

Selected Quotes from Frank Zappa (1940 - 1993)

- I have four children, and I want them to grow up in a country that has a working first amendment.

September 18, 1985: Appearance on CBS Morning News

- After all, he [God] wrote this book here, and in the book it says he made us all to be just like him! So if we're dumb, then God is dumb - and maybe even a little ugly on the side.
- Remember there's a big difference between kneeling down and bending over.
- Beauty is a pair of shoes that makes you wanna die.

1981: Lyrics to the song Dumb All Over on the album *You Are What You Is*.

- It isn't necessary to imagine the world ending in fire or ice – there are two other possibilities: one is paperwork, and the other is nostalgia.
- Some scientists claim that hydrogen, because it is so plentiful, is the basic building block of the universe. I dispute that. I say there is more stupidity than hydrogen, and that is the basic building block of the universe.
- If you wind up with a boring, miserable life because you listened to your mom, your dad, your teacher, your priest or some guy on TV telling you how to do your shit, then YOU DESERVE IT.

1989: *Zappa and Occhiogrosso: The Real Frank Zappa Book*

- The first thing you have to do if you want to raise nice kids, is you have to talk to them like they are people instead of talking to them like they're property.

1987: Appearance on The Howard Stern Show

- Information is not knowledge. Knowledge is not wisdom. Wisdom is not truth. Truth is not beauty. Beauty is not love. Love is not music. Music is THE BEST...

1979: Lyrics to the song Packard Goose on the album *Joe's Garage: Act III*.

- Drop out of school before your mind rots from exposure to our mediocre educational system. Forget about the Senior Prom and go to the library and educate yourself if you've got any guts. Some of you like Pep rallies and plastic robots who tell you what to read. Forget I mentioned it. This song has no message. Rise for the flag salute.
- On a personal level, *Freaking Out* is a process whereby an individual casts off outmoded and restricting standards of thinking, dress, and social etiquette in order to express creatively his relationship to his immediate environment and the social structure as a whole.

June 27, 1966: Zappa's liner notes for the album *Freak Out!*

- The biggest threat to America today is not communism. It's moving America toward a fascist theocracy, and everything that's happened during the Reagan administration is steering us right down that pipe ... When you have a government that prefers a certain moral code derived from a certain religion and that moral code turns into legislation to suit one certain religious point of view, and if that code happens to be very, very right wing — almost toward Attila the Hun — [it's fascism.]

March 28, 1986: Appearance on *Crossfire* (CNN)

- You're an asshole! You're an asshole! That's right! You're an asshole! You're an asshole! From Broken Hearts are for Assholes on the album *Sheik Yerbouti*