

Badenoch and Starmer: fascist enablers

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John Crace, The Guardian's parliamentary sketch writer, made an important point [in his column yesterday](#). He suggested, when discussing yesterday's Prime Minister's Question Time:

But both leaders appeared to have sated their blood lust for the time being.

He added:

Maybe it's the weather. A sense of it being too nice to be bothered. Or maybe it's battle fatigue. It's just too hard to keep on caring when every day is a new shitshow. Or maybe it's that Keir has finally given up on Kemi. Has stopped treating her and the Tories as serious opposition.

The Tories have given up on Badenoch.

Starmer has given up on Badenoch.

I suspect Badenoch has given up on Badenoch.

It's only because there is nothing noticeable for the Leader of the Opposition to do after a massive loss in a general election that, I suspect, explains why Badenoch is still in office. Her performance rivals that of Liz Truss, and certainly makes the dire performance of Iain Duncan-Smith in that role (for those old enough, and awake enough, to remember it) look like a stellar performance.

The trouble is, this matters now. It's not Ed Davey who is seeking to lead the Opposition in her absence. It is Farage.

Starmer is already letting him run the government.

Now Badenoch is letting him run the Opposition.

If fascism is to be beaten in the UK - and beaten it must be - then we need to have politicians able to challenge rather than embrace and enable it.

Starmer is not that politician.

Nor is Badenoch.

And that's what really worries me about where we are. Two utterly incompetent people are making life so very easy for Farage. That should be worrying everyone.