

LAW ASSIGNMENT #1

**TOPIC: VIEWS FROM THE PAST: YOU, VALUES AND THE LAW**

Values are individual or socially shared ideas about what is good, right and desirable. What values do you have concerning the law? In this assignment you will have the opportunity to identify the legal values you agree or disagree with most.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

First, read the quotations given below. Then select the **ONE** quotation that best represents your values about the law.

**TASK – WRITTEN RESPONSE**

Write a ONE PAGE paper (typewritten) on the quotation. The paper should include:

**Marks**

- 2 a) The identification of the time period (the century will do) and geographical location in which the author lived when the quotation was recorded.
- 5 b) Explain what the author meant when s/he made the statement. You may not be able to find the place in a book or document where the quotation is located. **However**, you may need to research the author's background - what s/he accomplished; what s/he stood for, etc. Having established this background, you will be able to speculate what the author would have meant when this quotation was recorded.
- 5 c) Explain why you agree or disagree (or some combination) with the value(s) expressed in the quotation.

**QUOTATIONS**

1. War has always seemed to me "the ultimate insanity." Violence and war as the maximum demonstration of man's capacity for inhumanity to man were against my religious beliefs, my sense of morality, and my common sense.  
- Dag Hammarskjöld
2. Even when laws have been written down, they ought not always remain unaltered.  
- Aristotle.
3. An unjust law is no law at all.  
- St. Augustine.
4. People crushed by law have no hopes but from power. If laws are their enemies, they will be enemies to laws; and those who have much to hope and nothing to lose will always be dangerous.  
- Thomas Hobbes.
5. Don't get the idea that I'm one of those Edmund Burke radicals. Don't get the idea that I'm knocking the American system...Capitalism...gives to each and every one of us a great opportunity, if we only seize it by both hands and make the most of it.  
- Al Capone .
6. Reporter: Mr Ghandi, what do you think of Western civilization?  
Mr. Ghandi: I think it would be a good idea.
7. The only security of all is a free press. The force of public opinion cannot be resisted, when permitted freely to be expressed. The agitation it produces must be submitted to. It is necessary to keep the waters pure.  
- Thomas Jefferson
8. From the beginning, a procession of the poor, the weak, the unfit, have gone through our jails and prisons and to their deaths. They have been the victims.  
- Clarence Darrow.
9. Internationalism does not mean the end of individual nations. Orchestras don't mean the end of violins.  
- Golda Meir
10. Bumpersticker: Join the Army; travel to exotic, distant lands; meet exciting, unusual people - and kill them.
11. We have learned that we cannot live alone, at peace; that our own well-being is dependent upon the well-being of other nations - far away.  
- Franklin Delano Roosevelt

12. The state has no business in the bedrooms of the nation.  
- Pierre E. Trudeau.
13. I knew someone had to take the first step and I made up my mind not to move.  
- Rosa Parks
14. An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth - that way everyone in the world will soon be blind and toothless.  
- "Fiddler on the Roof"
15. So whatever you wish people would do to you, do so to them; for this is the law and the prophets.  
- St. Matthew 7:12.
16. Never in the world can hatred be stilled by hatred; it will be stilled only by non-hatred - this is the law eternal.  
- Buddha
17. Your eye shall not pity; it shall be life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.  
- Moses Deuteronomy 19:21.
18. The mass of men serve the state...not as men, mainly, but as machines, with their bodies....A very few - as heroes, patriots, martyrs, reformers in the great sense, and men - serve the state with their consciences also and so necessarily resist it for the most part; and they are commonly treated as enemies by it.  
- Henry David Thoreau On Civil Disobedience (1849)
19. If the Nuremberg laws were applied, then every post-war American president would have been hanged.  
- Noam Chomsky.
20. In every case the laws are made by the ruling party in its own interest...By making these laws they define as "just" for their subjects whatever is for their own interest and they call anyone who breaks them a wrongdoer and punishes him accordingly.  
- Plato.
21. The best defence of peace is not power, but the removal of the causes of war.  
- Lester B. Pearson
22. The man who has got everything he wants is all in favour of peace and order.  
- Jawaharlal Nehru
23. It is all too easy, should a disturbance erupt, to crush them in the name of law and order. We must never forget that, in the long run, a democracy is judged by the way the majority treats the minority.  
- Pierre E. Trudeau.
24. It is more important to maintain law and order than to worry about those who tremble at the sight of an army.  
- Pierre E. Trudeau.
25. If we cannot end our differences, at least we can help make the world safe for diversity. For, in the final analysis, our most basic common link is that we all inhabit this small planet. We all breathe the same air. We all cherish our children's future. And we are all mortal.  
- John F. Kennedy
26. We know that a peaceful world cannot exist one-third rich and two-thirds hungry.  
- Jimmy Carter, 1977
27. Women constitute half of the world's population, perform nearly two-thirds of its work hours, receive one-tenth of the world's income and own less than one-hundredth of the world's property.  
- U.N. Report, 1980
28. It may be true that the law cannot make a man love me, but it can keep him from lynching me, and I think that's pretty important.  
- Martin Luther King, JR.
29. Let's open our profession to all Canadians who share a sense of vocation to the law - no matter what their sex, their colour, ethnicity or religious or sexual preference is.  
- Justice Bertha Wilson.
30. If we are to have human dignity, then we have to break the law. Jails are made for men. We might as well explore them."  
- Michel Chartrand.
31. A judge is just an ex-lawyer - and if you licked boots while you were a lawyer, you will lick boots as a judge.  
- Antonio Lamer.
32. The illegal we do immediately. The unconstitutional takes a little longer.  
-Henry Kissinger