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# Quotes about Mothers

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Where there is a mother in the home, matters go well.

- Alcott, Amos Bronson

What do girls do who haven't any mothers to help them through their troubles?

- Alcott, Louisa May

A mother who is really a mother is never free.

- Balzac, Honore De

The mother's heart is the child's schoolroom.

- Beecher, Henry Ward

The best thing that could happen to motherhood already has. Fewer women are going into it.

- Billings, Victoria

When a woman is twenty, a child deforms her; when she is thirty, he preserves her; and when forty, he makes her young again.

- Blum, Leon

Let France have good mothers, and she will have good sons.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Women know the way to rear up children (to be just). They know a simple, merry, tender knack of tying sashes, fitting baby-shoes, and stringing pretty words that make no sense. And kissing full sense into empty words.

- Browning, Elizabeth Barrett

Some are kissing mothers and some are scolding mothers, but it is love just the same -- and most mothers kiss and scold together.

- Buck, Pearl S.

There are lots of things that you can brush under the carpet about yourself until you're faced with somebody whose needs won't be put off.

- Carter, Angela

The kind of power mothers have is enormous. Take the skyline of Istanbul -- enormous breasts, pathetic little willies, a final revenge on Islam. I was so scared I had to crouch in the bottom of the boat when I saw it.

- Carter, Angela

Nobody can misunderstand a boy like his own mother. Mothers at present can bring

children into the world, but this performance is apt to mark the end of their capacities.

They can't even attend to the elementary animal requirements of their offspring. It is quite surprising how many children survive in spite of their mothers.

- Douglas, Norman

I believe that always, or almost always, in all childhood and in all the lives that follow them, the mother represents madness. Our mothers always remain the strangest, craziest people we've ever met.

- Duras, Marguerite

For that's what a woman, a mother wants -- to teach her children to take an interest in life. She knows it's safer for them to be interested in other people's happiness than to believe in their own.

- Duras, Marguerite

The fact that we are all trained to be mothers from infancy on means that we are all trained to devote our lives to men, whether they are our sons or not; that we are all trained to force other women to exemplify the lack of qualities which characterizes the cultural construct of femininity.

- Dworkin, Andrea

No culture on earth outside of mid-century suburban America has ever deployed one woman per child without simultaneously assigning her such major productive activities as weaving, farming, gathering, temple maintenance, and tent-building. The reason is that

full-time, one-on-one child-raising is not good for women or children.

- Ehrenreich, Barbara

Take motherhood: nobody ever thought of putting it on a moral pedestal until some brash feminists pointed out, about a century ago, that the pay is lousy and the career ladder nonexistent.

- Ehrenreich, Barbara

A mother's yearning feels the presence of the cherished child even in the degraded man.

- Eliot, George

But the mother's yearning, that completest type of the life in another life which is the essence of real human love, feels the presence of the cherished child even in the debased, degraded man.

- Eliot, George

The lullaby is the spell whereby the mother attempts to transform herself back from an ogre to a saint.

- Fenton, James

The mother as a social servant instead of a home servant will not lack in true mother duty. From her work, loved and honored though it is, she will return to her home life, the child life, with an eager, ceaseless pleasure, cleansed of all the fret and fraction and weariness that so mar it now.

- Gillman, Charlotte P.

Morality and its victim, the mother -- what a terrible picture! Is there indeed anything more terrible, more criminal, than our glorified sacred function of motherhood?

- Goldman, Emma

All that remains to the mother in modern consumer society is the role of scapegoat; psychoanalysis uses huge amounts of money and time to persuade analysis and to foist their problems on to the absent mother, who has no opportunity to utter a word in her own defense. Hostility to the mother in our societies is an index of mental health.

- Greer, Germaine

A man never sees all that his mother has been to him until it's too late to let her know he sees it.

- Howells, William Dean

Whatever else is unsure in this stinking dunghill of a world a mother's love is not.

- Joyce, James

The watchful mother tarries nigh, though sleep has closed her infants eyes.

- Keble, John

Of all the rights of women, the greatest is to be a mother.

- Lin Yu-tang

Few misfortunes can befall a boy which bring worse consequences than to have a really affectionate mother.

- Maugham, W. Somerset

The Enemy, who wears her mother's usual face and confidential tone, has access; doubtless stares into her writing case and listens on the phone.

- Mcginley, Phyllis

Anyone who doesn't miss the past never had a mother.

- Nunn, Gregory

Clearly, society has a tremendous stake in insisting on a woman's natural fitness for the career of mother: the alternatives are all too expensive.

- Oakley, Ann

Every man must define his identity against his mother. If he does not, he just falls back into her and is swallowed up.

- Paglia, Camille

A mother's heart is always with her children.

- Proverb

He that would the daughter win must with the mother first begin.

- Proverb, English

A mother understands what a child does not say.

- Proverb, Jewish

God couldn't be everywhere, so he created mothers

- Proverb, Jewish

A busy mother makes slothful daughters.

- Proverb, Portuguese

An ounce of mother is worth a pound of clergy.

- Proverb, Spanish

Maternity is on the face of it an unsociable experience. The selfishness that a woman has learned to stifle or to dissemble where she alone is concerned, blooms freely and unashamed on behalf of her offspring.

- Putnam, Emily James

The worker can unionize, go out on strike; mothers are divided from each other in homes, tied to their children by compassionate bonds; our wildcat strikes have most often taken

the form of physical or mental breakdown.

- Rich, Adrienne

As her sons have seen her: the mother in patriarchy: controlling, erotic, castrating, heart-suffering, guilt-ridden, and guilt-provoking; a marble brow, a huge breast, an avid cave; between her legs snakes, swamp-grass, or teeth; on her lap a helpless infant or a martyred son. She exists for one purpose: to bear and nourish the son.

- Rich, Adrienne

Biological possibility and desire are not the same as biological need. Women have childbearing equipment. For them to choose not to use the equipment is no more blocking what is instinctive than it is for a man who, muscles or no, chooses not to be a weightlifter.

- Rollin, Betty

Only in America do these peasants, our mothers, get their hair dyed platinum at the age of sixty, and walk up and down Collins Avenue in Florida in pedal pushers and mink stoles -- and with opinions on every subject under the sun. It isn't their fault they were given a gift like speech -- look, if cows could talk, they would say things just as idiotic.

- Roth, Philip

God could not be everywhere, and therefore He made mothers.

- Saying, Jewish

There was never a great man who had not a great mother.

- Schreiner, Olive

Mothers are the most instinctive philosophers.

- Stowe, Harriet Beecher

My mother had a great deal of trouble with me, but I think she enjoyed it.

- Twain, Mark

A Freudian slip is when you say one thing but mean your mother.

- Unknown, Source

Men never think, at least seldom think, what a hard task it is for us women to go through this very often. God's will be done, and if He decrees that we are to have a great number of children why we must try to bring them up as useful and exemplary members of society.

- Victoria, Queen

How simple a thing it seems to me that to know ourselves as we are, we must know our mothers names.

- Walker, Alice

My mother was the most beautiful woman I ever saw. All I am I owe to my mother. I attribute all my success in life to the moral, intellectual and physical education I received

from her.

- Washington, George

Young women especially have something invested in being nice people, and it's only when you have children that you realize you're not a nice person at all, but generally a selfish bully.

- Weldon, Fay

Motherhood is the strangest thing, it can be like being one's own Trojan horse.

- West, Rebecca

Lord Illingworth: All women become like their mothers. That is their tragedy. Mrs. Allonby:

No man does. That is his.

- Wilde, Oscar





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