**Facts**

**To abandon facts is to abandon freedom. If nothing is true, then no one can criticize power because there is no basis upon which to do so. *(Timothy Snyder, historian)***

**"As a matter of fact" is an expression that precedes many an expression that isn't. *(Laurence J. Peter, author)***

**Fact: Up to 750,000 died during the fratricidal Civil War, and nearly 4,000 African-Americans were lynched by white mobs in the Jim Crow South from 1877 to 1950. *(Theunis Bates, in The Week magazine, January 22, 2021)***

**There is nothing more deceptive than an obvious fact. *(Arthur Conan Doyle)***

**If the facts don't fit the theory, change the facts*. (Albert Einstein)***

**It's easy to say "face the facts" but in every direction I look there are different facts. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**Facts and truth really don't have much to do with each other. *(William Faulkner)***

**Freedom of opinion is a farce unless factual information is guaranteed and the facts themselves are not in dispute. *(Hannah Arendt, philosopher)***

**Fact: The U.S. has the highest rate of mass shootings in the Western world and a gun homicide rate 25 times higher than those of similarly developed countries. *(Theunis Bates, in The Week magazine, January 22, 2021)***

**A father decided to tell his young son the facts of life and was stumped right away by the boy’s first question: “How many are there?” *(Changing Times, The Kiplinger Magazine)***

**Facts do not cease to exist because they are ignored. *(Aldous Huxley, in Proper Studies)***

**Just as most issues are seldom black or white, so are most good solutions seldom black or white. Beware of the solution that requires one side to be totally the loser and other side to be totally the winner. The reason there are two sides to begin with usually is because neither side has all the facts. Therefore, when the wise mediator effects a compromise, he is not acting from political motivation. Rather, he is acting from a deep sense of respect for the whole truth. *(Stephen R. Schwambach)***

**You know nothing for sure … except the fact that you know nothing for sure. *(John F. Kennedy)***

**Most of us at one time or another are like the man who was overheard telling his wife, “Now look, I know what I know, and it’s no use trying to confuse me with facts!” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**There’s nothing wrong, says Sam Levenson, with using four-letter words in explaining the facts of life to children – words like love, kiss, help, care, give . . . *(Bits & Pieces)***

**I am a firm believer in the people. If given the truth, they can be depended upon to meet any national crisis. The great point is to bring them the real facts. *(The Wit & Wisdom of Abraham Lincoln, edited by Alex Ayres, p. 186)***

**A fact merely marks the point where we have agreed to let investigation cease. *(Bliss Carman)***

**It is more difficult to challenge a man's facts over cocktails than over a conference table. *(Robert Caro, author)***

**When the New York Times was bought by Adolph Ochs in 1896, it was soon given its notorious slogan "All the News That's Fit to Print" was a jab at rivals such as New York World and the New York Journal American, which were known for "yellow journalism" (a type of journalism which focuses on sensational headlines rather than legitimate news to sell papers). (Charlotte Lowe, in Fact-O-Pedia, p. 176)**

**Not being known doesn't stop the truth from being true. *(Richard Bach, author)***

**Paranoia means having all the facts. *(William S. Burroughs, novelist)***

**The problem with facts is not that we need more of them but that we don't know what to do with the ones we have. *(Alain de Botton, philosopher, in The News)***

**If the facts are against you, argue the law. If the law is against you, argue the facts. If the law and the facts are against you, pound the table and yell like hell. *(Carl Sandburg, poet)***

**In science, all facts, no matter how trivial or banal, enjoy democratic equality. *(Mary McCarthy)***

**Silence is never more golden than when you hold it long enough to get all the facts before you speak. (Bits & Pieces)**

**Crankshaft says to his baseball team: “So just because they won the championship last year, don’t let them scare you! Remember what I told you about how I struck out the great Hank Greenberg with a simple change-up!” First boy: “Before you said it was a fastball!” Second boy: “Yeah, whazzup with that?” Crankshaft: “Okay, so maybe the story’s not factual, but it’s true!” *(Tom Batiuk & Chuck Ayers, in Crankshaft comic strip)***

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**Get the facts first, then you can distort them as you please. *(Mark Twain)***

**Facts, or what a man believes to be the facts, are delightful. Get your facts first, and then you can distort them as much as you please. *(Mark Twain)***

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**The Chicago Tribune once called Henry Ford an ignoramus in print. Ford sued, challenging the paper to “prove it.” During the trial Ford was asked dozens of simple, general information questions: “When was the Civil War?” “Name the Presidents of the United States.” And so on. Ford, who had little formal education, could answer very few. Finally, exasperated, he said, “I don’t know the answers to these questions, but I could find a man in five minutes who does. I use my brain to think, not to store up a lot of useless facts.” A similar story is told about Einstein. Someone once asked him how many feet are in a mile. “I don’t know.” Einstein is reported as saying, “why should I fill my head with things like that when I could look them up in any reference book in two minutes?” These two men, giants of the century, knew what every good leader learns sooner or later: The ability to get information, and then act on it, is what gets things done. As one business leader recently put it: “I want people around me who can solve problems, not recite facts.” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Fact: Today, violence remains a fact of American life. We will never be able to treat the sickness that led to last week's insurrection unless we recognize this is part of who we are. It might be America at its ugliest, but it is America. *(Theunis Bates, in The Week magazine, January 22, 2021)***

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