

Lincoln Steffens

Quotes

*Father, Men, Government, People, Cities, Mother, Atheism, Has Beens, Party,
Baby, Practice, Done, World, Chicago, Ninety Nine, Care, Lying, Spiritual,
Village, Knows*

In all cities, the better classes - the business men - are the sources of corruption, but they are so rarely pursued and caught that we do not fully realize whence the trouble comes.

~Lincoln Steffens

Keep your baby eyes (which are the eyes of genius) on what we don't know

~Lincoln Steffens

The misgovernment of the American people is misgovernment by the American people.

~Lincoln Steffens

Power is what men seek, and any group that gets it will abuse it. It is the same story.

~Lincoln Steffens

Morality is only moral when it is voluntary.

~Lincoln Steffens

You ask men in office to be honest; I ask them to serve the public.

~Lincoln Steffens

The only thing worth having in an earthly existence is a sense of humor.

~Lincoln Steffens

I have seen the future, and it works.

~Lincoln Steffens

The spirit of graft and of lawlessness is the American spirit.

~Lincoln Steffens

First in violence, deepest in dirt, lawless, unlovely, ill-smelling,

irreverent, new; an overgrown gawk of a - village, the "tough" among cities, a spectacle for the nation.

~Lincoln Steffens

It is privilege that causes evil in the world, not wickedness, and not men.

~Lincoln Steffens

Nothing is done. Everything in the world remains to be done or done over.

~Lincoln Steffens

Art is like a border of flowers along the course of civilization.

~Lincoln Steffens

Care like hell! Sit around the bars and drink, and pose, and pretend, all you want to, but in reality, deep down underneath, care like hell.

~Lincoln Steffens

We know that there is no absolute knowledge, that there are only theories; but we forget this. The better educated we are, the harder we believe in axioms.

~Lincoln Steffens

Revolt is not reform, and one revolutionary administration is not good government.

~Lincoln Steffens

My mother would thump me sharply on the head with a thimble or a spoon if I became too noisy with the whistle when I was playing I was a steamboat captain. She had no sense of the dignity of command.

~Lincoln Steffens

Chicago will give you a chance. The sporting spirit is the spirit of

Chicago.

~Lincoln Steffens

The unknown is the province of the student; it is the field for his life's adventure, and it is a wide field full of beckonings

~Lincoln Steffens

It is our knowledge - the things we are sure of - that makes the world go wrong and keeps us from seeing and learning.

~Lincoln Steffens

The doctrine of Jesus is the most revolutionary propaganda that I have ever encountered.

~Lincoln Steffens

My father seemed always to know not only what I was doing, but what I was being.

~Lincoln Steffens

Boston has carried the practice of hypocrisy to the n-th degree of refinement, grace, and failure.

~Lincoln Steffens

My father would invite me sweetly to come and sit on a stool at his feet, and, as I let myself trustingly down, he would gently kick the seat from under me - and laugh.

~Lincoln Steffens

The commercial spirit is the spirit of profit, not patriotism; of credit, not honor; of individual gain, not national prosperity; of trade and dickering, not principle.

~Lincoln Steffens

I hunted far enough to suspect that the Fathers of the Republic who

wrote our Sacred Constitution of the United States not only did not, but did not want to, establish a democratic government.

~Lincoln Steffens

We need some great failures. Especially we ever-successful Americans - conscious, intelligent, illuminating failures.

~Lincoln Steffens

My father, the practical joker, did not care for practical jokes on himself; he did not encourage the practice in me.

~Lincoln Steffens

The politer the society, the greater the lies it requires.

~Lincoln Steffens

I am really puzzled to understand myself.

~Lincoln Steffens

It is possible to get an education at a university. It has been done; not often.

~Lincoln Steffens

My summary of all our experiences was that it showed that heaven and hell are one place, and we all go there. To those who are prepared, it is heaven; to those who are not fit and ready, it is hell.

~Lincoln Steffens

You can't control a young horse unless you control yourself.

~Lincoln Steffens

If my father could watch my son for a while, he might realize his own immortality.

~Lincoln Steffens

My father required me to honor my father and my mother too much to put up games on them. I did on occasion.

~Lincoln Steffens

My father was slower, but he was severer than my mother, who was quick but light and irregular in discipline.

~Lincoln Steffens

I let my boy go and do and say pretty much as he likes, as, and perhaps because, my father kept no string on me.

~Lincoln Steffens

So youve been over into Russia? said Bernard Baruch, and I answered very literally, I have been over into the future and it works.

~Lincoln Steffens

I never heard a Christian sermon preached in a church.

~Lincoln Steffens

I have been contending all my life, and always with God.

~Lincoln Steffens

The Soviet government sprouted and grew out of the habits, the psychology, and the condition of the Russian people. It fitted them. They understand it.

~Lincoln Steffens

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