**Opinions**

**One ailment that antibiotics will never stamp out is premature formation of opinion. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**None of us can keep another from having a bad opinion of us, but we can make sure it isn't true. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Opinions are based on personalities of the past and are not me. *(Rev. Anne Kunath)***

**Opinions should be formed with great caution – and changed with greater. *(Josh Billings)***

**The man who never alters his opinion is like standing water, and breeds reptiles of the mind. *(William Blake)***

**Everyone is entitled to my opinion. *(David Brinkley, newscaster)***

**Citizen to polltaker: "When I have an opinion, you'll see it on my bumper sticker." *(John Stees, United Feature Syndicate)***

The history of the world is the record of the weakness, frailty, and death of public opinion. *(Samuel Butler)*

**Every new opinion, at its starting, is precisely in a minority of one. *(Thomas Carlyle)***

**There’s a difference between opinion and conviction. My opinion is something that is true for me personally; my conviction is something that is true for everybody – in my opinion. *(Sylvia Cordwood)***

**If in the last few years you haven't discarded a major opinion or acquired a new one, check your pulse. You may be dead. *(Gelett Burgess)***

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**People seem not to see that their opinion of the world is also a confession of character. We can only see what we are, and if we misbehave we suspect others. *(Ralph Waldo Emerson)***

**Let me never fall into the vulgar mistake of dreaming that I am persecuted whenever I am contradicted. *(Ralph Waldo Emerson)***

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**I will look at any additional evidence to confirm the opinion to which I have already come. *(Hugh Molson, British politician)***

**You can’t always go by expert opinion. A turkey, if you ask a turkey, should be stuffed with grasshoppers, grit and worms. *(Changing Times, The Kiplinger Magazine)***

**Dogbert: “From now on, I’m going to charge anybody who gives me their opinion. People are idiots. If I have to listen to their opinions, I deserve compensation.” Dilbert: “You’re forgetting that “from the mouth of babes . . . comes . . . something good.” Dogbert: “That’ll cost you a buck.” *(Scott Adams, in The Dilbert Zone comic strip)***

**The fewer the facts, the stronger the opinion. *(Arnold H. Glasow)***

**If you must tell me your opinions, tell me what you believe in. I have plenty of doubts of my own. (Goethe)**

**Held in Highest Esteem: Cousin Hannah was living through one of those winters when every known calamity descends on a family. She was a buoyant soul, but when her mother broke her hip, Hannah expressed her bitterness in a manner that has since become a family legend. She said: “I know the Lord won’t send me more trouble than I have strength to bear, but I do wish He didn’t have quite such a good opinion of me!” *(World Religious News, as it appeared in Guideposts magazine, July, 1993)***

**The hardest thing to keep to yourself is an opinion. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Having a million opinions about everything comes cheap and easy, whereas actually doing something can cost you quite a lot. *(Gary Indiana, writer)***

**A study of the history of opinion is a necessary preliminary to the emancipation of the mind. *(John Maynard Keynes)***

**The legendary Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., wrote his opinions standing beside a special high desk. “Mr. Justice, why do you write your opinions standing up?” a new assistant asked him one day. “It’s very simple,” said the famed jurist, “If I sit down, I write a long opinion and don’t come to the point as quickly as I could. If I stand up, I write as long as my knees hold out. When my knees give out, I know it’s time to stop.” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**It is the man who does not want to express an opinion whose opinion I want. *(Abraham Lincoln)***

**New opinions are always suspected, and usually opposed, without any other reason but because they are not already common. *(John Locke, English philosopher)***

**If the major thing in your life is what people who don't know you think, then you're living your life wrong. *(Nigella Lawson)***

**Do not think of knocking out another person's brains because he differs in opinion from you. It would be as rational to knock yourself on the head because you differ from yourself 10 years ago. *(Horace Mann)***

**A point of view can be a dangerous luxury when substituted for insight and understanding. *(Marshall McLuhan, philosopher)***

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**If all mankind minus one, were of one opinion, and only one person were of the contrary opinion, mankind would be no more justified in silencing that one person, than he, if he had the power, would be justified in silencing mankind. *(John Stuart Mill, English philosopher)***

**The usefulness of an opinion is itself a matter of opinion: as disputable, as open to discussion, and requiring discussion as much, as the opinion itself. *(John Stuart Mill)***

