

Virginia Governor Ralph Northam



Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam said he is directing the Department of General Services to remove the controversial Robert E. Lee Monument “as soon as possible.”

"That statue has been there for a long time. It was wrong then, and it's wrong now. So we're taking it down," the Democratic governor said during a news conference in Richmond.

The announcement comes as thousands have been protesting in the US to decry the death of George Floyd, police brutality and racism.

The governor said the Lee statue will go into storage while they will work "with the community to determine its future."

"Make no mistake, removing a symbol is important but it's only a step. It doesn't mean problems are solved. There are still monuments of inequalities that exist in our commonwealth and in this country," the governor said, calling for change and healing.

Northam explained that he and the General Assembly were able to overturn laws banning the removal of the confederate monuments by passing new legislation.

“This year I proposed legislation to let cities and counties decide what to do with monuments in their communities. Take them down, move them somewhere else, or add additional context. That law takes effect in four weeks,” Northam said.

Richmond Mayor Levar Stoney

Richmond Mayor Levar Stoney said he is proposing an ordinance to the city council to remove all of the Confederate monuments on Monument Avenue.

“We have two pandemics in this country. Covid-19 and racism,” Stoney said. “One is six months old, the other 400 years.”

General James N. Mattis



Mattis, who has widespread support among Senate Republicans for his long military service to the country, contended that Trump "does not even pretend to try" to unite the country and is instead engaged in a "deliberate effort" to divide the country, while lacking "mature leadership."

Sheriff Chris Swanson of Genesee County, Michigan

Sheriff Chris Swanson of Genesee County, Michigan, says George Floyd changed American policing forever. The Sheriff went viral for walking along with peaceful protesters in Flint, Michigan on Saturday, while protests in other parts of the country grew violent and demonstrators clashed with the police.

“The message has now grown to a nation begging for unity and healing. It was the tipping point,” he said.

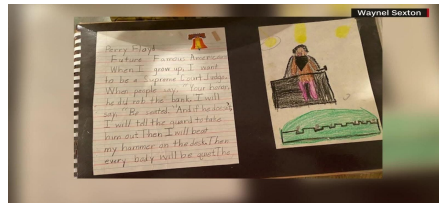
After joining the peaceful protesters last weekend, he says he is now having conversations with Black Lives Matter members every day, which hadn't happened before. “We've had great relationships but we haven't had a seat at the table with them. And I'm going to tell you, it's every one of those micro decisions which is going to get us where we need to be.” he said.

George Floyd's Second Grade Teacher Waynel Sexton

For 38 years, George Floyd's second grade teacher Waynel Sexton has held on to a

report he did about future famous Americans during Black History Month. He had described his future aspirations of being a Supreme Court judge.

“When I grow up, I want to be a Supreme Court judge. When people say, ‘your honor, he did rob the bank,’ I will say, ‘be seated.’ And if he doesn’t, I will beat the hammer on my desk and everybody will be quiet,” Floyd had written



QUOTES ON “SOCIAL JUSTICE”



“And I must say tonight that a riot is the language of the unheard. And what is it America has failed to hear? ... It has failed to hear that the promises of freedom and justice have not been met. And it has failed to hear that large segments of white society are more concerned about tranquility and the status quo than about justice and humanity.”

— Martin Luther King Jr.



“The ends you serve that are selfish will take you no further than yourself but the ends you serve that are for all, in common, will take you into eternity.”

— **Marcus Garvey**



“Returning hate for hate multiplies hate, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that.” — **Martin Luther King Jr., Strength to Love**



“The opposite of poverty is not wealth. In too many places, the opposite of poverty is justice.”

— **Bryan Stevenson**



“It may well be that we will have to repent in this generation. Not merely for the vitriolic words and the violent actions of the bad people, but for the appalling silence and indifference of the good people who sit around and say, “Wait on time.”

— **Martin Luther King Jr., A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings and Speeches**



“When we identify where our privilege intersects with somebody else's oppression, we'll find our opportunities to make real change.”

— **Ijeoma Oluo, *So You Want to Talk About Race***



“In these days of difficulty, we Americans everywhere must and shall choose the path of social justice..., the path of faith, the path of hope, and the path of love toward our fellow man.”

— **Franklin D. Roosevelt**



“Until our world decides that every human matters, that everyone has a right to food and safety and freedom and healthcare and equality, it is the obligation of those privileged to have food and safety and freedom and healthcare and equality to fight tirelessly for those who do not.”

