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Quotes by Bloom, Allan

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Allan David Bloom (born September 14, 1930 in Indianapolis, Indiana, died October 7, 1992 in Chicago, Illinois) was an American philosopher, public intellectual, neoconservative and academic. Bloom championed the idea of 'Great Books' education, as did his mentor Leo Strauss, and became famous for criticism of contemporary American higher education in his bestselling 1987 book, *The Closing of the American Mind*.

The liberally educated person is one who is able to resist the easy and preferred answers, not because he is obstinate but because he knows others worthy of consideration.

- Bloom, Allan

Education in our times must try to find whatever there is in students that might yearn for completion, and to reconstruct the learning that would enable them autonomously to seek that completion.

- Bloom, Allan

The spirit is at home, if not entirely satisfied, in America.

- Bloom, Allan

Fathers and mothers have lost the idea that the highest aspiration they might have for their children is for them to be wise... specialized competence and success are all that

they can imagine.

- Bloom, Allan

Reason transformed into prejudice is the worst form of prejudice, because reason is the only instrument for liberation from prejudice.

- Bloom, Allan

The failure to read good books both enfeebles the vision and strengthens our most fatal tendency --the belief that the here and now is all there is.

- Bloom, Allan

There is no real teacher who in practice does not believe in the existence of the soul, or in a magic that acts on it through speech.

- Bloom, Allan

As soon as tradition has come to be recognized as tradition, it is dead.

- Bloom, Allan

The most important function of the university in an age of reason is to protect reason from itself.

- Bloom, Allan

We are like ignorant shepherds living on a site where great civilizations once flourished.

The shepherds play with the fragments that pop up to the surface, having no notion of the beautiful structures of which they were once a part.

- Bloom, Allan



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