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**The surest way to corrupt a youth is to instruct him to hold in higher esteem those who think alike than those who think differently. *(Friedrich Nietzsche)***

**Pity the people who have no opinion -- for they shall go through life without a bumper sticker. *(Gil Stern, in The Wall Street Journal)***

**Our opinion of people depends less upon what we see in them than upon what they make us see in ourselves. *(Sarah Grand)***

**Every revolutionary opinion draws part of its strength from a secret conviction that nothing can be changed. *(George Orwell)***

**Opinion polls are now so popular that there are more people asking questions than answering them. *(Earl Wilson, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Nothing is more unjust or capricious than public opinion. *(William Hazlitt)***

**Refusing to have an opinion is a way of having one, isn’t it? *(Luigi Pirandello, in Each in His Own Way)***

**Jeremy: "Mom, can you show me how to make your famous Rice Krispie treats?" Mom: "Sure, Jeremy! I've been making these since you were a baby." Jeremy: "You're the expert!" Mom: "The first step is." Jeremy: "That's not how I would do it." *(Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman, in Zits comic strip)***

***A* baby is God’s opinion that life should go on. *(Carl Sandburg)***

**I think the greatest satisfaction one gets is derived from the opinion that people have about you -- people who have been around you your whole life -- as to your character and your compassion and your fairness, and the way you deal with people, and the way you do your job and whether you have tried to sacrifice other people for your personal benefit. In the Navy, we call it service reputation, and I think that's the most important thing. *(B. Griessman, in The Achievement Factors)***

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**Doctor: “That’s my diagnosis, but perhaps you’d like a second opinion.” Hagar: “Yes, I believe I would, doctor.” Doctor: “Nurse, come in here and tell this gentleman he has to lose fifty pounds.” *(Dik Browne, in Hagar the Horrible comic strip)***

**Son: “I don’t think I should go back to school today.” Mom: “I called the doctor, and he said you’re no longer contagious.” Son: “I would like a second opinion.” Mom: “Okay, I don’t think you’re contagious anymore, either.” *(Jerry Bittle, in Shirley & Son comic strip)***

**Few things are more upsetting than getting a second opinion that you like less than the first. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Doctor to patient: "If you'd like a second opinion, come back and see me tomorrow." *(Spencer, in Punch, England)***

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**It had been a rather stormy board meeting and some very harsh things had been said. One man – always respected and unusually wise in his judgments – had said nothing throughout the proceedings. Suddenly one of the leaders in the argument turned to him: “You have not said a word. I am sure we would all like to hear your opinion about this matter. “I have discovered,” replied the man, “that there are many times when silence is an opinion.” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**The Spanish say, “Every man’s a fool, in some other man’s opinion.” *(L. M. Boyd)***

**If you must take care that your opinions do not differ in the least from those of the person with whom you are talking, you might just as well be alone. *(Yoshida Kenko, Japanese poet)***

**We tolerate differences of opinion in people who are familiar to us. But differences of opinion in people we do not know sound like heresy or plots. *(Brooks Atkinson)***

**The trick is to hold opinions without letting opinions hold you. *(Don Fraser, in Denton, Texas, Record-Chronicle)***

**Why not upset the apple cart? If you don't, the apples will rot anyway. *(Frank A. Clark, in Reader's Digest)***

**When she wants his opinion, she gives it to him. *(Bob Goddard, in St. Louis Globe-Democrat)***

**You will become way less concerned with what other people think of you when you realize how seldom they do. *(David Foster Wallace)***

**As the pastor of a conservative small-town congregation, I was somewhat reluctant to wear the white suit that had been given to me by a friend. But it was a perfect it, and quite handsome, so one Sunday I decided to take the plunge. I dressed carefully, then asked my wife for her opinion. "Well," she said. "It depends. Are you going to preach? Or sell chicken?" *(Edward R. Goddard, in Reader's Digest)***

**It is only about things that do not interest one that one can give a really unbiased opinion, which is no doubt the reason why an unbiased opinion is always valueless. *(Oscar Wilde)***

**Without data you are another person with an opinion. *(Edwards Deming, management guru)***

**Sign in an executive’s office: “What I am about to say represents one four-billionths of the world’s opinion.” *(Jack Williams, in Phoenix Gazette)***

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