



Written by [John F. McManus](#) on December 18, 2017

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## Quick Quotes

### Alabama's Senate Candidate Urges Senate Leader to Step Down

"The person who should step aside is Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell. He has failed conservatives and must be replaced. Drain the swamp!"

*After Senator McConnell advised the GOP nominee to abandon his race for the U.S. Senate seat, candidate Roy Moore responded by aiming the suggestion at him.*

### Democrats Should Be Wary of Condemning Roy Moore

"Democrats shouldn't gloat. They, after all, have had a past president — Bill Clinton — credibly accused of rape, an allegation his admirers have dismissed or shrugged off over the years."

*Boston Globe columnist Scot Lehigh reviewed the accusations against Roy Moore and decided that his fellow Democrats could hardly attack him for unverified accusations, which Moore has vehemently denied, when Bill Clinton's far worse conduct before and during his presidency was unquestionable.*

### Associate Points to Numerous Bush Aides in the Trump Administration

"If Donald Trump's presidency fails, it will be because he has perhaps inadvertently surrounded himself with Bush associates."

*Longtime Trump friend and associate Roger Stone pointed to such former Bush aides as Jerome Powell (nominee for chairman of the Fed), Alex Azar (health and human services secretary), Elaine Chao (transportation secretary), and Dina Powell (national security advisor). He wonders why President Trump has appointed these and other former Bush supporters.*

### Religious Toleration in Saudi Arabia Doesn't Exist

"There is no life here as a Christian or a Catholic. Life here is either as a neutral person or as a Muslim. You have to pray in your heart if you want to pray."

*After working in Saudi Arabia for eight years, Lebanese Catholic Danny Nasrallah is well accustomed to not having a church to attend or being able to participate in public religious observances of his faith.*

### Democrat Says Bill Clinton Should Have Resigned in Wake of the Lewinsky Scandal

"Yes, I think that is the appropriate response."

*Asked if she believed Bill Clinton should have stepped down as a result of the revelations about his affair with White House intern Monica Lewinsky, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand answered that he should have resigned. Gillibrand's stand surprised many, since she is known to have a close relationship with Hillary Clinton, whose place as one of New York's two senators she took when Mrs. Clinton resigned to become U.S. secretary of state.*



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## **Recruiting for the Afghan Army More Difficult Because of Taliban Threats**

“The Taliban tell the father of an army soldier to either call back your son or give us a Kalashnikov rifle and 400,000 afghanis [currency].”

*The head of army recruitment in Afghanistan’s Badakhshan Province, Mujtaba Khan finds his job almost impossible. He explains that the fine is the equivalent of \$6,000, obtaining a rifle is difficult, and should the son return home, he is beaten and imprisoned.*

## **Campaign for Freedom of Religious Views Attracts Attorney General**

“Many Americans have felt that their freedom to practice their faith has been under attack. The challenges our nation faces today concerning our historic First Amendment right to the ‘free exercise’ of our faith have become acute.”

*Speaking to the conservative group Alliance Defending Freedom, Attorney General Jeff Sessions joined in the fight to rely on the First Amendment, which he believes enables anyone to avoid being forced to cooperate with such matters as same-sex weddings.*

— Compiled by John F. McManus



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