

Paulo Freire

Quotes

People, Teacher, Educational, Men, Reality, World, Philosophy, Struggle, Teaching, Reflection, Order, Pedagogy Of The Oppressed, Learning, Self, Children, Reading, Class, Mean, Practice, Thinking

Learning is a process where knowledge is presented to us, then shaped through understanding, discussion and reflection.

~Paulo Freire

Whoever teaches learns in the act of teaching, and whoever learns teaches in the act of learning.

~Paulo Freire

No one is born fully-formed: it is through self-experience in the world that we become what we are.

~Paulo Freire

Because love is an act of courage, not of fear, love is a commitment to others. No matter where the oppressed are found, the act of love is commitment to their cause--the cause of liberation.

~Paulo Freire

Dehumanization, although a concrete historical fact, is not a given destiny but the result of an unjust order that engenders violence in the oppressors, which in turn dehumanizes the oppressed

~Paulo Freire

Knowledge emerges only through invention and re-invention, through the restless, impatient, continuing, hopeful inquiry human beings pursue in the world, with the world, and with each other.

~Paulo Freire

Education must begin with the solution of the teacher-student contradiction, by reconciling the poles of the contradiction so that both are simultaneously teachers and students.

~Paulo Freire

No one can be authentically human while he prevents others from being so.

~Paulo Freire

Leaders who do not act dialogically, but insist on imposing their decisions, do not organize the people--they manipulate them. They do not liberate, nor are they liberated: they oppress.

~Paulo Freire

Washing one's hands of the conflict between the powerful and the powerless means to side with the powerful, not to be neutral.

~Paulo Freire

It would be extremely naive to expect the dominant classes to develop a type of education that would enable subordinate classes to perceive social injustices critically.

~Paulo Freire

Liberating education consists in acts of cognition, not transferrals of information

~Paulo Freire

It doesn't hurt to repeat here the statement, still rejected by many people in spite of its obviousness, that education is a political act.

~Paulo Freire

Dialogue cannot exist without humility.

~Paulo Freire

It is only the oppressed who, by freeing themselves, can free their oppressors.

~Paulo Freire

Liberation is a praxis: the action and reflection of men and women upon their world in order to transform it.

~Paulo Freire

To study is not to consume ideas, but to create and re-create them.

~Paulo Freire

How can the oppressed, as divided, unauthentic beings, participate in developing the pedagogy of their liberation?

~Paulo Freire

Within the word we find two dimensions-reflection and action. If one is sacrificed even in part, the other immediately suffers. To speak a true word is to transform the world.

~Paulo Freire

Dialogue cannot exist, however, in the absence of a profound love for the world and its people.

~Paulo Freire

If the structure does not permit dialogue the structure must be changed

~Paulo Freire

Critical reflection on practice is a requirement of the relationship between theory and practice. Otherwise theory becomes simply "blah, blah, blah, " and practice, pure activism.

~Paulo Freire

I cannot be a teacher without exposing who I am.

~Paulo Freire

Sometimes a simple, almost insignificant gesture on the part of a teacher can have a profound formative effect on the life of a student.

~Paulo Freire

What if we discover that our present way of life is irreconcilable with our vocation to become fully human?

~Paulo Freire

Experience teaches us not to assume that the obvious is clearly understood

~Paulo Freire

One of the methods of manipulation is to inoculate individuals with the bourgeois appetite for personal success.

~Paulo Freire

To speak a true word is to transform the world.

~Paulo Freire

Any situation in which some men prevent others from engaging in the process of inquiry is one of violence; to alienate humans from their own decision making is to change them into objects.

~Paulo Freire

Education is an act of love, and thus an act of courage

~Paulo Freire

The behavior of the oppressed is a prescribed behavior, following as it does the guidelines of the oppressor.

~Paulo Freire

Every society needs to examine itself in relation to other societies.

~Paulo Freire

Indeed, the interests of the oppressors lie in 'changing the consciousness of the oppressed, not the situation which oppresses them.

~Paulo Freire

The trust of the people in the leaders reflects the confidence of the leaders in the people.

~Paulo Freire

Only through communication can human life hold meaning.

~Paulo Freire

... studying is a preparation for knowing; it is a patient and impatient exercise on the part of someone whose intent is not to know it all at once but to struggle to meet the timing of knowledge.

~Paulo Freire

In order to have the continued opportunity to express their "generosity" the oppressors must perpetuate injustice as well.

~Paulo Freire

Reading is not walking on the words; it's grasping the soul of them.

~Paulo Freire

For people, 'here' signifies not merely a physical space, but also an historical space.

~Paulo Freire

I am an educator who thinks globally.

~Paulo Freire

Love is an act of courage.

~Paulo Freire

There is, in fact, no teaching without learning.

~Paulo Freire

Attempting to liberate the oppressed without their reflective participation in the act of liberation is to treat them as objects that must be saved from a burning building.

~Paulo Freire

Education as the exercise of domination stimulates the credulity of the

students.

~Paulo Freire

Education as the exercise of domination stimulates the credulity of students, with the ideological intent (often not perceived by educators) of indoctrinating them to adapt to the world of oppression.

~Paulo Freire

Problem-posing education affirms men and women as beings in the process of becoming.

~Paulo Freire

The oppressors do not favor promoting the community as a whole, but rather selected leaders.

~Paulo Freire

Reflection and action must never be undertaken independently.

~Paulo Freire

True generosity consists precisely in fighting to destroy the causes which nourish false charity.

