

Activism Quotes

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

—*Margaret Mead*

“Thou shalt not stand idly by.”

—*Anonymous*

“You don’t win elections on Election Day. You win them by what you do all year around, by the day-to-day goodwill you generate in each precinct.”

—*Jake Avery, Chicago political boss*

“Because it’s no longer enough to be a decent person. It’s no longer enough to shake our heads and make concerned grimaces at the news. True enlightened activism is the only thing that can save humanity from itself.”

—*Joss Whedon*

“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not.”

—*Dr. Seuss, The Lorax*

“Every moment is an organizing opportunity, every person a potential activist, every minute a chance to change the world.”

—*Dolores Huerta*

“A change is brought about because ordinary people do extraordinary things.”

—*Barack Obama*

“How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.”

—*Anne Frank*

“It had long since come to my attention that people of accomplishment rarely sat back and let things happen to them. They went out and happened to things.”

—*Leonardo da Vinci*

“You may never know what results come from your action. But if you do nothing, there will be no result.”

—*Mahatma Gandhi*

“It does not take a majority to prevail ... but rather an irate, tireless minority, keen on setting brushfires of freedom in the minds of men.”

—*Samuel Adams*

“To spend one’s life being angry, and in the process doing nothing to change it, is to me ridiculous. I could be mad all day long, but if I’m not doing a damn thing, what difference does it make?”

—*Charles Fuller*

“The tide of history only advances when people make themselves fully visible.”

—*Anderson Cooper*

“Activism begins with you, Democracy begins with you, get out there, get active! Tag, you’re it.”

—*Thom Hartmann*

“No matter that patriotism is too often the refuge of scoundrels. Dissent, rebellion, and all-around hell-raising remain the true duty of patriots.”

—*Barbara Ehrenreich*

“There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest.”

—*Elie Wiesel*

“I’m for truth, no matter who tells it. I’m for justice, no matter who it is for or against. I’m a human being, first and foremost, and as such I’m for whoever and whatever benefits humanity as a whole.”

—*Malcolm X*

“We must always take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented.”

—*Elie Wiesel*

“If you try to make the world a better place, you have already achieved something wonderful, before you even begin. Forget failure. If things don’t work out the way you want, hold your head up high and be proud. And try again. And again. And again!”

—*Sarah Dessen, Keeping the Moon*

“I will act now. I will act now. I will act now.
Henceforth, I will repeat these words each hour,
each day, everyday, until the words become as much
a habit as my breathing, and the action which
follows becomes as instinctive as the blinking of my
eyelids. With these words I can condition my mind to
perform every action necessary for my success. I will
act now. I will repeat these words again and again
and again. I will walk where failures fear to walk. I
will work when failures seek rest. I will act now for
now is all I have. Tomorrow is the day reserved for
the labor of the lazy. I am not lazy. Tomorrow is the
day when the failure will succeed. I am not a failure.
I will act now. Success will not wait. If I delay, success
will become wed to another and lost to me forever.
This is the time. This is the place. I am the person.”
—*Og Mandino*

“To really change the world, we have to help people
change the way they see things. Global betterment is
a mental process, not one that requires huge sums
of money or a high level of authority. Change has to
be psychological. So if you want to see real change,
stay persistent in educating humanity on how similar
we all are than different. Don’t only strive to be the
change you want to see in the world, but also help
all those around you see the world through
commonalities of the heart so that they would want
to change with you. This is how humanity will evolve
to become better. This is how you can change the
world. The language of the heart is mankind’s main
common language.”
—*Suzy Kassem, Rise Up and Salute the Sun: The
Writings of Suzy Kassem*