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Quotes about Force

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The great questions of the day will not be settled by means of speeches and majority decisions but by iron and blood.

- Bismarck, Otto Von

Force is not a remedy.

- Bright, John

The use of force alone is but temporary. It may subdue for a moment; but it does not remove the necessity of subduing again: and a nation is not governed, which is perpetually to be conquered.

- Burke, Edmund

Force is legitimate where gentleness avails not.

- Corneille, Pierre

The direct use of force is such a poor solution to any problem, it is generally employed only by small children and large nations.

- Friedman, David

Civilization is nothing more than the effort to reduce the use of force to the last resort.

- Gasset, Jose Ortega Y

Why slap them on the wrist with feather when you can belt them over the head with a sledgehammer.

- Hepburn, Katharine

Coercion may prevent many transgressions; but it robs even actions which are legal of a part of their beauty. Freedom may lead to many transgressions, but it lends even to vices a less ignoble form.

- Humboldt, Karl Wilhelm Von

Force works on servile natures, not the free.

- Johnson, Ben

Be careful: they have arms, and no alternatives.

- Kapuscinski, Ryszard

Some people draw a comforting distinction between force and violence. I refuse to cloud the issue by such word-play. The power which establishes a state is violence; the power which maintains it is violence; the power which eventually overthrows it is violence. Call an elephant a rabbit only if it gives you comfort to feel that you are about to be trampled to death by a rabbit.

- Kaunda, Kenneth

Whatever needs to be maintained through force is doomed.

- Miller, Henry

Force without forecast is to little avail.

- Proverb

Force is that which rules the actions without regulating the will.

- Saying

Where force is necessary, there it must be applied boldly, decisively and completely. But one must know the limitations of force; one must know when to blend force with a maneuver, a blow with an agreement.

- Trotsky, Leon

Not believing in force is the same as not believing in gravitation.

- Trotsky, Leon

A man convinced against his will; is of the same opinion still.

- Unknown, Source

Force is as pitiless to the man who possesses it, or thinks he does, as it is to its victims; the second it crushes, the first it intoxicates. The truth is, nobody really possesses it.

- Weil, Simone

Who were the fools who spread the story that brute force cannot kill ideas? Nothing is easier. And once they are dead they are no more than corpses.

- Weil, Simone



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