

Steven Biko

Quotes

Men, People, Black, Believe, Attitude, Community, Country, Brother, Evil, Want, Lying, Black Consciousness, White, Thinking, Heart, Essence, Children, Long, Groups, Made

I'm going to be me as I am, and you can beat me or jail me or even kill me, but I'm not going to be what you want me to be.

~Steven Biko

It is better to die for an idea that will live, than to live for an idea that will die.

~Steven Biko

The most potent weapon of the oppressor is the mind of the oppressed.

~Steven Biko

Being black is not a matter of pigmentation - being black is a reflection of a mental attitude.

~Steven Biko

The basic tenet of black consciousness is that the black man must reject all value systems that seek to make him a foreigner in the country of his birth and reduce his basic human dignity.

~Steven Biko

I would like to remind the black ministry and indeed all black people that God is not in the habit of coming down from heaven to solve people's problems on earth.

~Steven Biko

Change the way people think and things will never be the same

~Steven Biko

The wealth of the country must eventually be enjoyed by people of the country

~Steven Biko

You are either alive and proud or you are dead, and when you are

dead, you can't care anyway.

~Steven Biko

So as a prelude whites must be made to realise that they are only human, not superior. Same with Blacks. They must be made to realise that they are also human, not inferior.

~Steven Biko

A community is easily divide when their perception of the same thing is different

~Steven Biko

If one is free at heart, no man-made chains can bind one to servitude.

~Steven Biko

When you say 'Black is beautiful' you are saying, 'Man you are okay as you are, begin to look upon yourself as a human being'.

~Steven Biko

A people without a positive history is like a vehicle without an engine.

~Steven Biko

The great powers of the world may have done wonders in giving the world an industrial and military look but the great gift still has to come from Africa - giving the world a more human face.

~Steven Biko

We must realise that prophetic cry of black students: Black man you are on your own!

~Steven Biko

I am against the fact that a settler minority should impose an entire system of values on an indigenous people.

~Steven Biko

The blacks are tired of standing at the touchlines to witness a game that they should be playing. They want to do things for themselves and all by themselves.

~Steven Biko

Black Consciousness therefore takes cognizance of the deliberateness of God's plan in creating Black people black.

~Steven Biko

WOMEN must be at the forefront of nation-building to bring the South African citizenry together and, therefore, develop a whole new ethos of human co-existence

~Steven Biko

If you want to say something radical, you should dress conservative.

~Steven Biko

The oneness of community for instance is at the heart of our culture.

~Steven Biko

It becomes more necessary to see the truth as it is if you realize that the only vehicle for change are these people who have lost their personality.

~Steven Biko

In time, we shall be in a position to bestow on South Africa the greatest possible gift - a more human face.

~Steven Biko

The power of a movement lies in the fact that it can indeed change the habits of people. This change is not the result of force but of dedication, of moral persuasion.

~Steven Biko

Black Consciousness is an attitude of the mind and a way of life, the most positive call to emanate from the black world for a long time.

~Steven Biko

Black Consciousness is in essence the realization by the black man of the need to rally together with his brothers around the cause of their oppression.

~Steven Biko

This is white man's integration, an integration based on exploitative values

~Steven Biko

We believe in the inherent goodness of man.

~Steven Biko

Apartheid - both petty and grand - is obviously evil.

~Steven Biko

We believe it is the duty of the vanguard political movement which brings change to educate people's outlook

~Steven Biko

We are experiencing new problems every day and whatever we do adds to the richness of our cultural heritage as long as it has man as its centre

~Steven Biko

Any warning normally implies, even if it is tacit, that there should be changes

~Steven Biko

The essence of politics is to direct oneself to the group which wields power

~Steven Biko

Apartheid - both petty and grand - is obviously evil. Nothing can justify the arrogant assumption that a clique of foreigners has the right to decide on the lives of a majority.

~Steven Biko

The logic behind white domination is to prepare the black man for the subservient role in this country.

~Steven Biko

I think the central theme about black society is that it has got elements of a defeated society

~Steven Biko

In all fields black consciousness seeks to talk to the black man in a language that is his own

~Steven Biko

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