

14 Forceful Quotes from Teddy Roosevelt

1. "It is no use to preach to children if you do not act decently yourself."

2. "A good many of you are probably acquainted with the old proverb, 'Speak softly and carry a big stick – you will go far.' If a man continually blusters, if he lacks civility, a big stick will not save him from trouble, and neither will speaking softly avail, if back of the softness there does not lie strength, power."

3. "It is hard to fail, but it is worse never to have tried to succeed."

4. "A vote is like a rifle: its usefulness depends upon the character of the user."

5. "If we lose the virile, manly qualities, and sink into a nation of mere hucksters, putting gain over national honor, and subordinating everything to mere ease of life, then we shall indeed reach a condition worse than that of the ancient civilizations in the years of their decay."

6. "Throughout our history the success of the homemaker has been but another name for the up-building of the nation."

7. "The worst lesson that can be taught a man is to rely upon others and to whine over his sufferings."

8. "We can best get justice by doing justice."

9. "In the last analysis a healthy state can exist only when the men and women who make it up lead clean, vigorous, healthy lives."

10. "We must dare to be great; and we must realize that greatness is the fruit of toil and sacrifice and high courage."

11. "It is an excellent thing to study the history of the great deeds of the past, and of the great men who did them, with an earnest desire to profit thereby so as to render better service in the present."

12. "We need intellect, and there is no reason why we should not have it together with character; but if we must choose between the two we choose character without a moment's hesitation."

13. "Death is always and under all circumstances a tragedy, for if it is not, then it means that life itself has become one."

14. "The joy of life is won in its deepest and truest sense only by those who have not shirked life's burdens."