— **L.R. Knost**

QUOTES ON “ECONOMIC JUSTICE”

“We may have democracy, or we may have wealth concentrated in the hands of a few, but we cannot have both.”

Louis Brandeis

“When you’re fighting for economic and social justice, you’re always fighting for the minority.”

Bob Kerry

“Poverty is the worst kind of violence.”

Gandhi

“I never intend to adjust myself to economic conditions that will take necessities from the many to give luxuries to the few.”

Martin Luther King

“Once you realize that trickle-down economics does not work, you will see the excessive tax cuts for the rich as what they are -- a simple upward redistribution of income, rather than a way to make all of us richer, as we were told.”

Ha-Joon Chang

“In the area of economic justice, we still have a long way to go. We have too many people who are discriminated against just because they happen to be black or they happen to be a woman or some other minority.”



Coretta Scott King

“We must always refill and ensure there is a critical mass of leaders and activists committed to nonviolence and racial and economic justice who will keep seeding and building transforming movements.”

Marian Wright Edelman

“Let's stand together, stick together, and work together for justice of every description. Racial justice. Gender justice. Immigrant justice. Economic justice. Environmental justice.”

Lori Lightfoot

“As a nation we should commit ourselves not only to the fight against terrorism, but to economic justice, defeat of the AIDS epidemic and vestiges of discriminatory policies of all kinds.”

Charles B. Rangel

“Too often when we talk about racial or economic justice, we white people do not see ourselves in the picture. We feel like it's all well and good for other people to do better, but not at our expense, and it won't benefit us.

Betsy Hodges



QUOTES ON “ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE”



Environmental justice is the movement to ensure that no community suffers disproportionate environmental burdens or goes without enjoying fair environmental benefits.

— Van Jones —

AZ QUOTES

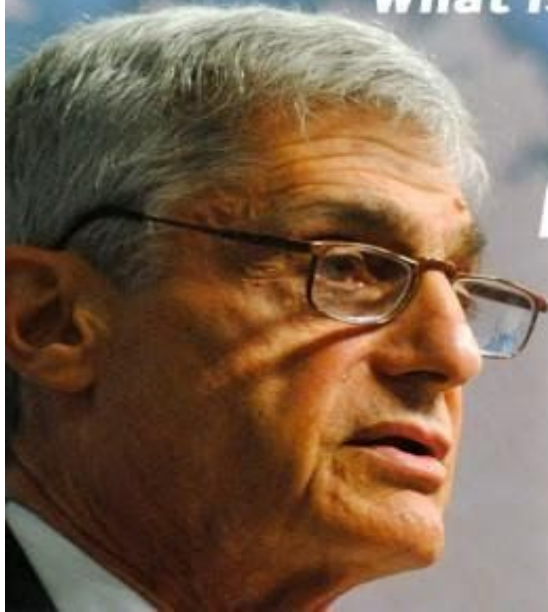


Environmental justice [means that] no community should be saddled with more environmental burdens and less environmental benefits than any other.

— Majors Carter —

AZ QUOTES

What is the cost of inaction?



"We do not face a choice between protecting our environment or protecting our economy. We face a choice between protecting our economy by protecting our environment — or allowing environmental havoc to create economic havoc."

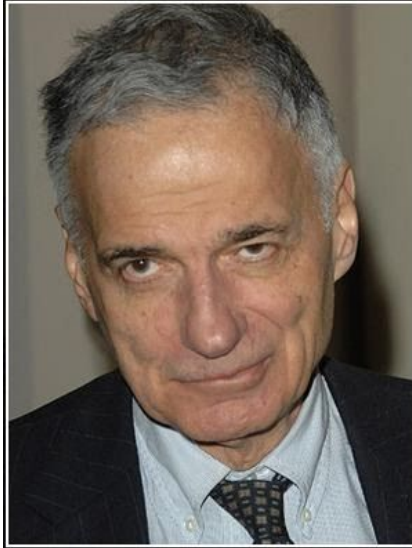
~ Robert E. Rubin, Co-Chairman, Council on Foreign Relations and former U.S. Secretary of the Treasury



Sustainable development is the pathway to the future we want for all. It offers a framework to generate economic growth, achieve social justice, exercise environmental stewardship and strengthen governance.

— Ban Ki-moon —

AZ QUOTES



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* —

AZ QUOTES

QUOTES ON “CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM”



The criminal-justice system is, obviously,
the sole source of racial tension in this
country [USA] or the key institution to
resolving the opportunity gap. It is a
part of the broader set of challenges
that we face in creating a more perfect
union.

