

Paul Farmer Quotes

*Thinking, People, Country, Medicine, Ideas, Rights, Haiti, Should Have, Mean,
Care, Believe, Justice, World, Years, Way, Health, Challenges, Catholic,
Talking, Children*

The idea that some lives matter less is the root of all that is wrong with the world.

~Paul Farmer

If access to health care is considered a human right, who is considered human enough to have that right?

~Paul Farmer

For me, an area of moral clarity is: you're in front of someone who's suffering and you have the tools at your disposal to alleviate that suffering or even eradicate it, and you act.

~Paul Farmer

It is clear that the pharmaceutical industry is not, by any stretch of the imagination, doing enough to ensure that the poor have access to adequate medical care.

~Paul Farmer

The essence of global health equity is the idea that something so precious as health might be viewed as a right.

~Paul Farmer

With rare exceptions, all of your most important achievements on this planet will come from working with others- or, in a word, partnership.

~Paul Farmer

What I can argue is that no one should have to die of a disease that is treatable.

~Paul Farmer

If I am hungry, that is a material problem; if someone else is hungry, that is a spiritual problem.

~Paul Farmer

We have to design a health delivery system by actually talking to people and asking, 'What would make this service better for you?' As soon as you start asking, you get a flood of answers.

~Paul Farmer

That's when I feel most alive, when I'm helping people.

~Paul Farmer

You can't have public health without a public health system. We just don't want to be part of a mindless competition for resources. We want to build back capacity in the system.

~Paul Farmer

The only way to do the human rights thing is to do the right thing medically.

~Paul Farmer

It is very expensive to give bad medical care to poor people in a rich country.

~Paul Farmer

We want to be on the winning team, but at the risk of turning our backs on the losers, no, it is not worth it. So we fight the long defeat.

~Paul Farmer

People call me a saint and I think, I have to work harder. Because a saint would be a great thing to be.

~Paul Farmer

I can't sleep. There's always somebody not getting treatment. I can't stand that.

~Paul Farmer

At the same time, it is obvious that clinicians in Haiti are faced with

different, and, in fact, greater, challenges when attempting to treat complications of HIV disease.

~Paul Farmer

Equity is the only acceptable goal

~Paul Farmer

I recommend the same therapies for all humans with HIV. There is no reason to believe that physiologic responses to therapy will vary across lines of class, culture, race or nationality.

~Paul Farmer

I can't think of a better model for Haiti rebuilding than Rwanda.

~Paul Farmer

Anywhere you have extreme poverty and no national health insurance, no promise of health care regardless of social standing, that's where you see the sharp limitations of market-based health care.

~Paul Farmer

In fact, it seems to me that making strategic alliances across national borders in order to treat HIV among the world's poor is one of the last great hopes of solidarity across a widening divide.

~Paul Farmer

I mean, everybody should have access to medical care. And, you know, it shouldn't be such a big deal.

~Paul Farmer

I feel it's part of my job to make the problems of the poor compelling.

~Paul Farmer

Again, conventional Catholicism does not much appeal to me.

~Paul Farmer

I'm one of six kids, and the eight of us lived for over a decade in either a bus or a boat.

~Paul Farmer

Civil and political rights are critical, but not often the real problem for the destitute sick. My patients in Haiti can now vote but they can't get medical care or clean water.

~Paul Farmer

I would say that, intellectually, Catholicism had no more impact on me than did social theory.

~Paul Farmer

...In a world riven by inequity, medicine could be viewed as social justice work.

~Paul Farmer

But as for activism, my parents did what they could, given the constraints, but were never involved in the causes I think of when I think of activists.

~Paul Farmer

I critique market-based medicine not because I haven't seen its heights but because I've seen its depths.

~Paul Farmer

lean water and health care and school and food and tin roofs and cement floor, all of these things should constitute a set of basics that people must have as birthrights.

~Paul Farmer

The human rights community has focused very narrowly on political and civil rights for many decades, and with reason, but now we have to ask how can we broaden the view.

~Paul Farmer

I've been impressed, over the last 15 years, with how often the somewhat conspiratorial comments of Haitian villagers have been proven to be correct when the historical record is probed carefully.

~Paul Farmer

I think we will see better vaccines within the next 15 years, but I'm not a scientist and am focused on the short-term - what will happen in the interim.

~Paul Farmer

Some people talk about Haiti as being the graveyard of development projects.

~Paul Farmer

The model of the teaching hospital, which links research to teaching and service is what's missing in global health.

~Paul Farmer

I think that looking forward it's easy to imagine more constructive help for Haiti.

~Paul Farmer

The thing about rights is that in the end you can't prove what should be considered a right.

~Paul Farmer

I've been asked a lot for my view on American health care. Well, 'it would be a good idea,' to quote Gandhi.

~Paul Farmer

In an age of explosive development in the realm of medical technology, it is unnerving to find that the discoveries of Salk, Sabin, and even

Pasteur remain irrelevant to much of humanity.

~Paul Farmer

You can't have public health without working with the public sector. You can't have public education without working with the public sector in education.

~Paul Farmer

I'm not an austere person.

~Paul Farmer

The world is full of miserable places. One way of living comfortably is not to think about them or, when you do, to send money

~Paul Farmer

Everybody should be interested in access to primary and secondary education for everybody.

~Paul Farmer

Related Links:

- Thinking Quotes
- People Quotes
- Country Quotes
- Medicine Quotes
- Ideas Quotes
- Rights Quotes
- Haiti Quotes
- Should Have Quotes
- Mean Quotes
- Care Quotes
- Believe Quotes
- Justice Quotes
- World Quotes
- Years Quotes
- Way Quotes
- Health Quotes
- Challenges Quotes
- Catholic Quotes
- Talking Quotes
- Children Quotes