

Mark Steyn Quotes

*Government, People, America, Real, War, Thinking, Political, Country, Europe,
Years, Party, Self, Men, Civilization, Long, Past, Mean, Responsibility, Black,
Home*

Big Government is erecting a panopticon state - one that sees everything, and regulates everything. It's great â€œcustomer service,â€• except that you can never get out of the store.

~Mark Steyn

Big Government is the small option: it's the guarantee of smaller freedom, smaller homes, smaller cars, smaller opportunities, smaller lives.

~Mark Steyn

But, once you get a taste for shutting people up, it's hard to stop. Why bother winning the debate when it's easier to close it down?

~Mark Steyn

The spirit of the age is: Ask not what your country can do for you, demand it.

~Mark Steyn

Question: How much do you have to invest in the future before you've spent it and no longer have one?

~Mark Steyn

There may be many things wrong with the United States but only a blind fool who hasn't been paying attention for the last twenty years would hold up Europe as the alternative.

~Mark Steyn

LBJ held up Detroit as a model of what the Great Society could accomplish. He was right.

~Mark Steyn

The Democratic Party is uniquely virulently racist and pro-slavery to a degree unseen anywhere in the English-speaking world!

~Mark Steyn

Those who can do. Those who can't form a supercommittee.

~Mark Steyn

The long-term cost of a welfare society is the infantilization of the population.

~Mark Steyn

[We] assume that social progress is like technological progress: one cannot uninvent the internal combustion engine, so how could one uninvent liberty?

~Mark Steyn

A big chunk of Western civilization, consciously or otherwise, has given the impression that it's dying to surrender to somebody, anybody. Reasonably enough, Islam figures: Hey, why not us?

~Mark Steyn

Appeasement is a vote to live in the present tense, to hold the comforts of the moment.

~Mark Steyn

The industrial powerhouse of 1950 [Detroit] is now a crime-ridden wasteland with a functioning literacy rate equivalent to West African basket-cases.

~Mark Steyn

The best reason to diminish social programs is not to put more money in people's pockets but to put more responsibility in people's pockets.

~Mark Steyn

The salient feature of America in the Age of Obama is a failed government class institutionally committed to living beyond its means, and a citizenry too many of whom are content to string along.

~Mark Steyn

The minute health care becomes a huge, unwieldy, expensive government bureaucracy it's a permanent feature of life and there's nothing anyone can do about it.

~Mark Steyn

When you're taxing bovine flatulence emissions, there's nothing left to tax.

~Mark Steyn

Hollywood gave us far more Muslim terrorists in the Eighties and Nineties than it has since 9/11.

~Mark Steyn

If you look at the range of Hollywood movies playing in most cities in the developing world, you'd hate the America they portray, too.

~Mark Steyn

Only in America does 'health' 'care' 'reform' begin with the hiring of 16,500 new IRS agents tasked with determining whether your insurance policy merits a fine.

~Mark Steyn

Government health care changes the relationship between the citizen and the state, and, in fact, I think it's an assault on citizenship.

~Mark Steyn

To expect the government to save you is to be a bystander in your own fate.

~Mark Steyn

Long before they slump into poverty, great powers succumb to a poverty of ambition.

~Mark Steyn

When Cromwell instructed his portraitist to paint him 'warts and all', he meant both halves of that equation. To teach the warts alone is morbid and unhealthy.

~Mark Steyn

[To] the progressive mind, the very concept of "the enemy" is obsolescent: there are no enemies, just friends whose grievances we haven't yet accommodated.

~Mark Steyn

Obama's Nobel Peace Prize is an exquisite act of condescension from Norwegians, a dog biscuit and a pat on the head to the American hyperpower for agreeing to spay itself into a hyperpoodle.

~Mark Steyn

General Motors, like the other two geezers of the Old Three, is a vast retirement home with a small money-losing auto subsidiary.

~Mark Steyn

The senator's actions in the hours and days after emerging from that pond tell us something ugly about Kennedy the man. That he got away with it tell us something ugly about American public life.

~Mark Steyn

It is surely only a matter of time before some federal judge finds the Constitution unconstitutional.

~Mark Steyn

The most basic of conservative principles is that if you reward bad behavior you get more of it.

~Mark Steyn

Unchecked, government social programs are a security threat because they weaken the ultimate line of defense: the free-born citizen whose

responsibilities are not subcontracted to the government.

~Mark Steyn

One lesson of Sept. 11 is that a government that tries to do everything is likely to do most of it badly.

~Mark Steyn

But a society that has nothing to die for has nothing to live for . . .

~Mark Steyn

Jokes are one of the things that bind the culture. If you can't have jokes about everybody in society and if one group is hedged off and protected then that group can never truly be integrated.

