The Most Important Essays in History

November 21, 2011 Category: Miscellaneous

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THE 20 MOST IMPORTANT ESSAYS IN HISTORY:

- 1 "On the Jewish Question" –Karl Marx
- "An Answer To The Question: 'What Is Enlightenment?'" -Immanuel Kant 2
- "Where I Lived & What I Lived For" -H.D. Thoreau (from Walden) 3
- 4 "The Age of Reason" -Thomas Paine
- "Common Sense" Thomas Paine 5
- "The Declaration of Independence" -Thomas Jefferson (w/ Ben Franklin) 6
- "Introduction: War Is A Force That Gives Us Meaning" Chris Hedges 7
- "The Paranoid Style In American Politics" -Richard Hofstadter 8
- "The Responsibility of Intellectuals" -Noam Chomsky 9
- "Epilogue: Concilience" E.O. Wilson 10
- 11 "Civil Disobedience" -Ralph Waldo Emerson
- 12 "Thank Goodness" - Daniel Dennett
- 13 "Wage Labor & Capital" -Karl Marx
- "Rights of Man" -Thomas Paine 14
- 15 "A Vindication of the Rights of Women" - Mary Elizabeth Wollstonecraft
- "The Culture Industry" Theodore Adorno (The Dialectic of Enlightenment) 16
- "Politics & The English Language" -George Orwell 17
- "Conspicuous Consumption" Thorstein Veblen 18
- "A Letter Concerning Toleration" John Locke 19
- 20 The 1855 Letter from Chief Seattle to President Pierce

36 Notable Mentions:

"Meditations" - Rene Descartes

"Theory & Practice" – Immanuel Kant (Political Essays)

"African Slavery In America" -Thomas Paine

"Dissertations On The First Principles of Government" -Thomas Paine

"Agrarian Justice" -Thomas Paine

"Recapitulation & Conclusion" –Charles Darwin

"Estranged Labor" –Karl Marx (from 1844 manuscripts)

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"Why Socialism?" –Albert Einstein, Monthly Review (May, 1949)
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"The Transcendentalist" -R.W. Emerson

"Self-Reliance" -R.W. Emerson

"Life Without Principle" -H.D. Thoreau

"Walking" -H.D. Thoreau

John Galt's speech –Ayn Rand (from *Atlas Shrugged*)

"Computing Machinery & Intelligence" - Alan Turing

"Why I Am Not A Christian" –Bertrand Russell

"The Experience Machine" -Robert Nozick (from Anarchy, State & Utopia)

"Language & Freedom" -Noam Chomsky

"Reflections On 9-11" -Noam Chomsky

"The Case Against B.F. Skinner" –Noam Chomsky

"The Conscience of a Hacker" –The Mentor (*Phrack*, 1986)

"The Cathedral & The Bazaar" (a.k.a. CatB) - Eric S. Raymond

"On Religion" –Arthur Schopenhauer

"Non Serviam" -Stanislaw Lem

"The Humanist Manifesto" I, II, III

95 Theses –Martin Luther

The 1863 Memorial Address at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania – Abraham Lincoln

Letter From A Birmingham Jail –Martin Luther King Jr.

"Notes Of A Native Son" - James Baldwin

"The Fixation of Belief" -C.S. Peirce

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[&]quot;Science & Culture" -T.H. Huxley

[&]quot;Evolution & Ethics and Science & Morals" -T.H. Huxley

[&]quot;Agnosticism & Christianity" –T.H. Huxley

[&]quot;Politics" -R.W. Emerson

"How To Make Our Ideas Clear" -C.S. Peirce

"What Pragmatism Is" -C.S. Peirce

"Definition & Function of a University" -C.S. Peirce

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