

# Margaret Sanger Quotes

*Eugenics, Children, Birth Control, Mother, Race, Giving, People, Weed, World,  
Law, Class, Money, Civilization, Men, Population, Ideas, Intelligent, Mean,  
Abortion, Should Have*

On the contrary, the most urgent problem today is how to limit and discourage the over-fertility of the mentally and physically defective.

~Margaret Sanger

No woman can call herself free who does not own and control her body. No woman can call herself free until she can choose consciously whether she will or will not be a mother.

~Margaret Sanger

How are we to breed a race of human thoroughbreds unless we follow the same plan? We must make this country into a garden of children instead of a disorderly back lot overrun with human weeds.

~Margaret Sanger

Birth control must lead ultimately to a cleaner race.

~Margaret Sanger

Woman must not accept; she must challenge. She must not be awed by that which has been built up around her; she must reverence that woman in her which struggles for expression.

~Margaret Sanger

No woman can call herself free who does not control her own body.

~Margaret Sanger

Eugenics is ... the most adequate and thorough avenue to the solution of racial, political and social problems.

~Margaret Sanger

Blacks, soldiers, and Jews are a menace to the race.

~Margaret Sanger

Against the State, against the Church, against the silence of the medical profession, against the whole machinery of dead institutions of

the past, the woman of today arises.

~Margaret Sanger

I accepted an invitation to talk to the women's branch of the Ku Klux Klan.

~Margaret Sanger

As I look back upon my life, I see that every part of it was a preparation for the next. The most trivial of incidents fits into the larger pattern like a mosaic in a preconceived design.

~Margaret Sanger

Negroes and Southern Europeans are mentally inferior to native born Americans.

~Margaret Sanger

The submission of her body without love or desire is degrading to the woman's finer sensibility, all the marriage certificates on earth to the contrary notwithstanding.

~Margaret Sanger

More children from the fit, less from the unfit -- that is the chief aim of birth control.

~Margaret Sanger

Birth control is nothing more or less than...weeding out the unfit.

~Margaret Sanger

Diplomats make it their business to conceal the facts.

~Margaret Sanger

It is apparent that nothing short of contraceptives can put an end to the horrors of abortion and infanticide.

~Margaret Sanger

Give dysgenic groups [people with 'bad genes'] in our population their choice of segregation or [compulsory] sterilization.

~Margaret Sanger

A free race cannot be born of slave mothers.

~Margaret Sanger

When motherhood becomes the fruit of a deep yearning, not the result of ignorance or accident, its children will become the foundation of a new race.

~Margaret Sanger

The undeniably feeble-minded should, indeed, not only be discouraged but prevented from propagating their kind.

~Margaret Sanger

Woman must not accept; she must challenge.

~Margaret Sanger

The most merciful thing a large family can do to one of its infant members is to kill it.

~Margaret Sanger

No woman shall have the legal right to bear a child without a permit for parenthood.

~Margaret Sanger

I wanted each woman to be a rebellious Vashti, not an Esther.

~Margaret Sanger

The campaign for birth control is not merely of eugenic value, but is practically identical with the final aims of eugenics.

~Margaret Sanger

Very early in my childhood I associated poverty, toil, unemployment, drunkenness, cruelty, quarreling, fighting, debts, jail with large families.

~Margaret Sanger

Couples should be required to submit applications to have a child.

~Margaret Sanger

No more children should be born when the parents, though healthy themselves, find that their children are physically or mentally defective.

~Margaret Sanger

Our failure to segregate morons who are increasing and multiplying . . . demonstrates our foolhardy and extravagant sentimentalism.

~Margaret Sanger

War, famine, poverty and oppression of the workers will continue while woman makes life cheap. They will cease only when she limits her reproductivity and human life is no longer a thing to be wasted.

~Margaret Sanger

Diplomats make it their business to conceal the facts, and politicians violently denounce the politicians of other countries.

~Margaret Sanger

Eugenics, which had started long before my time, had once been defined as including free love and prevention of conception... Recently it had cropped up again in the form of selective breeding.

~Margaret Sanger

Enthusiasm is a divine possession.

~Margaret Sanger

It is ... marvellous ... to have a period of apparent fanaticism. No obstacle can discourage you. The single vision of your quest obscures

defeat and lifts you over mountainous difficulties.

~Margaret Sanger

... the ocean could not be swept back with a broom. The truth was out. It illuminated the world. Motherhood no longer cringed before the relentless laws of fecundity.

~Margaret Sanger

As often as I have witnessed the miracle [birth], held the perfect creature with its tiny hands and feet, each time I have felt as though I were entering a cathedral with prayer in my heart.

~Margaret Sanger

Organized charity itself is. . . the surest sign that our civilization has bred, is breeding and is perpetuating constantly increasing numbers of defectives, delinquents and dependents

~Margaret Sanger

No one can doubt that there are times when an abortion is justifiable but they will become unnecessary when care is taken to prevent conception. This is the only cure for abortions.

~Margaret Sanger

If we are really to live at all we must put our convictions into action.

~Margaret Sanger

The marriage bed is the most degenerative influence in the social order.

~Margaret Sanger

The greatest issue is to raise the question of birth control out of the gutter of obscenity ... into the light of intelligence and human understanding.

~Margaret Sanger

Speaking of Margaret Sanger, Grandson Alexander Sanger, head of Planned Parenthood of New York City, said: She made people accept that women had the right to control their own destinies.

~Margaret Sanger

Like begets like. We gather perfect fruit from perfect trees... . Abused soil brings forth stunted growths.

~Margaret Sanger

Never be ashamed of passion. If you are strongly sexed, you are richly endowed.

~Margaret Sanger

No woman can call herself free who cannot choose the time to be a mother or not as she sees fit.

~Margaret Sanger

I cannot refrain from saying that women must come to recognize there is some function of womanhood other than being a child-bearing machine.

~Margaret Sanger

Woman was and is condemned to a system under which the lawful rapes exceed the unlawful ones a million to one.

~Margaret Sanger

The most far-reaching social development of modern times is the revolt of woman against sex servitude. The most important force in the remaking of the world is a free motherhood.

~Margaret Sanger

As a cause becomes more and more successful, the ideas of the people engaged in it are bound to change.

~Margaret Sanger

A woman's duty: To look the whole world in the face with a go-to-hell look in the eyesâ€¦ to speak and act in defiance of convention.

~Margaret Sanger

Women must have economic and social equality with men.

~Margaret Sanger

We gather perfect fruit from perfect trees.

~Margaret Sanger

The basic freedom of the world is woman's freedom.

~Margaret Sanger

She made people accept that women had the right to control their own destinies.

~Margaret Sanger

... it has always been the depth of my belief, my faith, or my love that was the mainspring of my behavior. When once I believed in doing a thing, nothing could prevent my doing it.

~Margaret Sanger

Through sex, mankind may attain the great spiritual illumination which will transform the world, which will light up the only path to earthly paradise.

~Margaret Sanger

The real hope of the world lies in putting as painstaking thought into the business of mating as we do into other big businesses.

~Margaret Sanger

The procreation of [the diseased, the feeble-minded and paupers] should be stopped.

~Margaret Sanger



Knowledge of birth control is essentially moral. Its general, though prudent, practice must lead to a higher individuality and ultimately to a cleaner race.

~Margaret Sanger

Many people are horrified at the idea of birth control. . . . It is simply the keynote of a new moral program.

~Margaret Sanger

Birth control is the means by which woman attains basic freedom.

~Margaret Sanger

The first right of every child is to be wanted, to be desired, to be planned for with an intensity of love that gives it its title to being.

~Margaret Sanger

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