



santa clara county ★★
DEMOCRATIC PARTY
the democratic party of silicon valley

Defending Democracy Everyday

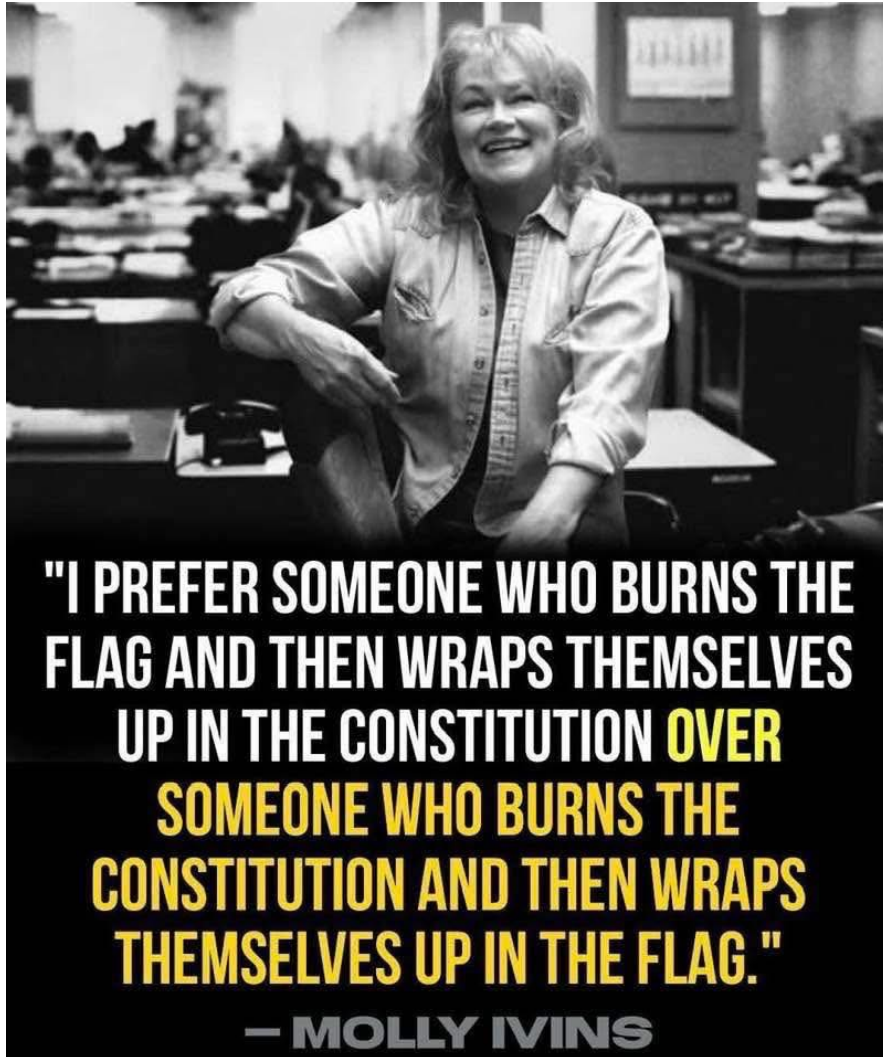


Photo via [A Mighty Girl Facebook Page](#)

First Amendment?

The basic belief that every person should have freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and freedom to peacefully protest was a huge driver guiding our founding fathers to declare independence from Britain and start our nation. These freedoms were enshrined in the [1st amendment](#) to our Constitution, became the very foundation of our nation, and until recently, made us the envy of the world.

Today is a different story. The Trump administration and the sycophantic Republican Party are doing their best to destroy the First Amendment, and lead us into autocratic rule. Jimmy Kimmel was forced off the air, ICE has

attacked peaceful protestors, and the National Guard is being sent into blue states to manage protests by force simply because of a difference in opinion. Nearly 250 years after our country declared independence from the tyrannic rule of the British government, Trump and his cronies are proving they would like to Make Autocracy Great Again.

That being said, there is hope. There are plenty of us that value the First Amendment and got Jimmy Kimmel back on the air with our wallet, the courts have been pausing the deployment of the National Guard, and the State of California is working against 2026 election rigging with Proposition 50.

Make America a Democracy Again: Attend a No Kings Rally on October 18th

In the face of all the chaos the current administration sows, on June 14, 2025 more than five million people in more than 2,100 cities in the United States and around the world participated in the first No Kings Day. Indivisible, 50501, and several other Progressive groups worked together to make the event a huge success.

On Saturday, October 18, 2025 we will show them we aren't ever backing down. From 12 PM to 2 PM people will gather in St. James Park in San Jose, and in other locations throughout the County, in peaceful protest of the Federal Government's authoritarian policies and tactics.

America is ruled by We the People, as set forth in our Constitution. We have neither a King nor a Dictator. Exercise your First Amendment Rights by participating on October 18th. To find a No Kings Day rally in your area, [LOOK HERE](#).

Stand up with us! Please join a "No Kings" protest on October 18th and use your freedom of speech before it is too late. Find one close to you here: <https://www.nokings.org/>

Early Impacts of the 2025 Shutdown

Missed paychecks, flight delays, and uncertainties in governmental services: this is only part of the long list of local impacts of the ever present government shutdown. History can show us just how bad it may get if the President, Senate and Congress remain deadlocked.

The most recent, and just so happens, longest shutdown lasted 35 days in 2019 under Donald Trump. Then, Trump shut down the government to fund his border wall. Because of his \$5.7 billion pet project, over 800,000 federal workers were furloughed and forced to go without pay; many still not paid to this day. Furthermore, the 2019 shutdown caused National Parks to close, flights to be delayed, and SNAP and other government resources to be reduced due to a lack of staffing, not to mention, caused the US economy to lose an estimated \$11 billion.

The 2019 shutdown is just a peak into what may happen if Republicans continue to refuse negotiating to pass a budget bill in the best interest of the American people. What we do know now about the 2025 shutdown is that Trump has furloughed roughly 750,000 government workers, threatened permanent layoffs, and has publicly stated essential government workers will never be paid for work during the shutdown. Only time will tell this shutdown's long term effect on the economy.

Under the radar

With all the shiny objects the current administrations throw in front of us, it is easy to not see their horrific actions (or inactions). So, here is a quick check on how the Trump, Stephen Miller, and the rest of the GOP are attacking

America

- The GOP shutdown is ruining air travel - <https://www.axios.com/2025/10/07/flight-delays-shutdown-air-traffic-control-staffing-issues>
- They've killed our liquor exports to Canada - <https://thehill.com/business/5541921-us-liquor-exports-to-canada-drop-85-percent/>
- They want to cut our disability benefits - <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2025/10/05/disability-social-security-age-benefits/>
- Ted Cruz calls for people to "stop attacking pedophiles" in a historic Freudian slip - <https://newrepublic.com/post/201177/ted-cruz-stop-attacking-pedophiles>
- CEOs suddenly realize they supported a dictator - <https://www.politico.com/newsletters/morning-money/2025/10/07/zero-guardrails-ceos-brace-for-trump-scrutiny-00595747>

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