

Thurgood Marshall Quotes

*Democracy, Justice, Law, Mean, Historical, Men, Freedom, Government, Baby,
Rights, Years, America, Country, Race, Teacher, Thinking, Respect,
Punishment, Needs, Color*

Equal means getting the same thing, at the same time and in the same place.

~Thurgood Marshall

A man can make what he wants of himself if he truly believes that he must be ready for hard work and many heartbreaks.

~Thurgood Marshall

To protest against injustice is the foundation of all our American democracy.

~Thurgood Marshall

The measure of a country's greatness is its ability to retain compassion in time of crisis.

~Thurgood Marshall

Do what you think is right and let the law catch up.

~Thurgood Marshall

The Ku Klux Klan never dies. They just stop wearing sheets because sheets cost too much.

~Thurgood Marshall

Lawlessness is lawlessness. Anarchy is anarchy is anarchy. Neither race nor color nor frustration is an excuse for either lawlessness or anarchy.

~Thurgood Marshall

The process of democracy is one of change. Our laws are not frozen into immutable form, they are constantly in the process of revision in response to the needs of a changing society.

~Thurgood Marshall

History teaches that grave threats to liberty often come in times of

urgency, when constitutional rights seem too extravagant to endure.

~Thurgood Marshall

In recognizing the humanity of our fellow beings, we pay ourselves the highest tribute.

~Thurgood Marshall

The United States has been called the melting pot of the world. But it seems to me that the colored man either missed getting into the pot or he got melted down.

~Thurgood Marshall

Mere access to the courthouse doors does not by itself assure a proper functioning of the adversary process.

~Thurgood Marshall

We can always stick together when we are losing, but tend to find means of breaking up when we're winning. In *Grace under Pressure*, by Hastie, 1984.

~Thurgood Marshall

Classifications and distinctions based on race or color have no moral or legal validity in our society. They are contrary to our constitution and laws.

~Thurgood Marshall

I have a lifetime appointment and I intend to serve it. I expect to die at 110, shot by a jealous husband.

~Thurgood Marshall

Our whole constitutional heritage rebels at the thought of giving government the power to control men's minds.

~Thurgood Marshall

None of us got where we are solely by pulling ourselves up by our bootstraps.

~Thurgood Marshall

The ban directly hampers the party's ability to spread its message and hamstring voters seeking to inform themselves about the candidates and issues.

~Thurgood Marshall

We must dissent from the fear.

~Thurgood Marshall

Truth is more than a mental exercise.

~Thurgood Marshall

Some years ago I said in an opinion that if this country is a melting pot, then either the Afro-Americans didn't get in the pot or he didn't get melted down.

~Thurgood Marshall

Sometimes history takes things into its own hands.

~Thurgood Marshall

Today's Constitution is a realistic document of freedom only because of several corrective amendments. Those amendments speak to a sense of decency and fairness that I and other Blacks cherish.

~Thurgood Marshall

Ending racial discrimination in jury selection can be accomplished only by eliminating peremptory challenges entirely.

~Thurgood Marshall

If the First Amendment means anything, it means that a state has no business telling a man, sitting alone in his house, what books he may

read or what films he may watch.

~Thurgood Marshall

I'm the world's original gradualist. I just think ninety-odd years is gradual enough.

~Thurgood Marshall

Our Constitution is the envy of the world, as it should be for it is the grand design of the finest nation on earth.

~Thurgood Marshall

What is the quality of your intent?

~Thurgood Marshall

[T]he Constitution was a product of its times. [Progressive]

~Thurgood Marshall

The First Amendment serves not only the needs of the polity but also those of the human spirit - a spirit that demands self-expression .

~Thurgood Marshall

What's shaking, chiefy baby?

~Thurgood Marshall

[It is] a historic step toward eliminating the shameful practice of racial discrimination in the selection of juries.

~Thurgood Marshall

Customary greeting to Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, What's shaking, chiefy baby?

~Thurgood Marshall

Surely the fact that a uniformed police officer is wearing his hair below his collar will make him no less identifiable as a policeman.

~Thurgood Marshall

Nothing can be more notorious than the calumnies and invectives with which the wisest measures and most virtuous characters of The United States have been pursued and traduced [By American Newspapers]

~Thurgood Marshall

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