Slippery Slope

by

*Eyes Right*

**All Over the USA –** This past weekend tens of thousands of Americans gathered to peacefully protest the actions of President Donald Trump. These events took place nationwide in over 1200 locations and in all states (according to the Associated Press, but I could find none that took place in my home state of Kentucky). The demonstrations, called “Hands Off,” were generally peaceful and were organized by a Who’s Who of left wing organizations. There were also several government worker’s and veteran’s groups involved.

Most of the anger was directed to Trump and Elon Musk who had been tasked by the President to downsize government through actions taken by the newly created Department of Government Efficiency (called DOGE). Several Democrat members of Congress were involved as speakers and cheerleaders. The “Hands Off” theme had been selected to be followed in chants by whatever the protesters were concerned about losing due to recent administration actions, such as HANDS OFF “our democracy,” “our Social Security,” “our Veteran’s benefits, “our health care,” “our Constitution,” etc. There was also anger about what was perceived to be an anti-LBGTQ+ bias by Republican leadership; others involved were protesting increased efforts by the administration to deport those who many call “illegal” immigrants. It is probable that some who showed up were angry about the precipitous decline in the value of their investments due to major losses in the stock market in reaction to recently imposed tariffs on most foreign countries. There were reports that a small number of self-described Republicans were also present.

Several of my left-wing friends chose to participate in these demonstrations. Many brought hand-made signs demanding HANDS OFF a shopping list of federal “alphabet” organizations, such as FEMA, FAA, NIH, USAID, NOAC (not sure what the last one is or stands for). At any rate, what is certain is that the demonstrators did not want DOGE touching *any* Federal programs.

I did not attend any of the Hands Off gatherings, but after viewing media photos of these events, it certainly appears that many, if not most, participants were financially secure, angry White women – the demographic that the Democrats are counting on to return them to power in both the Congressional elections in 2026 and the Presidential election in 2028. Black and Latino faces were noticeably sparce.

The Left in America seems to have a virtual monopoly on political demonstrations. Other than occasional Trump rallies, I cannot recall any large gathering of the Right to demonstrate against government policies other than anti-abortion events prior to the end of Roe v Wade, or the Tea Party demonstration in front of the Capitol in 2009.

Although I do not share the concerns of Hands Off-ers, I was pleased by the non-violent nature of the demonstrations and, more importantly, the fact that Americans are *mostly* free to gather in protest of government actions. There is a long list of nations which do not tolerate such. I say “mostly” because there has been a recent trend for the current administration to put a damper on any activities which support Hamas or are perceived to be antisemitic. These government activities may be the beginning of a slippery slope leading to an abolition of First Amendment guarantees of free speech. This would be a drastic and terrible change.

So, angry ladies, please continue to gather in protest. We need you.

I thought you might like to know.

E-R