

# Ralph Nader

## Quotes

*People, Party, Country, Democracy, Thinking, Government, Two, Years, War,  
Media, Political, Issues, Want, America, Oil, Justice, Safety, Home, Running,  
Rights*

The function of leadership is to produce more leaders, not more followers.

~Ralph Nader

The essence of globalization is a subordination of human rights, of labor rights, consumer, environmental rights, democracy rights, to the imperatives of global trade and investment.

~Ralph Nader

The only difference between the Republican and Democratic parties is the velocities with which their knees hit the floor when corporations knock on their door. That's the only difference.

~Ralph Nader

The use of solar energy has not been opened up because the oil industry does not own the sun.

~Ralph Nader

The clinical definition of "fascism" is when private concentrated economic power takes government away from the people, turns government into a guarantor, a subsidizer, a covering of corporate power.

~Ralph Nader

There can be no daily democracy without daily citizenship.

~Ralph Nader

We must strive to become good ancestors.

~Ralph Nader

No presidential candidate should visit Las Vegas without condemning organized gambling.

~Ralph Nader

If you always vote for the lesser of two evils, you will always have evil, and you will always have less.

~Ralph Nader

Power concedes nothing without a demand. The struggle for justice must never be adjourned. The forces of injustice do not take vacations.

~Ralph Nader

A leader has the vision and conviction that a dream can be achieved. He inspires the power and energy to get it done.

~Ralph Nader

If you choose the lesser of two evils, you are still choosing evil.

~Ralph Nader

A society that has more justice is a society that needs less charity.

~Ralph Nader

Arbitration is private. It doesn't have the tools to dig into the corporate files. It's usually controlled by arbitrators who want repeat business from corporations not from the injured person.

~Ralph Nader

Capitalism will always survive, because socialism will be there to save it.

~Ralph Nader

The lesser of two evils, or the least of the worst, is not good enough for the American people anymore.

~Ralph Nader

Your best teacher is your last mistake.

~Ralph Nader

Once you don't vote your ideals ... that has serious undermining affects. It erodes the moral basis of our democracy.

~Ralph Nader

Moral courage is the highest expression of humanity.

~Ralph Nader

Nuclear power must be dealt with irrationally. . . . Nuclear plants are carcinogens. Let's get that story out. . . . Their lies will catch up to them. We need endless Chernobyl reminders.

~Ralph Nader

The financial wealth of the top 1 percent of households in the U.S. exceeds the combined wealth of the bottom 95 percent.

~Ralph Nader

The reason that democracies always defeat dictatorships is because they're open to debate. We should never allow Washington to say, 'Shut up, get in line and wave the flag.'

~Ralph Nader

For almost seventy years the life insurance industry has been a smug sacred cow feeding the public a steady line of sacred bull.

~Ralph Nader

Ending police brutality and mass incarceration. There is a growing left-right support for criminal justice reform.

~Ralph Nader

Things have gotten so bad in this country, you look back at Richard Nixon with nostalgia.

~Ralph Nader

The Democratic and Republican parties, two apparently distinct political

entities feeding at the same corporate trough.

~Ralph Nader

Nothing short of a federal investigation can begin to disclose the abuses which have woven a fine web of mutually implicating relationships between businessmen and government officials.

~Ralph Nader

Power has to be insecure to be responsive.

~Ralph Nader

Today the large organization is lord and master, and most of its employees have been desensitized much as were the medieval peasants who never knew they were serfs.

~Ralph Nader

When strangers start acting like neighbors... communities are reinvigorated.

~Ralph Nader

The progress of history is to take the impossible and turn it into the possible.

~Ralph Nader

The only true aging is the erosion of one's ideals.

~Ralph Nader

We have a Democratic Party that cannot defend the American people from the worst Republican Party in history because it's a Democratic Party of war and Wall Street.

~Ralph Nader

This (George W. Bush's) administration is not sympathetic to corporations, it is indentured to corporations

~Ralph Nader

It's all these pundits, all these consultants, and the candidates, as if they're in a bubble leaving democracy off-limits.

~Ralph Nader

This welfare for wealthy companies wastes taxpayer dollars, harms the environment, and makes a mockery of the recent reductions in federal social spending programs.

~Ralph Nader

Ronald Reagan is the most ignorant president since Warren Harding.

~Ralph Nader

All empires eventually destroy themselves. That's the record of history.

~Ralph Nader

We're trying to convey how much easier it is than most people think, especially young people, to turn the country around if they focus on the levers, if they focus on Congress, and state legislatures.

~Ralph Nader

I don't think meals have any business being deductible. I'm for separation of calories and corporations.

~Ralph Nader

When do corporations begin to lose their credibility? They fought Social Security, Medicare, auto safety. They fought every social justice movement in this country.

~Ralph Nader

A wasteful defense is a weak defense.

~Ralph Nader

Obviously, the answer to oil spills is to paper-train the tankers.

~Ralph Nader

Let's run through the various ways they're trying to marginalize the Green Party and even the Libertarian Party. One way is to keep you off the mass media.

~Ralph Nader

National security is the fig leaf against freedom of information.

~Ralph Nader

Now unless you have billions of dollars, it's impossible to reach tens of millions of American people no matter how hard you campaign.

~Ralph Nader

I once said to my father, when I was a boy, 'Dad we need a third political party.' He said to me, 'I'll settle for a second.'

~Ralph Nader

Information is the currency of democracy. It's denial must always be suspect.

~Ralph Nader

To top it off, for those of you who are interested in the economics, it costs more to pursue a capital case toward execution than it does to have full life imprisonment without parole.

~Ralph Nader

Our founders did not oust George III in order for us to crown Richard I.

