

Democracy is dying due to the indifference of politicians...

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In the UK and the USA, the aim appears to be the same: the destruction of democracy by the use of false narratives is on the cards.

In [this morning's](#) Letters from an American, Heather Cox Richardson notes:

There seems to be some tension in the White House tonight. As Trump's poll numbers are in the low 40s on his job performance and underwater on every one of his policies, tonight he wrote: "Except what is written and broadcast in the Fake News, I now have the highest poll numbers I've ever had, some in the 60's and even 70's. Thank you. MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN!!!"

And then she notes:

Trump followed that post up with another. "Despite a very high popularity and, according to many, among the greatest 8 months in Presidential History, ABC & NBC FAKE NEWS, two of the worst and most biased networks in history, give me 97% BAD STORIES. IF THAT IS THE CASE, THEY ARE SIMPLY AN ARM OF THE DEMOCRAT PARTY AND SHOULD, ACCORDING TO MANY, HAVE THEIR LICENSES REVOKED BY THE FCC. I would be totally in favor of that because they are so biased and untruthful, an actual threat to our Democracy!!! MAGA"

Trump tends to do what he threatens: those parts of the US media that are doing a good job in holding him to account for his actions are under threat. We have to assume that he will continue to threaten at the very least. And democracy is not democracy without the fourth estate provided by a media that is willing to hold politicians to account.

Then [there is an FT report here](#):

Sir Keir Starmer is braced for a pitched battle with the House of Lords when parliament returns from its summer break, as the Conservatives mount a last-ditch bid to save Britain's ancient caste of hereditary peers.

A total of 91 hereditary peers, some tracing their ancestry back to the Norman Conquest, are still able to shape the laws of the land, but they are set to be ejected from the upper house under legislation brought in by Starmer's Labour government.

This issue is that 44 of the remaining 91 hereditary peers are Tories, and the Tories put party far ahead of democracy.

As one of those hereditary Tories, Lord Strathclyde is leading the counter-attack to Labour. As the FT notes:

Strathclyde, full name Thomas Galloway Dunlop du Roy de Blicquy Galbraith, said the government was playing with fire by passing legislation to remove its political opponents from parliament.

"If any other country were doing this, we would be launching petitions at the UN," he said, adding that Nigel Farage, whose Reform UK party had no peers, might seize on this precedent were he to win a general election.

This is utterly crazy.

The UN would not defend an anti-democratic claim to govern purely based on hereditary principles. There is no human right to behave eugenically.

And to bring Reform into the issue is just absurd, not least because if the hereditaries have gone by 2029, then Reform could not get rid of them again, although it might flood the chamber with Reform peers, of course.

If there is an argument based on the actions of Reform, it is to be rid of the Lords now, as democracy demands.

However, no one dares look above the parapet in Westminster and see that democracy is killing both the Tories and Labour and that all of their power might be swept away soon. Instead, they fight their old and largely irrelevant wars, and all around them, democracy is dying, as it is in the USA.

The question is, will they ever notice?

Or have they already, and are they just arrogantly indifferent to the consequences, as too many in the USA are already?