

Conservative

In geopolitical terms, the conservative is the person who wants to valorize tradition and preserve the old ways. This person is often a man. But women can be conservative too, by preserving their millennially rich heritage of caring for details like wall paper, netsuke, or gowns that match their shoes.

Examples

1 My father was conservative. He was not especially interested in politics, or the ways the state passed on its sense of values from age to age. He was drawn to experience which he considered deeply and universally human. Remember, like Achilles, that you too have had a father, that the roots behind you both are deep, and that you might as well stand up straight and cut your hair.

2 I am more conservative as I age. We get suspicious of the new ways. Since my future is short, my past is and seems long, and I think about it. But in fact I think about the future, through my past. I think about the whole human pageant as part of a going forward. I am at one end of the pageant, but from that end I see the whole energy that brought me here.