

Thoughts on Revolution

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The French Revolution was an insurrection of mules and horses against men, conducted by apes with the throats of parrots.

~ Hippolyte-Adolph Taine (1828–1893), French writer and psychologist

Revolution may be a good deed, but it is a bad habit.

~ G.K. Chesterton (1874–1936), English critic and author

Every generation needs a new revolution.

~ Thomas Jefferson (1743–1826), 3rd U.S. president, main author of the Declaration of Independence



Jefferson

Revolution is an idea which has found its bayonets.

~ Napoleon Bonaparte (1769–1821), French General crowned Emperor following the reign of terror of the French Revolution

A revolution, in politics, is an abrupt change in the form of misgovernment... whereby the welfare and happiness of the people were advanced a full half-inch.

~ Ambrose Bierce (1842–1914), U.S. journalist, satirist, and author

Those who make peaceful revolution impossible will make violent revolution inevitable.

~ John F. Kennedy (1917–1963), 35th U.S. President, assassinated before end of his first term



Kennedy

The seed of revolution is repression.

~ Woodrow Wilson (1856–1924), 28th U.S. president

Revolutions have never lightened the burden of tyranny; they have only shifted it to another shoulder.

~ George Bernard Shaw (1856–1950), Irish comic dramatist and literary critic

Every revolution was first a thought in one man's mind.

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803–1882), American lecturer, poet, and essayist

The Internet revolution is going to be like all other revolutions in history... It's going to be over before a lot of us even know it started.

~ Adolfo Suarez, Spanish political leader, b. 1932

If by the mere force of numbers a majority should deprive a minority of any clearly written constitutional right, it might, in a moral point of view, justify revolution.

~ Abraham Lincoln (1809–1865), 16th U.S. president, who brought about the emancipation of slaves in the U.S. after a civil war



Lincoln