

Max Weber

Quotes

*Men, Mean, Fate, World, Leader, Reality, Ethics, Mind, Organization, Important,
Religious, Age, Integrity, People, Science, Unity, Wish, Government, May,
Opposites*

In a democracy the people choose a leader in whom they trust. Then the chosen leader says, 'Now shut up and obey me.' People and party are then no longer free to interfere in his business.

~Max Weber

The decisive means for politics is violence.

~Max Weber

The fate of our times is characterized by rationalization and intellectualization and, above all, by the disenchantment of the world.

~Max Weber

A government is an institution that holds a monopoly on the legitimate use of violence.

~Max Weber

Politics means striving to share power or striving to influence the distribution of power, either among states or among groups within a state.

~Max Weber

Nothing is worthy of man as man unless he can pursue it with passionate devotion.

~Max Weber

All knowledge of cultural reality, as may be seen, is always knowledge from particular points of view.

~Max Weber

Power is the chance to impose your will within a social context, even when opposed and regardless of the integrity of that chance.

~Max Weber

It is not true that good can follow only from good and evil only from evil,

but that often the opposite is true.

~Max Weber

Man does not by nature wish to earn more and more money.

~Max Weber

The fully developed bureaucratic apparatus compares with other organisations exactly as does the machine with the non-mechanical modes of production.

~Max Weber

The experience of the irrationality of the world has been the driving force of all religious revolution.

~Max Weber

Either one lives for politics or one lives off politics.

~Max Weber

No sociologist should think himself too good, even in his old age, to make tens of thousands of quite trivial computations in his head and perhaps for months at a time.

~Max Weber

'Culture' is a finite segment of the meaningless infinity of the world process, a segment on which human beings confer meaning and significance.

~Max Weber

Certainly all historical experience confirms the truth - that man would not have attained the possible unless time and again he had reached out for the impossible.

~Max Weber

Every scientific fulfillment raises new questions; it asks to be surpassed

and outdated.

~Max Weber

Charisma is the gift from above where a leader knows from inside himself what to do.

~Max Weber

The primary task of a useful teacher is to teach his students to recognize 'inconvenient' facts - I mean facts that are inconvenient for their party opinions.

~Max Weber

Not everyone realises that to write a really good piece of journalism is at least as demanding intellectually as the achievement of any scholar.

~Max Weber

specialists without spirit, sensualists without heart; this nullity imagines that it has attained a level of civilization never before achieved.

~Max Weber

The Truth is the Truth.

~Max Weber

Whenever known and sufficient causes are available, it is anti-scientific to discard them in favour of a hypothesis that can never be verified.

~Max Weber

The organization of offices follows the principle of hierarchy ... each lower office is under the control and supervision of a higher one

~Max Weber

Causal analysis provides absolutely no value judgment, and a value judgment is absolutely not a causal explanation.

~Max Weber

The purely emotional form of Pietism is, as Ritschl has pointed out, a religious dilettantism for the leisure class.

~Max Weber

Within the confines of the lecture hall, no other virtue exists but plain intellectual integrity.

~Max Weber

Puritanism carried the ethos of the rational organization of capital and labor. It took over from the Jewish ethic only what was adapted to this purpose.

~Max Weber

The ethic of conviction and the ethic of responsibility are not opposites. They are complementary to one another.

~Max Weber

Daily and hourly, the politician inwardly has to overcome a quite trivial and all-too-human enemy: a quite vulgar vanity.

~Max Weber

Politics is a strong and slow boring of hard boards.

~Max Weber

A highly developed stock exchange cannot be a club for the cult of ethics.

~Max Weber

The summum bonum of this [Puritan] ethic is the earning of more and more money combined with the strict avoidance of all enjoyment.

~Max Weber

One can say that three pre-eminent qualities are decisive for the politician: passion, a feeling of responsibility, and a sense of proportion.

~Max Weber

Only on the assumption of belief in the validity of values is the attempt to espouse value-judgments meaningful. However, to judge the validity of such values is a matter of faith .

~Max Weber

One cannot with impunity try to transfer this task entirely to mechanical assistants if one wishes to figure something, even though the final result is often small indeed.

~Max Weber

Every type of purely direct concrete description bears the mark of artistic portrayal.

~Max Weber

Laws are important and valuable in the exact natural sciences, in the measure that those sciences are universally valid.

~Max Weber

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