

**If you are not prepared to use force to defend civilization, then be prepared to accept barbarism.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**It takes considerable knowledge just to realize the extent of your own ignorance.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**If you have always believed that everyone should play by the same rules and be judged by the same standards, that would have gotten you labeled a radical 60 years ago, a liberal 30 years ago and a racist today.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**The first lesson of economics is scarcity: there is never enough of anything to fully satisfy all those who want it. The first lesson of politics is to disregard the first lesson of economics.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**The next time some academics tell you how important diversity is, ask how many Republicans there are in their sociology department.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**The real goal should be reduced government spending, rather than balanced budgets achieved by ever rising tax rates to cover ever rising spending.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**The word 'racism' is like ketchup. It can be put on practically anything - and demanding evidence makes you a 'racist.'**

**Thomas Sowell**

**Freedom has cost too much blood and agony to be relinquished at the cheap price of rhetoric.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**Life in general has never been even close to fair, so the pretense that the government can make it fair is a valuable and inexhaustible asset to politicians who want to expand government.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**It is hard to imagine a more stupid or more dangerous way of making decisions than by putting those decisions in the hands of people who pay no price for being wrong.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**Socialism in general has a record of failure so blatant that only an intellectual could ignore or evade it.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**What is ominous is the ease with which some people go from saying that they don't like something to saying that the government should forbid it. When you go down that road, don't expect freedom to survive very long.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**The problem isn't that Johnny can't read. The problem isn't even that Johnny can't think. The problem is that Johnny doesn't know what thinking is; he confuses it with feeling.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**The march of science and technology does not imply growing intellectual complexity in the lives of most people. It often means the opposite.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**Each new generation born is in effect an invasion of civilization by little barbarians, who must be civilized before it is too late.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**It is amazing that people who think we cannot afford to pay for doctors, hospitals, and medication somehow think that we can afford to pay for doctors, hospitals, medication and a government bureaucracy to administer it.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**One of the common failings among honorable people is a failure to appreciate how thoroughly dishonorable some other people can be, and how dangerous it is to trust them.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**If people in the media cannot decide whether they are in the business of reporting news or manufacturing propaganda, it is all the more important that the public understand that difference, and choose their news sources accordingly.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**Much of the social history of the Western world, over the past three decades, has been a history of replacing what worked with what sounded good.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**Liberals seem to assume that, if you don't believe in their particular political solutions, then you don't really care about the people that they claim to want to help.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**The most fundamental fact about the ideas of the political left is that they do not work. Therefore we should not be surprised to find the left concentrated in institutions where ideas do not have to work in order to survive.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**As for gun control advocates, I have no hope whatever that any facts whatever will make the slightest dent in their thinking - or lack of thinking.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**In liberal logic, if life is unfair then the answer is to turn more tax money over to politicians, to spend in ways that will increase their chances of getting reelected.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**Liberalism is totalitarianism with a human face.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**Would you bet your paycheck on a weather forecast for tomorrow? If not, then why should this country bet billions on global warming predictions that have even less foundation?**

**Thomas Sowell**

**The people made worse off by slavery were those who were enslaved. Their descendants would have been worse off today if born in Africa instead of America. Put differently, the terrible fate of their ancestors benefitted them.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**Do countries with strong gun control laws have lower murder rates? Only if you cherry-pick the data.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**If the battle for civilization comes down to the wimps versus the barbarians, the barbarians are going to win.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**People who identify themselves as conservatives donate money to charity more often than people who identify themselves as liberals. They donate more money and a higher percentage of their incomes.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**Although the big word on the left is 'compassion,' the big agenda on the left is dependency.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**The more people who are dependent on government handouts, the more votes the left can depend on for an ever-expanding welfare state.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**Being willing to donate the taxpayers' money is not the same as being willing to put your own money where your mouth is.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**Even the Soviet Union, with its huge nuclear arsenal, was a threat that could be deterred by the prospect of retaliation. But suicide bombers cannot be deterred. They can only be annihilated - preemptively and unilaterally, if necessary.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**Without a moral framework, there is nothing left but immediate self-indulgence by some and the path of least resistance by others. Neither can sustain a free society.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**The old adage about giving a man a fish versus teaching him how to fish has been updated by a reader: Give a man a fish and he will ask for tartar sauce and French fries! Moreover, some politician who wants his vote will declare all these things to be among his 'basic rights.'**

**Thomas Sowell**

**Even if the government spends itself into bankruptcy and the economy still does not recover, Keynesians can always say that it would have worked if only the government had spent more.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**Creating whole departments of ethnic, gender, and other 'studies' was part of the price of academic peace. All too often, these 'studies' are about propaganda rather than serious education.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**In various countries and times, leaders of groups that lagged behind, economically and educationally, have taught their followers to blame all their problems on other people - and to hate those other people.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**The black family survived centuries of slavery and generations of Jim Crow, but it has disintegrated in the wake of the liberals' expansion of the welfare state.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**The time is long overdue to stop looking for progress through racial or ethnic leaders. Such leaders have too many incentives to promote polarizing attitudes and actions that are counterproductive for minorities and disastrous for the country.**

**Thomas Sowell**