~Laurence J. Peter

Everyone rises to their level of incompetence.

~Laurence J. Peter

You can always tell a real friend: when you've made a fool of yourself he doesn't feel you've done a permanent job.

~Laurence J. Peter

If two wrongs don't make a right, try three.

~Laurence J. Peter

The habitually punctual make all their mistakes right on time.

~Laurence J. Peter

If at first you don't succeed, you may be at your level of incompetence already.

~Laurence J. Peter

Computers can solve all kinds of problems except the unemployment problem they create.

~Laurence J. Peter

In spite of warnings, nothing much happens until the status quo becomes more painful than change.

~Laurence J. Peter

Fortune knocks but once, but misfortune has much more patience.

~Laurence J. Peter

There are two kinds of egotists: Those who admit it, and the rest of us

~Laurence J. Peter

Prejudice is one of the world's greatest labor-saving devices; it enables you to form an opinion without having to dig up the facts.

~Laurence J. Peter

Noblest of all dogs is the hot-dog; it feeds the hand that bites it.

~Laurence J. Peter

Incompetence plus incompetence equals incompetence.

~Laurence J. Peter

In a hierarchy, every employee tends to rise to his level of incompetence.

~Laurence J. Peter

Slump, and the world slumps with you. Push, and you push alone.

~Laurence J. Peter

It's strange that men should take up crime when there are so many legal ways to be dishonest.

~Laurence J. Peter

The man who says he is willing to meet you halfway is usually a poor judge of distance.

~Laurence J. Peter

Every man serves a useful purpose: a miser, for example, makes a wonderful ancestor.

~Laurence J. Peter

If the outcome is good, what's the difference between motives that sound good and good, sound motives?

~Laurence J. Peter

An intelligence test sometimes shows a man how smart he would have

been not to have taken it.

~Laurence J. Peter

Bureaucracy defends the status quo long past the time when the quo has lost its status.

~Laurence J. Peter

It's better to have loved and lost than to have to do forty pounds of laundry a week.

~Laurence J. Peter

There is no stigma attached to recognizing a bad decision in time to install a better one.

~Laurence J. Peter

The seaman tells stories of winds, the ploughman of bulls; the soldier details his wounds, the shepherd his sheep.

~Laurence J. Peter

If at first you don't succeed, lie, lie again.

~Laurence J. Peter

A true friend will see you through when others see that you are through.

~Laurence J. Peter

You can't cross the sea merely by standing and staring at the water. Don't let yourself indulge in vain wishes.

~Laurence J. Peter

The reason crime doesn't pay is that when it does, it is called a more respectable name.

~Laurence J. Peter

. . . if you can tell the difference between good advice and bad advice, you don't need advice.

~Laurence J. Peter

Egypt: Where the Israelites would still be if Moses had been a bureaucrat.

~Laurence J. Peter

Education is a method whereby one acquires a higher grade of prejudices.

~Laurence J. Peter

Against logic there is no armor like ignorance.

~Laurence J. Peter

Competition in academia is so vicious because the stakes are so small.

~Laurence J. Peter

Psychiatry enables us to correct our faults by confessing our parents' shortcomings.

~Laurence J. Peter

America is a land of taxation that was founded to avoid taxation.

~Laurence J. Peter

If a cluttered desk is the sign of a cluttered mind, what is the significance of a clean desk?

~Laurence J. Peter

A philosopher is a blind man in a dark room looking for a black cat that isn't there. A theologian is the man who finds it.

~Laurence J. Peter

Nobody can be perfect unless he admits his faults, but if he has faults how can he be perfect?

~Laurence J. Peter

America is a country that doesn't know where it is going but is determined to set a speed record getting there.

~Laurence J. Peter

Expert: a man who makes three correct guesses consecutively.

~Laurence J. Peter

Humility is the embarrassment you feel when you tell people how wonderful you are.

~Laurence J. Peter

The devil could change. He was once an angel and may be evolving still.

~Laurence J. Peter

An optimist expects his dreams to come true; a pessimist expects his nightmares to.

~Laurence J. Peter

Would the boy you were be proud of the man you are?