— *Barack Obama* —

AZ QUOTES



We are the in midst of a bipartisan moment as it relates to criminal justice reform and dealing with mass incarceration in America which disproportionately impacts the African-American community.

— *Hakeem Jeffries* —

AZ QUOTES



Black people are dying in this country because we have a criminal justice system which is out of control, a system in which over 50% of young African-American kids are unemployed, it is estimated that a black baby born today has a one in four chance of ending up in the criminal justice system.

— *Bernie Sanders* —

AZ QUOTES



There are certainly behaviors we want to change, but the institutions of the criminal justice system aren't necessarily very effective in dealing with them.

—JUDGE KEVIN BURKE
Hennepin County Court

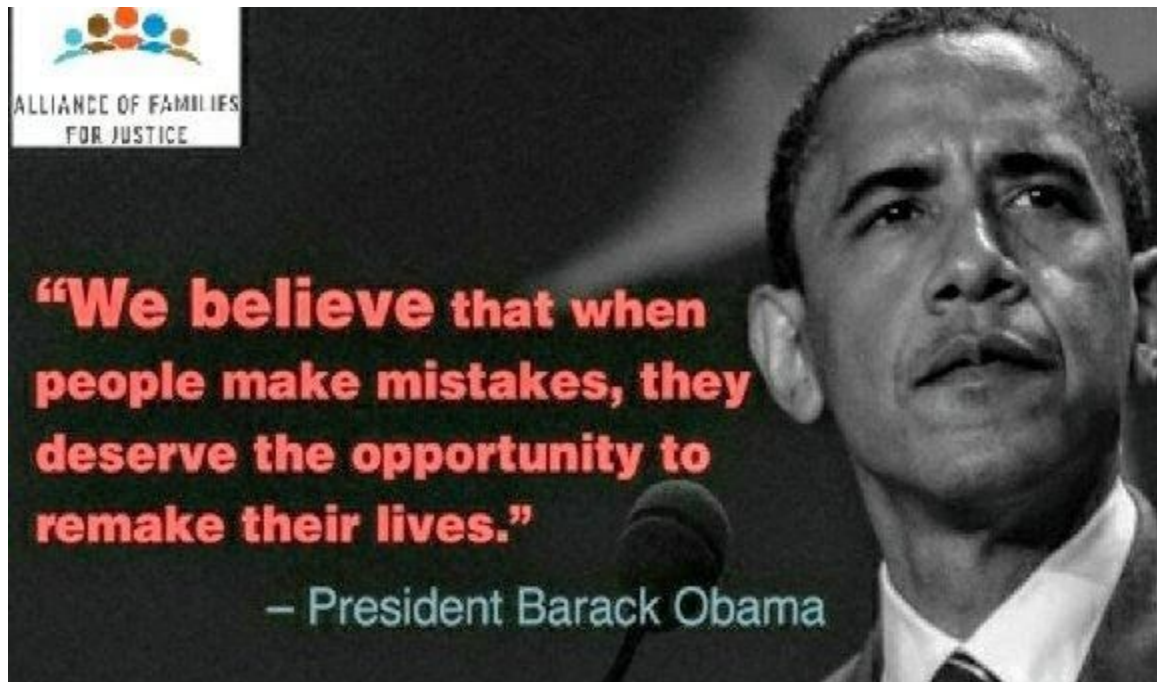


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**CRIMINAL JUSTICE
REFORM MUST
INCLUDE A BAN ON
PRIVATE PRISONS.**

**WE NEED TO
EMPHASIZE
REHABILITATION,
NOT FOR-PROFIT
INCARCERATION.**

THE PEOPLE FOR
**TULSI
GABBARD**

QUOTES ON “PRISON REFORM”



"I am convinced that imprisonment is a way of pretending to solve the problem of crime. It does nothing for the victims of crime, but perpetuates the idea of retribution, thus maintaining the endless cycle of violence in our culture. It is a cruel and useless substitute for the elimination of those conditions--poverty, unemployment, homelessness, desperation, racism, greed--which are at the root of most punished crime. The crimes of the rich and powerful go mostly unpunished. It must surely be a tribute to the resilience of the human spirit that even a small number of those men and women in the hell of the prison system survive it and hold on to their humanity."

-- **Howard Zinn**

"I think there's something to be optimistic about because I believe that many people throughout the country and world are starting to realize that we've made some deep, deep mistakes in terms of building prisons to the detriment and exclusion of building up our educational systems. Developing punitive programs for teens instead of focusing on programs that will really benefit and advantage our children."