~Mark Steyn

Anything that shifts power from the individual judgment of free citizens to government is a bad thing.

~Mark Steyn

It's not that I place less value on Palestinian lives, but that Chairman Arafat and his chums in Hamas do.

~Mark Steyn

So-called "progressives" actively wage war on progress. . . . Ultimately, progressives are at war with mass prosperity.

~Mark Steyn

Jesse Jackson's living depends on the maintenance of an African-American victim culture

~Mark Steyn

No family of an American hostage has ever been prosecuted for paying a ransom for the return of their loved ones. The last thing we should ever do is to add to a family's pain.

~Mark Steyn

[Charles] Manson wanted to start a race war. Nobody said he was leading some sort of charge about white supremacy.

~Mark Steyn

Europe by the end of this century will be a continent after the neutron bomb. The grand buildings will still be standing, but the people who built them will be gone.

~Mark Steyn

â€œSecretary of State Clinton dared Iran on Monday to let her hold a town-hall meeting in Tehran.â€• That's telling 'em. If the ayatollahs had a sense of humor, they'd call her bluff.

~Mark Steyn

You can't uninvent things, you can only make them obsolete... Ronald Reagan understood that the surest method of neutralising any weapon is to make it obsolete.

~Mark Steyn

Absolute welfare corrupts absolutely.

~Mark Steyn

In Britain, everything is policed except crime.

~Mark Steyn

When a man doesn't know the meaning of the word 'fear', that might just be a deficiency in his education.

~Mark Steyn

How do you get to Carnegie Hall? Practice. How do you get away from it? Improvise.

~Mark Steyn

In Europe, nothing is certain except death and welfare, and why let the former get in the way of the latter?

~Mark Steyn

The law functions as formal embodiment of a moral code, not as free-standing substitute for it.

~Mark Steyn

America is now a land that rewards failure - at the personal, corporate, and state level.

~Mark Steyn

How ridiculous! You're going to have the first black president apologize for slavery?

~Mark Steyn

When is the Democratic Party going to apologize for being the biggest slave-holding-supporting institution on the planet and sticking with racism for the century after the abolition of slavery?

~Mark Steyn

On the Continent and elsewhere in the West, native populations are aging and fading and being supplanted remorselessly by a young Muslim demographic.

~Mark Steyn

The president has borrowed more money to spend to less effect than anybody on the planet.

~Mark Steyn

...discussing cultural relativism with cultural relativists is like playing tennis with some guy who says, "Your ace is just a social construct."

~Mark Steyn

There is no conceivable amount of money worth telling the world that you were beaten up by Liza Minnelli.

~Mark Steyn

Contemporary politics is all about phony energy, about running around slamming doors for the sake of it-or, more to the point, opening them and tossing through a huge sack of taxpayer dollars.

~Mark Steyn

The Democrats smell blood and don't want to be told that it's their own.

~Mark Steyn

Like most people, I have no wish to live in a community organized by community organizers.

~Mark Steyn

"Moderate" Republicans such as Arnold Schwarzenegger like to boast that they're fiscal conservatives and social liberals. But the social liberalism always ends up burying the fiscal conservatism.

~Mark Steyn

If gun control bore any relation to homicide rates, Washington, DC would be the safest place in the country.

~Mark Steyn

Sometimes societies become too stupid to survive. A nation that takes Barack Obama's current rhetorical flourishes seriously is certainly well advanced along that dismal path.

~Mark Steyn

Welfare culture is bad not just because, as in Europe, it's bankrupting the state, but because it enfeebles the citizenry, it erodes self-reliance and resourcefulness.

~Mark Steyn

When is black America going to forgive white America for slavery?

~Mark Steyn

When the family dies, the nation follows.

~Mark Steyn

Our leadership class's real accomplishment is résumé padding.

~Mark Steyn

Big government makes small citizens.

~Mark Steyn

For Americans, the quickest way to understand modern Britain is to look at what LBJ's Great Society did to the black family and imagine it applied to the general population.

~Mark Steyn

Every power grab is the new base camp for the next power grab.

~Mark Steyn

Public interest criteria does not mean criteria that the public decides are in its interest. It means that the elite - via various appointed bodies - decide what the public's interest is for them.

~Mark Steyn

We are the source of our problems not mysterious sinister foreigners overseas.

~Mark Steyn

Once you accept you're a child in the government nursery, why shouldn't Nanny tell you what to do?

~Mark Steyn

The greatest crime of welfare isn't that it's a waste of money, but that

it's a waste of people.

~Mark Steyn

The trouble with the social-democratic state is that, when government does too much, nobody else does much of anything.

~Mark Steyn

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