~Paulo Freire

If it is in speaking their word that people, by naming the world, transform it, dialogue imposes itself as the way by which they achieve significance as human beings.

~Paulo Freire

Looking at the past must only be a means of understanding more clearly what and who they are so that they can more wisely build the future.

~Paulo Freire

I hope at least that the following will endure: my trust in the people, and

my faith in men and women, and in the creation of a world in which it will be easier to love

~Paulo Freire

Teachers who do not take their own education seriously, who do not study, who make little effort to keep abreast of events have no moral authority to coordinate the activities of the classroom.

~Paulo Freire

There is no true word that is not at the same time a praxis. Thus, to speak a true word is to transform the world.

~Paulo Freire

To teach is part of the very fabric of learning.

~Paulo Freire

Revolution is born as a social entity within the oppressor society.

~Paulo Freire

language is never neutral

~Paulo Freire

The unfinished character of human beings and the transformational character of reality necessitate that education be an ongoing activity.

~Paulo Freire

The educator has the duty of not being neutral.

~Paulo Freire

People in communion liberate each other.

~Paulo Freire

Certain members of the oppressor class join the oppressed in their struggle for liberation.

~Paulo Freire

The oppressed, having internalized the image of the oppressor and adopted his guidelines, are fearful of freedom.

~Paulo Freire

Without a sense of identity, there can be no real struggle.

~Paulo Freire

The intellectual activity of those without power is always characterized as non-intellectual.

~Paulo Freire

One of my major preoccupations is the approximation between what I say and what I do, between what I seem to be and what I am actually becoming.

~Paulo Freire

To glorify democracy and to silence the people is a farce; to discourse on humanism and to negate people is a lie.

~Paulo Freire

The oppressed, instead of striving for liberation, tend themselves to become oppressors.

~Paulo Freire

The revolutionary's role is to liberate, and to be liberated, with the people--not to win them over.

~Paulo Freire

The road to revolution involves openness to the people, not imperviousness to them; it involves communion with the people, not mistrust.

~Paulo Freire

... there is no valid teaching from which there does not emerge something learned and through which the learner does not become capable of recreating and remaking what has been taught.

~Paulo Freire

It is not surprising that the banking concept of education regards men as adaptable, manageable beings.

~Paulo Freire

This capacity to go beyond the factors of conditioning is one of the obvious advantages of the human person.

~Paulo Freire

To simply think about the people, as the dominators do, without any self-giving in that thought, to fail to think with the people, is a sure way to cease being revolutionary leaders.

~Paulo Freire

For cultural invasion to succeed, it is essential that those invaded become convinced of their intrinsic inferiority.

~Paulo Freire

The former oppressors do not feel liberated. On the contrary, they genuinely consider themselves to be oppressed.

~Paulo Freire

Education is suffering from narration sickness.

~Paulo Freire

The greatest humanistic and historical task of the oppressed: to liberate themselves.

~Paulo Freire

Faith in people is an a priori requirement for dialogue.

~Paulo Freire

The oppressed find in the oppressors their model of 'manhood.'

~Paulo Freire

Any attempt to treat people as semihumans only dehumanizes them.

~Paulo Freire

No reality transforms itself.

~Paulo Freire

To affirm that men and women are persons and as persons should be free, and yet to do nothing tangible to make this affirmation a reality, is a farce.

~Paulo Freire

It is absolutely essential that the oppressed participate in the revolutionary process with an increasingly critical awareness of their role as subjects of the transformation.

~Paulo Freire

The multitude is always in the wrong.

~Paulo Freire

Through dialogue, the teacher-of-the-students and the students-of-the-teacher cease to exist and a new term emerges: teacher-student with students-teachers.

~Paulo Freire

The hope of remaking the world is indispensable in the struggle of oppressed men and women.

~Paulo Freire

One cannot conceive of objectivity without subjectivity.

~Paulo Freire

It is essential for the oppressed to realize that when they accept the struggle for humanization they also accept, from that moment, their total responsibility for the struggle.

~Paulo Freire

The future isn't something hidden in a corner. The future is something we build in the present.

~Paulo Freire

Education is freedom. Education will teach you how to do it yourself as opposed to asking someone else to do it for you. And around it our own town... Freemanville!

~Paulo Freire

Submission to suffering is a form of annihilation, but transformation of suffering rekindles a faith that gives life.

~Paulo Freire

Without a minimum of hope, we cannot so much as start the struggle.

~Paulo Freire

Teacher preparation should go beyond the technical preparation of teachers and be rooted in the ethical formation both of selves and of history.

~Paulo Freire

It's no sin to make a critical study of Brazil's reality. A small percentage own land. Most people don't.

~Paulo Freire

A fact which is not denied but whose truths are rationalized loses its objective base. It ceases to be concrete and becomes a myth created

in defense of the class of the perceiver.

~Paulo Freire

A revolutionary leadership must accordingly practice co-intentional education.

~Paulo Freire

The world is split between those who do not sleep because they are hungry and those who do not sleep because they are afraid of those who are hungry.

~Paulo Freire

The role of the educator is one of tranquil possession of certitude in regard to the teaching of not only contents but also of 'correct thinking.'

~Paulo Freire

It would be a contradiction in terms if the oppressors not only defended but actually implemented a liberating education.

~Paulo Freire

Individuals who were submerged in reality, merely feeling their needs, emerge from reality and perceive the causes of their needs.

~Paulo Freire

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