-- **Ellen Barry**

"We've entered a disturbing period that promotes a retributionist, punitive attitude toward people in our society who haven't 'made it,' who are underdogs, who don't have the financial means that other people have, and who may have disabilities like mental illness and addictions to deal with,"

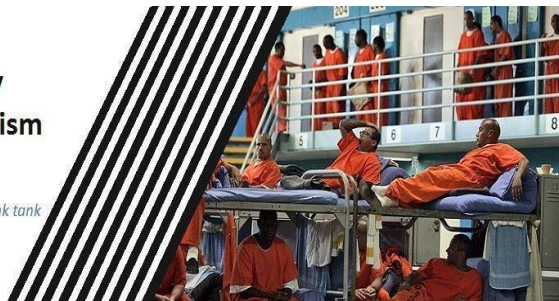
-- **Ellen Barry**

We live in a country that is addicted to incarceration as a tool for social control. As it stands now justice systems are extremely expensive, do not rehabilitate but in fact make the people that experience them worse and have no evidence based correlatives to reducing crime. Yet with that track record they continue to thrive, prosper and are seen as an appropriate response to children in trouble with the law. Only an addict would see that as an okay result.

-- **James Bell**

**Crowded Prisons
Wasted Money
75% Recidivism**

*The Center for Prison Reform is a think tank
and coalition of like minded groups
that lobby for prison reform.*



"Society has used the juvenile courts to create a caste system where there are throw-away people."

James Bell

"Our justice system is one of the few unaccountable systems in the country. It doesn't make decisions based on best practices...or in the best interest of the young people and families involved. As a result, there is a 70 percent recidivism rate. The decision makers can administer this misery and not take any responsibility for the outcome."

-- **James Bell**

If you want to address racial disparity in the juvenile justice system, everybody has to have a role in it. Everybody has some responsibility."

-- **James Bell**

There is a multi-headed, multi-tentacled monster out there devouring blacks who live in certain neighborhoods. Incarceration is just one aspect of this menace, but it is an overwhelmingly damaging aspect. Our job, in working to achieve fairness and equity, is to sound the alarm about the unjust criminal justice system and demand that our leaders and those in power act now to halt this destructive, unfair treatment of our brothers and sisters, especially of our children.

-- **James Bell**

Together we must challenge individuals, communities, cities, counties, regions, states, and the nation to be accountable for the outcomes of the justice systems at every level of government.

-- **James Bell**





"On the collective level, we have unwittingly shifted from being a nation of liberators, defenders of freedom, into becoming a nation of arms dealers and mercenaries, fabricating our own weapons of mass destruction and arming tyrants with the tools to oppress their own people. Within our own society, we jail more prisoners than any other country in the world, 85 percent of them people of nonwhite races — red, black, brown, and yellow. We are one of the few nations that still indulge in the death penalty for increasing numbers of these prisoners. We must become mindful of these negative things, since we need not support these actions of our nation to be affected negatively by their evolutionary impact, unless we mentally, verbally, and ultimately physically, disassociate ourselves from them."

-- **Robert Thurman**

There is much to be done, there is much that can be done... one person of integrity can make a difference, a difference of life and death. As long as one dissident is in prison, our freedom will not be true. As long as one child is hungry, our lives will be filled with anguish and shame. What all these victims need above all is to know that they are not alone; that we are not forgetting them, that when their voices are stifled we shall lend them ours, that while their freedom depends on ours, the quality of our freedom depends on theirs.


-- **Elie Wiesel**

"Good care is taken that each state shall have its prisons . . . and other asylums; but not one building is erected nor one law enforced that would teach the people how not to contribute to these over-crowded receptacles of human misery All of our politicians are ready to deal with the effects, but not one of them is brave enough to penetrate the substratum of society and deal with the cause." distributed among the people. . .

-- **Victoria Woodhull**


"A reform in the system of criminal jurisprudence, by which the death penalty shall no longer be inflicted . . . and by which our so-called prisons shall be virtually transformed into vast reformatory workshops, from which the unfortunate may emerge to be useful members of society, instead of the alienated citizens they now are."

-- **Victoria Woodhull**



"Mass incarceration is a symptom of a larger problem, which I call 'America's isms.' **Classism, racism and capitalism**, are the driving forces behind our broken justice system."

