

As Downing Street parties the last vestiges of our demo...

Published: January 13, 2026, 1:01 am

Whilst the government sinks into a mire of its own creation the FT is focussing on the legacy of its corruption in its editorial this morning.

As their headline notes:

Opinion **The FT View** [+ Add to myFT](#)

England should tolerate, not criminalise, protest

Last-minute changes to a policing bill will erode civil liberties

THE EDITORIAL BOARD [+ Add to myFT](#)

The first paragraph says:

One measure of a democracy is how well it tolerates dissent. England and Wales's tolerance will be severely diminished if the government is successful in its attempt to shoehorn clauses into a mammoth piece of legislation that would treat protesters like criminals. The amendments erode freedoms that are a mark of a healthy democracy. This government is hardly the first to want to curb protest but its method of trying to pass contentious amendments at the last minute shows once again that it is one whose instinct is to evade accountability.

In defence of their own indefensible conduct this government is seeking to destroy democracy as we know it.

Get angry about Christmas parties, by all means.

Do, however, remember what the the real threat is. These people are seeking to cement their right to be corrupt forever into our law. That is what is actually happening.

The FT is right to focus on the big issue. As Downing Street parties the last vestiges of our democracy are being destroyed. No wonder they think they have something to celebrate. This was always their plan.