

government is a necessary evil

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Thomas Paine on Government, Liberty, and Power

"Society in every state is a blessing, but Government, even in its best state, is but a necessary evil; in its worst state, an intolerable one." " [G]overning has always been monopolized by the most ignorant and the most rascally individuals of mankind."

Government, even in its best state, is but a necessary evil ...

Thomas Paine - Government, even in its best state, is but... Government, even in its best state, is but a necessary evil; in its worst state, an intolerable one. Living well is the best revenge. The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.

Thomas Paine: Common Sense - US History

Here then is the origin and rise of government; namely, a mode rendered necessary by the inability of moral virtue to govern the world; here too is the design and end of government, viz. Freedom and security.

Thomas Paine: 'Government, even in its best state, is but a ...

The quote by Thomas Paine, "Government, even in its best state, is but a necessary evil; in its worst state, an intolerable one," embodies a profound insight into the nature of governance and its complexities.

Government: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Published Paper ...

Governments—assuming a proper limitation of their activities—are necessary and not evil. Their evil begins when they step out of bounds.

What did Thomas Paine mean by "Government, even in its best ...

Thomas Paine viewed government as a "necessary evil" because he believed it was inherently flawed and corrupt, drawing on the political philosophies of Locke, Montesquieu, and Rousseau.

A Necessary Evil - thomaspaine.org

Paine knew his audience, and he started exactly where most people were at that time, that government is oppressive, but needed. But he then unfolds a thought experiment, where people inhabit unoccupied land, and set out to form an association to regulate themselves.

Thomas Paine's "Government is A Necessary Evil" Meaning

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In order to differentiate the two, Paine states that while society is an ideal to strive for, government is “a necessary evil” that aims to keep people from doing wrong (Paine, 2016).

Common Sense Of The Origin and Design of Government in

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Summary Paine begins the pamphlet Common Sense with general comments about government. He observes first that people have a tendency to confuse government with society. Drawing a sharp line, Paine argues that society is always something to strive for, whereas government is "a necessary evil."

Republican Government: Thomas Paine, Common Sense

Here then is the origin and rise of government; namely, a mode rendered necessary by the inability of moral virtue to govern the world; here too is the design and end of government, viz. freedom and security.