—**Susan Burton**
A New Way of Life Re-Entry Project



QUOTES ON “COMMUNITY POLICING”

“Black Lives Matter is not just concerned with what happens in policing. The disregard, the disrespect, and the lack of dignity for black life transcends through the fabric of our society.”

Alicia Garza

“There has to be a readjustment of resources that is being diverted to police and policing as opposed to community health services, and there certainly has to be control over the police by the communities that they are supposed to protect and serve.”

Alicia Garza

“Policing has never been about public safety: its origins are rooted in social control, the denial of people's human rights, securing the U.S. borders, recapturing escaped, enslaved Africans, and upholding racist, homophobic, and transphobic laws.”

Patrisse Cullors



“When the residue of oppression and fear are compounded over time, when the historical precedents of policing and discrimination manifest themselves over and over again, the very act of waking up to a world complicit in your distress can feel like a herculean task. But black people are human beings, just like everyone else.”

Clint Smith

“The horrific cases in Ferguson, in Staten Island with the death of Eric Garner, and all across the country serve as stark reminders that we must have a say in who polices us, and how that policing is done. We must, we must, let our voices be heard on Election Day.”

Al Sharpton

“Being a cop is often seeing the worst of the human condition and behavior. With all of that said, there is no reason that Mike Brown and also Eric Garner are dead today - except bad policing, excessive force, and the hunt-and-capture-prey mentality many thrill-seeking cops have adapted.”

Killer Mike





OFFICER TOMMY NORMAN COMES TO THIS UNDER PRIVILEGED NEIGHBORHOOD AFTER EVERY SHIFT WITH SNACKS & SODAS, & PLAYS WITH THE LOCAL KIDS IN THE SUMMER, HE BRINGS WATER GUNS & SLIP N SLIDES FOR THEM TO PLAY WITH, & IN THE WINTER, BRINGS COATS & HOODIES FOR CHILDREN WHO CAN'T AFFORD THEM

“Chicago is where the whole idea of community policing began. It remains the - the best and the most comprehensive approach we have in changing the everyday conditions that breed crime and violence - and then breed mistrust. We have more work to do. We need better training to live up to the values and the principles of community policing.”

Rahm Emanuel

“You prevent kids from joining gangs by offering after-school programs, sports, mentoring, and positive engagement with adults. You intervene with gang members by offering alternatives and employment to help redirect their lives. You deal with areas of high gang crime activity with real community policing. We know what works.”

Greg Boyle

“Police cannot be allowed to continue aggressive, violent, and often unconstitutional policing with impunity.”

Opal Tometi

“Ferguson and St. Louis County are not the first places that we have become engaged to ensure fair and equitable policing, and they will not be the last. The Department of Justice will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that the Constitution has meaning for all communities.”

Eric Holder

“Race is something that's always haunted American policing. Policing has to be done compassionately and consistently. You cannot police differently in Harlem than you're policing downtown. The same laws must apply. The same procedures must be employed. Certain areas at certain times may have more significant crime and require more police presence or more assertiveness, but it has to be balanced.”

