

Polly Toynbee Quotes

*People, Happiness, Dying, Islam, Years, Pain, Government, Body, Mean, Jail,
Christianity, Care, Mother, Real, Superstitions, Ideas, Doe, Earth, Water, Giving*

Up

How do you make any sense of history, art or literature without knowing the stories and iconography of your own culture and all the world's main religions?

~Polly Toynbee

One in six people suffer depression or a chronic anxiety disorder. These are not the worried well but those in severe mental pain with conditions crippling enough to prevent them living normal lives.

~Polly Toynbee

So what really works? Treatments in jail do some good, but it's mostly too late: finding a family and a job or just growing older make most prisoners eventually give up crime.

~Polly Toynbee

Islam, Christianity and Judaism all define themselves through disgust of women's bodies.

~Polly Toynbee

There is all the difference in the world between teaching children about religion and handing them over to be taught by the religious.

~Polly Toynbee

The strongest predictor of unhappiness is anyone who has had a mental illness in the last 10 years. It is an even stronger predictor of unhappiness than poverty - which also ranks highly.

~Polly Toynbee

But the single overwhelming reason why jails are bursting is longer sentences given for more crimes.

~Polly Toynbee

This is indeed a clash of civilisations, not between Islam and Christendom but between reason and superstition.

~Polly Toynbee

Most people come to fear not death itself, but the many terrible ways of dying.

~Polly Toynbee

Crime is only the worst example, but it is a paradigm for other Labour policy disasters. No one tells the voters that crime is falling: let them stay scared senseless.

~Polly Toynbee

Thresholds of pain, indignity and incapacity are entirely personal.

~Polly Toynbee

In the polls, over 80% support the right to die and have done for the last 25 years. Even 80% of practising Catholics and Protestants support it, plus 76% of Church Times readers.

~Polly Toynbee

The best care on earth cannot prevent us all dying in the end.

~Polly Toynbee

Working lives are for the state to influence. Unemployment makes people unhappy. So does instability.

~Polly Toynbee

Openness about death has led to greater care about all aspects of dying.

~Polly Toynbee

People want the right to die at a time of their own choosing. Too many families have watched helplessly as a relative dies slowly, longing for death.

~Polly Toynbee

Nothing keeps people together like the exalted conviction that they alone are to be spared that eternal anguish of hell fire to which everyone else will be condemned.

~Polly Toynbee

But instead of standing up for reason, our government is handing education over to the world of faith.

~Polly Toynbee

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