

2021 PODCAST CONTEST QUOTES & EXAMPLES

RULE OF LAW QUOTES

- “The closer we get to mass incarceration and extreme levels of punishment, the more I believe it’s necessary to recognize that we all need mercy, we all need justice, and — perhaps — we all need some measure of unmerited grace.” Bryan Stevenson, *Just Mercy*
- “One has not only a legal, but a moral responsibility to obey just laws. Conversely, one has a moral responsibility to disobey unjust laws.” Martin Luther King, Jr. Letter from a Birmingham Jail
- “If we are a society committed to the concept of equal justice under the law for every individual, then it must apply for every citizen, and cannot be reserved for just some citizens.” Congressman John Lewis
- “The bedrock of our democracy is the rule of law and that means we have to have an independent judiciary, judges who can make decisions independent of the political winds that are blowing.” Caroline Kennedy
- “I firmly believe in the rule of law as the foundation for all of our basic rights.” Sonia Sotomayor
- “Commitment to the rule of law provides a basic assurance that people can know what to expect whether what they do is popular or unpopular at the time.” Sandra Day O’Connor
- “The legal system we have and the rule of law are far more responsible for our traditional liberties than any system of one man one vote. Any country or Government which wants to proceed towards tyranny starts to undermine legal rights and undermine the law.” Margaret Thatcher
- “The United States is subject to the scrutiny of a candid world. What the United States does, for good or for ill, continues to be watched by the international community, in particular by organizations concerned with the advancement of the rule of law and respect for human dignity.” Ruth Bader Ginsburg
- “The purpose of law is not to abolish or restrain, but to preserve and enlarge freedom. Where there is no law there is no freedom.” John Locke
- “A government that relies upon the “rule of law” is like a stubborn, stupid person who refuses to allow the slightest deviation from or questioning of his own rules, even if the situation has in fact changed and it turns out to be better for someone to contravene these rules.” - Plato
- “Two things form the bedrock of any open society — freedom of expression and rule of law. If you don’t have those things, you don’t have a free country.” Salman Rushdie
- “Your right to swing your fist stops just short of my nose. And that’s what the rule of law is meant to do, is to find that boundary.” – Hon. Duane Benton, Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals

POSSIBLE TOPICS TO EXPLORE

- Creating Safer Communities
- Voting Rights
- First Amendment Rights
- Climate Justice
- Second Amendment Rights
- Prison Reforms
- Access to Courts
- Economic Justice
- Immigrant Rights
- Expanding the Courts