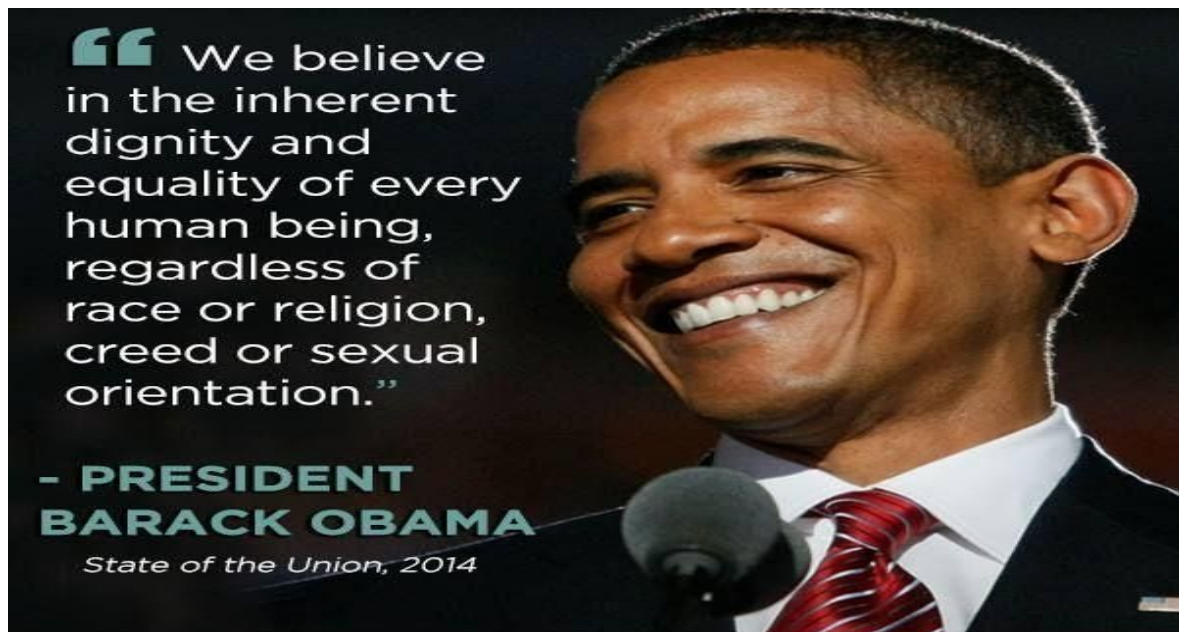
William Bratton



QUOTES ON “EQUALITY”

“I know my country has not perfected itself. At times, we've struggled to keep the promise of liberty and equality for all of our people. We've made our share of mistakes, and there are times when our actions around the world have not lived up to our best intentions.”

Barack Obama



“We have talked long enough in this country about equal rights. It is time now to write the next chapter - and to write it in the books of law.”

Lyndon B. Johnson



I would like to be known as a person
who is concerned about freedom
and equality and justice and
prosperity for all people.

— *Rosa Parks* —

AZ QUOTES

“There can be no equality or opportunity if men and women and children be not shielded in their lives from the consequences of great industrial and social processes which they cannot alter, control, or singly cope with.”

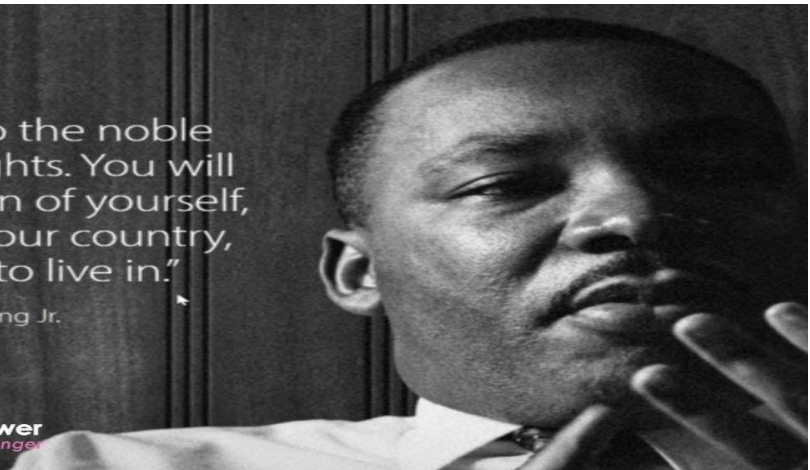
Woodrow Wilson

“Commit yourself to the noble
struggle for equal rights. You will
make a greater person of yourself,
a greater nation of your country,
and a finer world to live in.”

