



Bayard Rustin Quotes



- 1 We are all one—and if we don't know it, we will learn it the hard way.”
- 2 “When an individual is protesting society's refusal to acknowledge his dignity as a human being, his very act of protest confers dignity on him.”
- 3 “We need, in every community, a group of angelic troublemakers.”
- 4 “If we desire a society without discrimination, then we must not discriminate against anyone in the process of building this society. If we desire a society that is democratic, then democracy must become a means as well as an end.”
- 5 “There are three ways in which one can deal with an injustice. (a) One can accept it without protest. (b) One can seek to avoid it. (c) One can resist the injustice non-violently. To accept it is to perpetuate it.”
- 6 “People will never fight for your freedom if you have not given evidence that you are prepared to fight for it yourself.”

PHOTO SOURCE: Wolfson, Stanley, photographer. Bayard Rustin, half-length portrait, facing front, microphones in foreground / World Telegram & Sun photo by Stanley Wolfson. 1965. Photograph. <https://www.loc.gov/item/97518846>.