

# It's time for democracy to topple those who would be ki...

Published: January 13, 2026, 1:30 am

---

As [The Guardian](#) notes this morning:

*Millions are expected to show out for protests on Saturday at more than 2,500 locations across America, from small towns to large cities, to speak against the Trump administration.*

*No Kings, the coalition behind a mass demonstration in June, is again calling people to the streets to send the simple message that Donald Trump is not a king, pushing back against what they see as increasing authoritarianism.*

I am with them in spirit. The USA definitely does not need a king, or Trump, whether he thinks he is one or not.

The mass protest logic is based, as The Guardian notes, on academic research:

*Organizers and protesters this year have repeatedly drawn on research that showed if 3.5% of a population protests non-violently against a regime, the regime will fail. This theory has been [dubbed the "3.5% rule"](#).*

Political scientists Erica Chenoweth and Maria Stephan created a database of civil resistance campaigns from 1900 to 2006, analyzing whether non-violent or violent movements were more likely to succeed and whether there was a tipping point in terms of size for protests to actually expel the party or person in power. The results showed non-violent campaigns were often much larger and were twice as likely to succeed than violent movements. They were more representative of the population, and, they found, active and sustained participation by 3.5% of a population meant a movement would succeed, with very few, specific exceptions.

I am reasonably persuaded by this idea. We need 3.5% to demand change here in the UK.

I am also persuaded that this is not the only reason for change to happen. As The Guardian also notes this morning:

*Prince Andrew has agreed to give up his use of the Duke of York title, he said in a statement released through Buckingham Palace.*

*He will also give up use of his honours as a Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order (GCVO) and Royal Knight Companion of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, meaning his only remaining title will be that of prince, which cannot be removed as he was born the son of a queen.*

They added:

*In a statement, he said: "In discussion with the king, and my immediate and wider family, we have concluded the continued accusations about me distract from the work of His Majesty and the royal family. I have decided, as I always have, to put my duty to my family and country first. I stand by my decision five years ago to stand back from public life.*

*"With His Majesty's agreement, we feel I must now go a step further. I will therefore no longer use my title or the honours which have been conferred upon me. As I have said previously, I vigorously deny the accusations against me."*

Andrew's disgrace is now complete. But let's not pretend the matter is over. Of course, abuse of the sort Andrew Mountbatten Windsor (or whatever else he will call himself now) is alleged to have undertaken is personal, but it also comes from a position of privilege that he had no right to hold.

Eugenically chosen for the roles he had, based on theories of genetic inheritance of superior status promoted by [Francis Galton](#), a cousin of Charles Darwin during the Victorian era, Andrew Whatever proved that he was not suited for the tasks asked of him, and was most definitely not superior, except in his own mind, which is where the link with Trump most definitely comes in.

Trump is not a king.

Andrew X comes from a family that should not have the right to be head of state in the UK just for being.

Democracy should always rule.

The selection of the head of state should be by merit and by winning a mandate.

Hereditary entitlement to rule in Britain should end.

The guardrails protecting this country from abuse by those governing it should be reinforced by a proper constitution, as the USA clearly also now needs, because that

which it has is no longer working for it..

Protest against the monarchy in the UK also needs support. I am a member of [Republic](#).  
Give it a look.