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

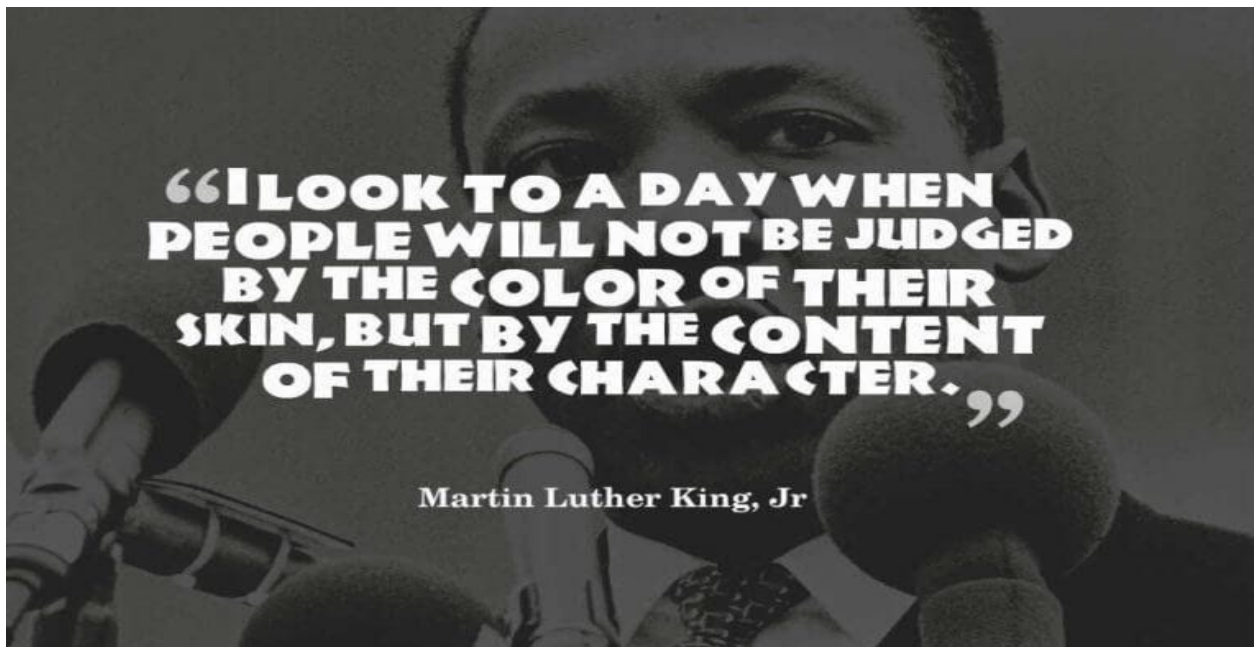


Global Girl Power
Together We Are Stronger



“Here are the values that I stand for: honesty, equality, kindness, compassion, treating people the way you want to be treated and helping those in need. To me, those are traditional values.”

Ellen DeGeneres



“In order to get beyond racism, we must first take account of race. There is no other way. And in order to treat some persons equally, we must treat them differently.”

Harry A. Blackmun



A society that puts equality before freedom will get neither. A society that puts freedom before equality will get a high degree of both.

(Milton Friedman)

izquotes.com

“Equality, rightly understood as our founding fathers understood it, leads to liberty and to the emancipation of creative differences; wrongly understood, as it has been so tragically in our time, it leads first to conformity and then to despotism.”

Barry Goldwater



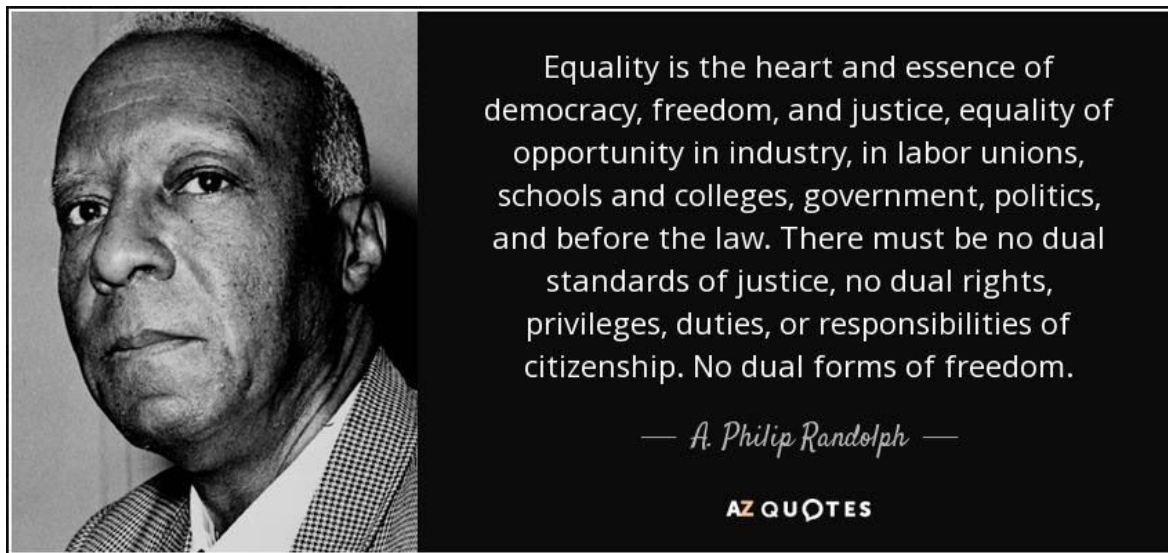
I believe profoundly in the possibilities of democracy, but democracy needs to be emancipated from capitalism. As long as we inhabit a capitalist democracy, a future of racial equality, gender equality, economic equality will elude us.

