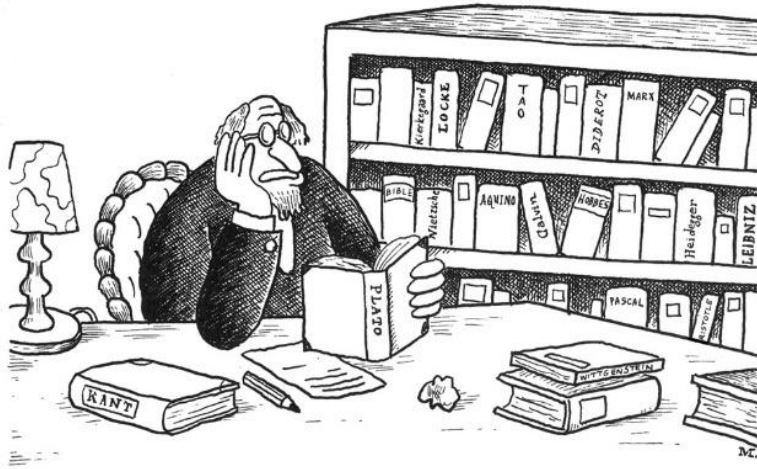


🇺🇸 RANDOM THOUGHTS AND QUOTES

Gathered by Steve Bakke 🇺🇸 October 30, 2019



-There has to be more to life than to occupy oneself
with its meaning!

- **From Peanuts:** Charlie Brown is shown confidently expounding a theological opinion. A puzzled Linus asks Charlie Brown, "How can you be so sure?" To which Charlie Brown replies, "I'm always sure about things that are a matter of opinion." (Think about it.)
- "While atheism is still quite rare in the U.S., **moral relativism** is rampant." – author Trevor Thomas
- **What is moral relativism?** Consider this question: "Is robbing a bank immoral?" If the answer is "Well, that depends," that's moral relativism.
- "So, just so we're clear, you can say '**my body, my choice**' when it comes to killing your baby, but I can't say 'my money, my choice' when it comes to paying for it?" —Allie Beth Stuckey, a self-described "conservative millennial."
- "We are, heart and soul, friends to the **freedom of the press**. It is, however, the prostituted companion of liberty.....and in the end is its own enemy.....It would be easy to enlarge on its evils.....they are everywhere. It is a precious pest, and a necessary mischief, and there would be no liberty without it." – Fisher Ames (1807) Some things never change!
- **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
- **Total equality and freedom are not compatible** – interpreting Milton Friedman
- There are **only two achievable equalities:** equal opportunity and equality under the law. – interpreting Milton Friedman
- Friedman's acceptance of **inevitable inequality** in society conflicts with the modern version of social justice.
- Justice is "you get what you deserve." **Social justice** is "you get what someone else thinks you deserve based on what group you belong to." – paraphrasing Ben Shapiro
- **Gender balance** is supposed to be a goal. If gender reflects each person's self-definition, and is flexible and changeable, how are we to know when balance is achieved?

- “The ultimate result of **shielding men from the effects of folly** is to fill the world with fools.” – Herbert Spencer, English Philosopher (1820-1903)
- There’s talk about **giving criminal inmates the right to vote**. It looks like the punishment could be disappearing and long-term incarceration might become a desirable career choice. There’s no employment application or interviews to determine qualifications. Just break some laws and you will be “hired.”
- “When asked to **compare George Bush 41 and Donald Trump**, I tell them: ‘sometimes you need Mother Teresa, and sometimes you need Dirty Harry.’” – Bill Bennett
- “Just because you do not take an **interest in politics** doesn’t mean politics won’t take an interest in you.” – Pericles (430 B.C.)
- Obama and Trump both exaggerated and made hyperbolic statements about their achievements. One is believed while the other is called a liar. **It’s all about “style” isn’t it?**
- “Even with Trump’s sloppiness, he’s often right. He’s a **cross between Einstein and a drunk.**” – Greg Gutfeld of Fox News Channel
- “.....the only stable state is the one in which **all men are equal before the law.**” – David Solway, in *American Thinker*, quoting Aristotle and attributing that statement as the central pillar of the Declaration of Independence.
- “**Facts** used to be facts. Now they first must pass through a filter of interpretation.” – Patriot Post
- “A government which **robs Peter to pay Paul** can always depend on the support of Paul.” – George Bernard Shaw
- “I contend that for a **nation to try to tax itself into prosperity** is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle” – Winston Churchill
- “**Democracy must be something more** than two wolves and a sheep voting on what to have for dinner.” James Bovard, Civil Libertarian (1994)
- “**A government big enough to give you everything you want**, is strong enough to take everything you have.” – commonly attributed to Thomas Jefferson, but that can’t be substantiated.

I’ve been asked if, when coming up with these tidbits of “wisdom,” do I ever repeat anything? My answer is, yes, it’s possible I could repeat something. If I read or think of something a second time, I’ll probably write it down again. I’ve considered recruiting an editor to prevent the redundancy, but I’ve concluded if I write something down more than once, it must really be important! (Or perhaps not.)