

"The weapons with which the bourgeoisie conquered feudalism are now turned against the bourgeoisie itself.

But the bourgeoisie has not only forged the weapons that bring death to itself; it has also produced the men who will wield these weapons - the modern workers, the PROLETARIANS."

-The Manifesto of the Communist Party
Karl Marx and Frederick Engels
1848

"The tocsin we are about to ring is not an alarm signal; it sounds the charge on the enemies of our country. To conquer them we must dare, dare again, always dare, and France is saved!"

-Dare, Dare Again, Always Dare
Georges Jacques Danton
September 2, 1792

"This is no simple reform. It really is a revolution. Sex and race because they are easy and visible differences have been the primary ways of organizing human beings into superior and inferior groups and into the cheap labor in which this system still depends. We are talking about a society in which there will be no roles other than those chosen or those earned."

-Address to Women of America
Gloria Steinem
1971

"The question is not whether we will be extremist but what kind of extremist will we be."

-Excerpt from a Letter from Birmingham Jail
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
April 16, 1963

"The French Revolution is but the precursor of another revolution, far greater, far more solemn, which will be the last.

The people marched over the corpses of the kings and priests who banded against them. They will do the same to the new tyrants and new political Tartuffes who sit in the seats of the others."

-Manifesto of the Equals
Pierre-Sylvain Marechal
April 1796

"Hurry, Hurry, before it's too late, else soon numerous legions of the enemy will be upon you; soon you will see the privileged class rising again, and despotism, frightful despotism will come to life more terribly than ever before...they will murder you without compassion, they will rip open the bellies of your wives, and in order to choke within you love and liberty, their bloody hands will explore the entrails of your children to find their hearts."

-Are We Undone
Jean Paul Marat
July 26, 1790

"Our efforts will determine the day when our great motherland will emerge from darkness into light and our beloved fellow-countrymen will be able to live like human beings and to choose the government they wish. All officers and fighters of our army must improve their military art, march forward courageously towards certain victory in the war and resolutely, thoroughly, wholly and completely wipe out all enemies...

Down with Chiang Kai-shek!

Long live New China!"

-Manifesto of the Chinese People's Liberation Army

Mao Zedong

October 10, 1947

"The white man knows what a revolution is. He knows that the Black Revolution is worldwide in scope and in nature. The Black Revolution is sweeping Asia, is sweeping Africa, is rearing its head in Latin America. The Cuban Revolution - that's a revolution. They overturned the system. Revolution is in Asia, revolution is in Africa, and the white man is screaming because he sees revolution in Latin America. How do you think he'll react to you when you learn what a real revolution is?"

- *The Black Revolution*
Malcolm X
June 1963

"The war is laying bare all the weak spots of the government, the war is tearing off all false disguises, the war is revealing all the inner rottenness; the war is making the preposterousness of the tsarist autocracy obvious to all and is showing everyone the death-agony of the old Russia, the Russia where the people are disfranchised, ignorant and cowed, the Russia that is still in serf bondage to the political government.

The old Russia is dying. A free Russia is coming to take its place. The dark forces that guarded the tsarist autocracy are going under."

-May Day
Vladimir Ilyich Lenin
April 15, 1904

"We ain't gonna fight no reactionary pigs who run up and down the street being reactionary; we're gonna organize and dedicate ourselves to revolutionary political power and teach ourselves the specific needs of resisting the power structure, arm ourselves, and we're gonna fight reactionary pigs with INTERNATIONAL PROLETARIAN REVOLUTION. That's what it has to be. The people have to have the power: it belongs to the people."

*-Excerpt from
Power Anywhere Where There's People
Fred Hampton
Olivet Church, 1969*

"Emancipation should make it possible for woman to be human in the truest sense. Everything in her that craves assertion and activity should reach its fullest expression; all artificial barriers should be broken, and the road toward greater freedom cleared of every trace of centuries of submission and slavery."

-*The Tragedy of Women's Emancipation*
Emma Goldman
1910

"What to the American slave is your Fourth of July? I answer, a day that reveals to him more than all other days of the year, the gross injustice and cruelty to which he is the constant victim. To him your celebration is a sham; your boasted liberty an unholy license; your national greatness, swelling vanity; your sounds of rejoicing are empty and heartless; your shouts of liberty and equality, hollow mock; your prayers and hymns, your sermons and thanksgivings, with all your religious parade and solemnity, are to him mere bombast, fraud, deception, impiety, and hypocrisy - a thin veil to cover up crimes which would disgrace a nation of savages. There is not a nation of the earth guilty of practices more shocking and bloody than are the people of these United States at this very hour."

-Hypocrisy of American Slavery

Fredrick Douglas

July 4, 1852

Rochester, New York

"Your houses they pull down, stand up now,
stand up now,

Your houses they pull down, stand up now.

Your houses they pull down to fight
poor men in town,

But the gentry must come down, and
the poor shall wear the crown.

Stand up now, Diggers all."

-Levellers and Diggers Song
Protest Ballad
England, 17th century

"But when a long train of abuses and usurptions, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government and to provide new Guards for their future security."

-Declaration of Independence
Representatives of the United States of America
July 4, 1776

"And that wave of heightening fury, of just demands, of rights that have been flouted, is rising throughout Latin America, and no one can stem that tide; it will grow day by day because it is made up of the great multitude in every respect, those with their work create the riches of the earth, and turn the wheel of history, those who are now awakening from their long, stupefying sleep.

For this great humanity says 'enough' and has started to move forward. And their march, the march of giants, cannot stop, will not stop until they have conquered their true independence, for which many have already died, and not uselessly."

-Colonialism is Doomed

A speech before the General Assembly of the United Nations

Che Guevara

December 11, 1964

"Our opponents must understand that it's not just a union we have built. Unions, like other institutions, can come and go. But we're more than an institution. For nearly 20 years, our union has been on the cutting edge of a people's cause-- and you cannot do away with an entire people; you cannot stamp out a people's cause."

-Address to the Commonwealth Club of California
Cesar Chavez
San Francisco, November 9, 1984

"I believe that to have interfered as I have done as I have always freely admitted I have done in behalf of His despised poor, was not wrong, but right. Now, if it is deemed necessary that I should forfeit my life for the furtherance of the ends of justice, and mingle my blood further with the blood of my children and with the blood of millions in this slave country whose rights are disregarded by wicked, cruel, and unjust enactments, I submit; so let it be done."

-Excerpt from a speech given after his conviction
Virginia Vs. John Brown
John Brown
November 2, 1859

" [Black Hawk] has fought for his countrymen, the squaws and papooses, against white men, who came year after year, to cheat them and take away their lands. You know the cause of our making war. It is known to all white men. They ought to be ashamed of it."

-From a speech at his surrender following the Black Hawk War
Black Hawk (Chief, Sauk People)
1832

"The system concedes nothing without demand, for it formulates its very method of operation on the basis that the ignorant will learn to know, the child will grow into an adult and therefore demands will begin to be made."

-Steven Biko
South Africa, 1977