

Thomas Piketty

Quotes

Democracy, Thinking, Political, Growth, Innovation, Opposites, Long, Discipline, Important, Different, Country, Democratic Ideals, Children, Way, Luck, Diffusion, Issues, Source, Useless, Levels

Wealth is so concentrated that a large segment of society is virtually unaware of its existence.

~Thomas Piketty

We want capitalism and market forces to be the slave of democracy rather than the opposite.

~Thomas Piketty

It's important to realize that innovation and growth in itself are not sufficient to moderate inequality of wealth.

~Thomas Piketty

When inequality gets to an extreme, it is completely useless for growth.

~Thomas Piketty

Our modern democratic ideal is based on the hope that inequalities will be based on merit more than inheritance or luck.

~Thomas Piketty

No hypocrisy is too great when economic and financial elites are obliged to defend their interest.

~Thomas Piketty

Over a long period of time, the main force in favor of greater equality has been the diffusion of knowledge and skills.

~Thomas Piketty

Indeed, the distribution of wealth is too important an issue to be left to economists, sociologists, historians, and philosophers.

~Thomas Piketty

At the heart of every major political upheaval lies a fiscal revolution.

~Thomas Piketty

I don't think there is any serious evidence that we need to be paying people more than 100 times the average wage in order to get high-performing managers.

~Thomas Piketty

I certainly agree that capital is not a one-dimensional object, and that the return on capital takes very different forms for different assets or different people.

~Thomas Piketty

Refusing to deal with numbers rarely serves the interests of the least well-off.

~Thomas Piketty

I loved American universities. In many ways, they are better organized - certainly than French universities.

~Thomas Piketty

The principal mechanism for convergence at the international as well as the domestic level is the diffusion of knowledge.

~Thomas Piketty

The U.S. is the country that invented progressive taxation of income and of inherited wealth in the 1910s and 20s.

~Thomas Piketty

Without precisely defined sources, methods, and concepts, it is possible to see absolutely everything and its opposite.

~Thomas Piketty

I am not political. It is not my job. But I would be happy if politicians could read my work and draw some conclusions from it.

~Thomas Piketty

Democracy will never be supplanted by a republic of expertsâ€™ and that is a very good thing.

~Thomas Piketty

It's not Utopian to believe that we can create a global registry of financial assets so we know who owns what in different countries.

~Thomas Piketty

We know too little about global wealth dynamics, so we need international transmission of bank information.

~Thomas Piketty

Das Kapital, I think, is very difficult to read, and for me, it was not very influential.

~Thomas Piketty

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