

# Ron Fournier

## Quotes

*President, Political, Voters, Victory, Leader, America, Skins, Party, Presidential, Country, War, Campaigns, White, Home, Humility, Dark, Giving, Years, Care, House*

At the start of his second term, one wonders less about Obama's fitness than his willingness: Why doesn't he do more to build and maintain the relationships required to govern in era of polarization?

~Ron Fournier

It's a deft trick to turn American exceptionalism into an exceptional political tactic.

~Ron Fournier

According to a Public Policy Polling survey, most Americans find lice and colonoscopies more appealing than Capitol Hill.

~Ron Fournier

With gridlock the norm, Congress's approval rating is below 10 percent and the public has lost faith in its national leadership.

~Ron Fournier

Blending hard-bitten realism with long-view optimism, Obama said that every 20 or 30 years brings a new cycle of pessimism in America.

~Ron Fournier

Although we were never pals and occasionally butted heads, my relationship with Clinton and his wife, Hillary, made me a better journalist.

~Ron Fournier

President George W. Bush won reelection in 2004 largely because he was seen as comfortable in his own skin, while rival John Kerry was viewed as a flip-flopping opportunist.

~Ron Fournier

Obama might do well to remember that his fast rise from the Illinois state Senate was due in large part to an uncanny ability to make friends and find mentors.

~Ron Fournier

If acknowledging that racial misgivings and misunderstandings are still a part of politics and life in America, I plead guilty.

~Ron Fournier

I'm hearing echoes of Bill Clinton, circa 1996, in President Obama's reelection rhetoric.

~Ron Fournier

For a man who has compared himself to Theodore Roosevelt and the nation's challenges to those of the Gilded Age, Obama put forward a tepid agenda.

~Ron Fournier

Every now and then, a presidential candidate surprises us with a truly human and honest moment.

~Ron Fournier

The failure of the White House and Congress to seriously address the nation's fiscal situation is certain to broaden the belief among many voters that the U.S. political system is broken.

~Ron Fournier

A concrete agenda and landslide victory might not even guarantee a president his mandate in a capital as polarized as Washington.

~Ron Fournier

Perhaps we should wait until his second term begins before carving Barack Obama's face in Mount Rushmore. Is that asking too much?

~Ron Fournier

Historians will likely give Obama credit for steering the country away from the brink of economic collapse in 2009.

~Ron Fournier

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton is the most influential woman in Washington - for what she has accomplished and for what she may yet do: win the presidency.

~Ron Fournier

At his best, Obama promised to work with Republicans to reduce the deficit in a way that honors both individualism and community.

~Ron Fournier

Anything may be possible in America, but a Palin presidency is virtually implausible.

~Ron Fournier

American exceptionalism is the recurring character in the nation's narrative.

~Ron Fournier

Mandates are rarely won on election night. They are earned after Inauguration Day by leaders who spend their political capital wisely, taking advantage of events without overreaching.

~Ron Fournier

A presidential debate is a job interview. And voters look for certain traits in people applying to be president.

~Ron Fournier

Clearly, the Obama presidency hasn't wiped out racial prejudices.

~Ron Fournier

Obama considers himself above deal-making and back-slapping, political necessities he often delegates to Vice President Joe Biden and other lesser sorts.

~Ron Fournier

Obama still has work to do with the vision thing. Convincing voters that he has a credible, practical plan to turn the nation around is a process, not a speech.

~Ron Fournier

Obama is capable - as evidenced by his first-term success with health care reform. But mandate-building requires humility, a trait not easily associated with him.

~Ron Fournier

Palin seems to have forgotten that her poll ratings have plummeted since the summer of 2011.

~Ron Fournier

Don't underestimate questions from the crowd; technology has made voters more informed than ever.

~Ron Fournier

A dose of humility goes a long way in life and in politics.

~Ron Fournier

Somebody must be up and somebody must be down. Trouble is, campaigns are messy, subtle creatures that don't follow convenient narratives.

~Ron Fournier

Like a cowboy saddling a bucking stallion, Republican leaders tried to tame the Tea Party while riding it to victories.

~Ron Fournier

Election night is the easiest time to act like a grownup.

~Ron Fournier

The 2016 presidential election is ripe for the emergence of a game-changing political leader who either dramatically reforms one of the existing parties or mounts an independent bid.

~Ron Fournier

Most Tea Party activists consider Obama a big-spending liberal. Some even question his eligibility to be president.

~Ron Fournier

Obama ran a hard-edged and negative campaign against Romney, hoping to convince recession-weary voters that his rival was unworthy of the job.

~Ron Fournier

By nominating Chuck Hagel to be his Defense secretary, President Obama is putting forward an aloof contrarian who doesn't suffer fools - a striving politician who considers himself above politics.

~Ron Fournier

'Argo,' 'Lincoln,' and 'Zero Dark Thirty,' three films honored with Best Picture Oscar nominations, lionize their Washington-anchored protagonists as crafty, competent, and virtually incorruptible.

~Ron Fournier

White House operatives went to great lengths to show Obama shifting focus from wars abroad to domestic issues at home.

~Ron Fournier

We're living in an era of unprecedented change, and I want to be a part of documenting it.

~Ron Fournier

Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Roosevelt faced adversities that, in their times, seemed impregnable. Great presidents overcome great

odds.

~Ron Fournier

The fact that Obama is getting criticism from the left and the right might reflect his understanding of the underlying political dynamics.

~Ron Fournier

Since declaring that she would not serve in a second Obama administration, Clinton has dismissed suggestions that she will run in 2016.

~Ron Fournier

Political reporters and political professionals rushed to judgment against Romney because we crave clear, unambiguous story lines.

~Ron Fournier

Movies such as 'Mr. Smith Goes to Washington' in 1939 to 'Dave' in 1993 portray Washington leaders as the ultimate Everymen - decent people just like you and me, only thrust onto greatness.

~Ron Fournier

Obama will learn from his mistakes.

~Ron Fournier

In times of tumult, voters are likely to forgive a president, if not reward him, for compromises made in service of solutions.

~Ron Fournier

Obama shows no sign of easing up on negativity.

~Ron Fournier

Don't stigmatize in a rush to explain inexplicable evil.

~Ron Fournier

Anything can go wrong in a debate, and Obama is not a perfect debater.

~Ron Fournier

If you like your health insurance plan, you can keep your health insurance plan

~Ron Fournier

It's a bit unfair to accuse Obama of dividing the nation when the facts show that it already is.

~Ron Fournier

In Washington, compromise has become a dirty word.

~Ron Fournier

If Mitt Romney is vanilla, Chris Christie is three hefty scoops of Rocky Road topped with whipped cream, Red Bull, and gravel.

~Ron Fournier

If history is a guide, a victory for Obama means he faces the prospect of a second term dogged by scandal or inertia.

~Ron Fournier



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