— Angela Davis —

AZ QUOTES

“In the 1960s we were fighting to be recognized as equals in the marketplace, in marriage, in education and on the playing field. It was a very exciting, rebellious time.”

Marlo Thomas



“Social media are a catalyst for the advancement of everyone's rights. It's where we're reminded that we're all human and all equal. It's where people can find and fight for a cause, global or local, popular or specialized, even when there are hundreds of miles between them.”

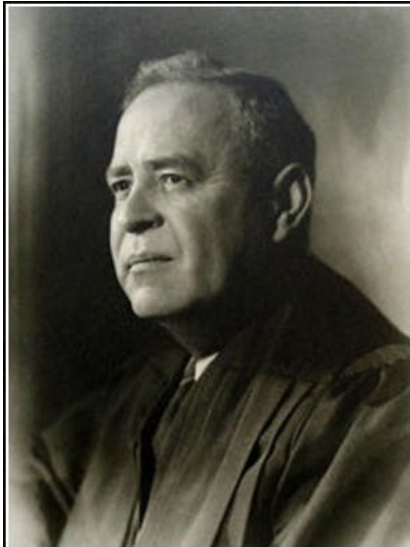
Queen Rania of Jordan



...without equality there can be no
democracy.

— *Eleanor Roosevelt* —

AZ QUOTES



Equality before the law in a true
democracy is a matter of right. It
cannot be a matter of charity or of
favor or of grace or of discretion.

— *Wiley Blount Rutledge* —

AZ QUOTES

LINKS TO NEWS, ARTICLES

Rev. Al Sharpton Preaching the Eulogy at George Floyd's Funeral and a Memorial Service

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/09/us/george-floyd-funeral-tuesday/index.html>

https://www.cnn.com/us/live-news/george-floyd-protests-06-04-20/h_9682e48cd88d2bda97fbd45e2afb3c94

Leveraging Environmental, Social, and Economic Justice at Chattanooga Creek

https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1300/J125v13n03_03

Readers React: Unions can bring social, economic justice

<https://www.mcall.com/opinion/readers-react/mc-opi-let-decray-social-economic-injustice-20200617-pdb4ysnisrcg7lxc6vvhfejzvm-story.html>

Collective action could fuel a post-pandemic renaissance for social justice. Here's how

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/06/this-is-how-collective-action-now-could-fuel-a-renaissance-for-social-justice/>

Could collective ownership of a “Black commons” help advance economic justice?

<https://www.fastcompany.com/90518679/could-collective-ownership-of-a-black-commons-help-advance-economic-justice>

Research Shows 'Linking Climate Policy to Social and Economic Justice Makes It More Popular'

"The public wants a Green New Deal. The public wants green stimulus. The public wants to address inequality."

By Jessica Corbett, staff writer

<https://www.commondreams.org/news/2020/06/12/research-shows-linking-climate-policy-social-and-economic-justice-makes-it-more>

What Happens When a Massive Racial Justice March on Washington Goes Digital?

<https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2020/06/what-happens-when-a-massive-racial-justice-march-on-washington-goes-dig>

Defunding the Police Doesn't Poll Well. That Doesn't Matter.

Racial justice issues rarely do.

<https://www.motherjones.com/anti-racism-police-protest/2020/06/defunding-the-police-doesnt-poll-well-that-doesnt-matter/>

Here's Where the Movement to Defund Police Is Gaining Momentum

The George Floyd–inspired protests and pandemic-battered local budgets are fueling a national push to redistribute police funding.

<https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2020/06/heres-where-the-movement-to-defund-police-is-gaining-momentum/>

What a World Without Cops Would Look Like

“Can we come up with a situation where there are fewer killings, and fewer collateral consequences?”

<https://www.motherjones.com/crime-justice/2020/06/police-abolition-george-floyd/>

Republicans Are Trying to Rewrite Obama's Record on Criminal Justice Reform

<https://www.motherjones.com/anti-racism-police-protest/2020/06/barack-obama-criminal-justice-reform/>

Southern Poverty Law Center

The March for Justice must include Economic Justice

<https://www.splcenter.org/news/2020/06/15/march-justice-must-include-economic-justice>

Economic justice as a path to healing systemic racism

"The venture capital industry, as well as business in general, has to step up to and confront its role in the institutional racism that continues to perpetuate this injustice," writes Jeff Cherry of Conscious Venture Lab and SHIFT Venture

<https://technical.ly/baltimore/2020/06/15/economic-justice-as-a-path-to-healing-systemic-racism/>