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Quotable

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QUOTABLE



Q: THERE HAS BEEN A LOT OF DEBATE IN HIGHER EDUCATION RECENTLY ABOUT THE RIGHT TO FREE SPEECH VERSUS THE RIGHT NOT TO BE INSULTED BY SPEECH DEEMED OFFENSIVE. WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Read more Quotables in Class Notes, starting on page 54.

“FREEDOM OF SPEECH IS A RIGHT, BUT DON'T EXPECT TO BE LISTENED TO IF EVERYTHING THAT PROCEEDS FROM THE MOUTH IS PATENTLY OFFENSIVE AND/OR POORLY INFORMED.”

—Ryan Matthews

“No one has the right not to be offended. Offense is taken, not given. People are free to say what they will and then they accept the consequences for their speech, both good and bad. Colleges and universities are the places for the free exchange of ideas, even bad ideas.”

—Tom Gilleran

“ANYONE CAN BE OFFENDED BY ANYTHING NOWADAYS AND IT IS ACCEPTED AS A MEANS TO MAKE OTHER OPINIONS MUTE. IT'S NOT RIGHT.”

—Kimbell Duckworth Ahlstrand

“If we can't explore openly in our schools, respecting the views and opinions of all...where can we gain understanding? Where will we be able to challenge our assumptions and push the boundaries of knowledge? How will we gain an appreciation of when tolerance and forbearance should prevail in the face of dissension and obstinacy?”

—Bonnie Ansley Hacking

“I don't think we students do or should have a right not to be offended. We came here to learn, not to be coddled. That's not to say there isn't a difference between conflicting ideas and bigoted harassment, but I would prefer an honest environment to a censored one.”

—hcox755

“BEFORE ONE TAKES OFFENSE, ONE OUGHT TO EXAMINE THE GIVEN STATEMENT TO DETERMINE IF OFFENSE WAS TRULY INTENDED OR NOT. INTENTIONS MATTER.”

—Greg Robertson

“Furman is a safe place to ask unsafe questions. One of the most important marks of maturity is being able to have a discussion with someone who believes something totally different, without being fearful or threatened. Furman taught me how to do that, and I'm proud it will continue to do so.”

—darseyland

“FREEDOM OF SPEECH IS DESIGNED TO PROTECT OFFENSIVE SPEECH. INOFFENSIVE SPEECH NEEDS NO SUCH PROTECTION.”

—James Pulley

“ELEANOR ROOSEVELT ONCE SAID, 'NO ONE CAN MAKE YOU FEEL INFERIOR WITHOUT YOUR CONSENT.' IF I SPEND ALL MY TIME BEING OFFENDED, I'M TOO BUSY TO ACTUALLY LISTEN TO WHAT'S BEING SAID AND ENGAGE IN A MEANINGFUL DIALOGUE.”

—Christy Allen

“This is a poorly phrased question. Of course free speech is essential and no one has the right not to be offended. It is simply that when a school promises to provide an inclusive environment that does not discriminate, it should provide that.”

—Rahul Isaac

“LIBERALS ARE ALL ABOUT FREE SPEECH...UNTIL THAT FREE SPEECH IS A CONSERVATIVE VOICE!”

—Russell Mauldin

“One day a person might offend you with his words, so you may seek to have him silenced. The next day maybe your words offend him; then what? Shall we all be silenced? Is it not possible to disagree anymore?”

—Mary Daly

“VERY GLAD MY ALMA MATER ASKED THIS QUESTION.”

—Charles Jackson