~Laurence J. Peter

Few of us ever test our powers of deduction, except when filling out an income tax form

~Laurence J. Peter

Committees have become so important nowadays that subcommittees have to be appointed to do the work.

~Laurence J. Peter

Middle age is when work is a lot less fun and fun is a lot more work.

~Laurence J. Peter

We hate to have some people give us advice because we know how badly they need it themselves.

~Laurence J. Peter

The advantage of modern means of communication is they enable you to worry about things in all of the world

~Laurence J. Peter

The man who believes he can do it is probably right, and so is the man who believes he can't.

~Laurence J. Peter

Middle age is when it takes longer to rest than to get tired.

~Laurence J. Peter

In the country of the blind, the one-eyed king can still goof up.

~Laurence J. Peter

The incompetent with nothing to do can still make a mess of it.

~Laurence J. Peter

Television has changed the American child from an irresistible force to an immovable object.

~Laurence J. Peter

Heredity is what sets the parents of a teenager wondering about each other.

~Laurence J. Peter

I inherited my ability from both parents; my mother's ability for spending money, and my father's ability for not earning it.

~Laurence J. Peter

Men now monopolize the upper levels... depriving women of their rightful share of opportunities for incompetence.

~Laurence J. Peter

Work is accomplished by those employees who have not yet reached their level of incompetence.

~Laurence J. Peter

A lawyer is a man who helps you get what is coming to him.

~Laurence J. Peter

When I want your opinion I'll give it to you.

~Laurence J. Peter

Don't knock the rich. When did a poor person give you a job?

~Laurence J. Peter

Middle age is when you stop criticizing the older generation and start criticizing the younger one.

~Laurence J. Peter

The problem with temptation is that you may not get another chance.

~Laurence J. Peter

Reality is for people who can't face drugs.

~Laurence J. Peter

The best intelligence test is what we do with our leisure.

~Laurence J. Peter

In most hierarchies, supercompetence is more objectionable than incompetence.

~Laurence J. Peter

Two things reduce prejudice: education and laughter.

~Laurence J. Peter

Two can live as cheaply as one - if they both have good jobs.

~Laurence J. Peter

A rut is a grave with the ends knocked out.

~Laurence J. Peter

A pessimist is a man who looks both ways when he crosses the street.

~Laurence J. Peter

Before publishers' blurbs were invented, authors had to make their reputations by writing.

~Laurence J. Peter

A bore is a person who lights up the room simply by leaving it.

~Laurence J. Peter

Middle age is when anything new in the way you feel is most likely a symptom.

~Laurence J. Peter

A censor is an expert in cutting remarks. A censor is a man who knows more than he thinks you ought to.

~Laurence J. Peter

You shouldn't punish others for your own choices.

~Laurence J. Peter

Political success is the ability, when the inevitable occurs, to get credit for it.

~Laurence J. Peter

My problem is I say what I'm thinking before I think what I'm saying.

~Laurence J. Peter

He laughs best whose laugh lasts.

~Laurence J. Peter

Bore : A fellow who can change the subject back to his topic of conversation faster than you can change it back to yours.

~Laurence J. Peter

Give a child enough rope and he will trip you up.

~Laurence J. Peter

Ignorance is the mother of research.

~Laurence J. Peter

The man who is always waving the flag usually waives what it stands for.

~Laurence J. Peter

A free press is one that prints a dictator's speech but doesn't have to.

~Laurence J. Peter

You don't need to take a persons advice to make him feel good, just ask him for it.

~Laurence J. Peter

do it now. There may be a law against it tomorrow.

~Laurence J. Peter

There are some men who in a fifty-fifty proposition insist on getting the hyphen too.

~Laurence J. Peter

Everyone is in awe of the lion tamer in a cage with half a dozen lions-everyone but a school bus driver.

~Laurence J. Peter

May your happiest days of the past be your saddest days of your future.

~Laurence J. Peter

It is wise to remember that you are one of those who can be fooled some of the time.

~Laurence J. Peter

Poetry is that which is lost in translation.

~Laurence J. Peter

No committee could ever come up with anything as revolutionary as a camel - anything as practical and as perfectly designed to perform effectively under such difficult conditions.

~Laurence J. Peter

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