~Ralph Nader

People have got to show up, showing up at meetings, rallies, marches, City Council, courtrooms. You've got to show up.

~Ralph Nader

I always say there's no ticket of admission for active citizenship. Anybody can get through that gate, and anybody can ask that basic question that gets the ball rolling.

~Ralph Nader

By the time you rise through the ranks, the culture of homogenization has bred the spirit and imagination out of you.

~Ralph Nader

Sanctions against polluters are feeble and out of date, and are rarely invoked

~Ralph Nader

If you don't turn on to politics, politics will turn on you.

~Ralph Nader

There is not enough self-consciousness about what a family can be, about what it can inherit from forbearers, and what new traditions it can start as a contributor to the community.

~Ralph Nader

The corporate lobby in Washington is basically designed to stifle all legislative activity on behalf of consumers.

~Ralph Nader

Every time I see something terrible, it's like I see it at age 19. I keep a freshness that way.

~Ralph Nader

People are stunned to hear that one company has data files on 185 million Americans.

~Ralph Nader

John D. Rockefeller wanted to dominate oil, but Microsoft wants it all,



you name it: cable, media, banking, car dealerships.

~Ralph Nader

Like sex in Victorian England, the reality of Big Business today is our big dirty secret.

~Ralph Nader

If you're kept off the debates, you can't reach more two percent of people even if you campaign every state and fill the big conventions like Madison Square Garden.

~Ralph Nader

[As a child] I was very interested in books that detailed injustice and how people who are underdogs were mistreated throughout history.

~Ralph Nader

The whole story of human history is: The blasphemy of today is the commonplace of tomorrow.

~Ralph Nader

It was an injured worker finding a lawyer on a contingent fee in a little town in Texas that blew the top off one of the greatest industrial disasters in American history.

~Ralph Nader

Nothing can stop the power of an informed citizenry when it is empowered, organized, and motivated.

~Ralph Nader

It is fascinating to watch legislators turn away from their usual corporate grips when they hear the growing thunder of the people.

~Ralph Nader

Both [Donald] Trump and Hillary [Clinton] want bigger military budgets

and Hillary supports President Obama's one trillion dollar expenditure to so-called upgrade nuclear weapons. P

~Ralph Nader

Hillary Clinton's ready to pivot to Asia and provoke China. So are the Republicans. It's on domestic issues that there will be a gridlock.

~Ralph Nader

If God hadn't meant for us to eat sugar, he wouldn't have invented dentists.

~Ralph Nader

If it is unpatriotic to tear down the flag, which is a symbol of the country, why isn't it more unpatriotic to desecrate the country itself-to pollute, despoil and ravage the air, land and sea.

~Ralph Nader

The networks are not some chicken-coop manufacturing lobby whose calls nobody returns.

~Ralph Nader

President Reagan was elected on the promise of getting government off the backs of the people and now he demands that government wrap itself around the waists of the people.

~Ralph Nader

This country has far more problems than it deserves and far more solutions than it applies.

~Ralph Nader

Competition, free enterprise, and an open market were never meant to be symbolic fig leaves for corporate socialism and monopolistic capitalism.

~Ralph Nader

General Motors could buy Delaware if DuPont were willing to sell it.

~Ralph Nader

We have an underdeveloped democracy and overdeveloped plutocracy.

~Ralph Nader

As a public interest lawyer, your fund of injustice will never be empty.

~Ralph Nader

Justice needs money; it always has . . . whether for abolition of slavery and early women's rights movements or the civil rights and environmental drives of our generation.

~Ralph Nader

Hillary Clinton's never seen a weapons system or a war she hasn't liked.

~Ralph Nader

Hillary Clinton's ready to pick a fight with Putin. So are the Republicans.

~Ralph Nader

Hillary Clinton is going to find common ground with the Republicans on foreign and military affairs. They both want to enhance the military budget.

~Ralph Nader

It is basically a strategy to destroy the essence of democracy, which is the competitiveness and choices of candidates on the ballot.

~Ralph Nader

Obama & McCain differ, but neither takes on corporations.

~Ralph Nader

Members of Congress are like the voters in one respect -- they want to go with the winners.

~Ralph Nader

The food industry, its trade associations, and research foundations, is well financed and highly organized to pressure the FDA.

~Ralph Nader

I think we should make a closer link between domestic policy and an interventionist militaristic foreign policy.

~Ralph Nader

We should tax things we don't like. We should tax pollution ... And we should lighten the taxes on things we do like, like honest labor, like food.

~Ralph Nader

The job of a leader today is not to create followers. It's to create more leaders.

~Ralph Nader

Democrats have become very good at electing very bad Republicans

~Ralph Nader

Washington DC is corporate-occupied territory.

~Ralph Nader

That's why I call the Senate the graveyard of democracy, because even when you have 58 senators, they can block it and block it and block it.

~Ralph Nader

The concept of individual with a conscience is one whose highest allegiance is to his fellow man.

~Ralph Nader

Secrecy destroys accountability.

~Ralph Nader

The world is shaped by different people with certain personalities that come out of different upbringings.

~Ralph Nader

When I go up there, I see coal lobbyists, oil lobbyists, natural gas lobbyists, nuclear power lobbyists, somehow they think that's where the action is in Congress.

~Ralph Nader

Militaristic foreign policy is destroying America.

~Ralph Nader

There are very significant ways around America on how to break its grip, which is, of course, a way to exclude dissenting voices before tens of millions of people.

~Ralph Nader

For over half a century the automobile has brought death, injury, and the most inestimable sorrow and deprivation to millions of people.

~Ralph Nader

You [Jill Stein] want to do something about student debt. And that affects conservative and liberal students. That's going to be a majoritarian position.

~Ralph Nader

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