

**HOMELESS.** Our biggest problems aren't drugs, unemployment or crime - but homeless youth. **T**he disillusioned, homeless youth of today may be drug addicted, unemployed criminals tomorrow.

*What is the value of a society?  
To me its values are reflected  
in how it cares for its youth.*

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**HOPE.** Hope is a manifestation of the negative force; it often fosters unrealistic, unattainable expectations. **H**ope alludes to divine input, which is not forthcoming. Hope potentially gives rise to lethargy and inertia. **H**ope, like thoughts & prayers, voids real engagement. A better way to well-deserved peace of mind is trust. **T**rust in our ability to make decisions with conviction and good judgement will advance us toward our goals.

*Hope may lull us into expecting  
heavenly intervention and divert  
us from reality and rationality.*

*It is best not to hope for gains;  
instead we shall trust that our  
sincere efforts will be rewarded.*

*"Cease to hope and fear will cease."  
Hecato, Stoic philosopher, ca. 100 BC  
from The Daily Stoic by Ryan Holiday*

*see also* EXPECTATIONS

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**HUMAN.** A basic question: What is a human being? "Objectively, nothing of consequence... a clump of atoms. Yet, a human being is necessary for the question to exist ... and the presence of a question in the universe - any question - is the most wonderful thing. **Q**uestions require minds, and minds bring meaning. What is meaning? I don't know, except that the universe and every speck inside means something to me. I am astonished by our existence; two million years ago we were apemen ... now we are spacemen. **I** don't understand. No one does. But it makes me smile."

*Excerpted from the foreword of the  
book Human Universe by Brian Cox.*

*see also* MEANING, THREE THOUSAND, WHY, WONDER