

Indivisible Tucson Announcements

Feb 8, 2026

Quote of the Week:

"They are losing, so they are going to try to steal the election. They are going to fail, because **we are going to stop them.**"

- Leah Greenberg on "What's The Plan?"

Bonus Quote of the Week:

"The cuts to your health care are what's paying for ICE. All that extra money - that everyone is paying in their premiums - was taken out of the budget and given to ICE. You get screwed over to pay a bunch of thugs in the street that are shooting mothers in the face. That's what the Republican party did."

- Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez on Instagram.

Outline:

1. Indivisible Tucson Action Alliance Meeting Minutes - Feb 2, 2026 (including the CHAT)
2. Local upcoming events
3. Local News
4. The RTA Next vote (props 418 & 419)
5. Team Unseat Ciscomani
6. Team Boycott & Build

7. The "Wyden Siren"

8. National News

9. Humor

10. Indivisible National Messages

1. Indivisible Tucson Action Alliance Meeting Minutes - Feb 2, 2026

Meeting Minutes are attached as a pdf:

[Minutes-Monthly-Meeting-2026-02-02-FINAL.pdf](#)

These minutes will be posted on the website soon.

The next general membership meeting for ITAA will be on Monday, March 2, 4:00 p.m.

2. Local upcoming events

A NOTE ABOUT NON-VIOLENCE AND DE-ESCALATION:

Now that the resistance is really getting traction, and people can see for themselves that the No Kings protests were HUGE (not small) and PEACEFUL/JOYOUS (not violent), we are seeing increased counter-resistance everywhere, including at protests in Tucson.

Please do not engage with counter-protestors in any way. Often they are trying to get you to argue with them while a buddy films the interaction; they then post the video and use it for fundraising. DON'T GIVE THEM WHAT THEY WANT!

Contact **your event's Peacekeepers** if you need to - that's what they're there for.

Also, you might want to avoid chants such as "F**k ICE!" that have a violent tone. Lord knows it gets my back up when people try to tell me how to protest, so this is

just a suggestion! (I 100% FEEL "FUCK ICE" but I'm not going to chant "FUCK ICE.") There's been a vigorous discussion on this topic in the Arizona Indivisibles channel on Signal, and I'm passing on this advice. Also, see the article titled "The Risk We Face in Opposing Trump" in the National News section of this newsletter, which explains why maintaining the contrast between their violence and our non-violence is so effective.

Below is a link to a pdf of an Op-Ed about some interactions that happened at a protest in Prescott. Here is the intro (from Slack):

Laura Molinaro says:

Here is the pdf of the published "Talk of the Town" piece in the Daily Courier, Prescott.

I wrote the original, then Pam Geisel and I worked on editing it. Pam was the final edit to tighten it up and trim to the word count needed for the paper, and I ended up with the byline.

The title of the piece:

Talk of the Town: Right to protest — and responsibility to tell the truth

By LAURA MOLINARO, Special to the Courier

The editor for the Courier added this italicized line at the end of the piece.

Laura Molinaro is the Prescott Indivisible Steering Committee / Media Liaison. This guest column has been verified, and was submitted on behalf of the 10 steering committee members.

OK, now on to the local events!!!!

From: <https://www.takeactiontucson.org/>

Resist @ Rush Hour, organized by LD 18 Dems

- * Tue Feb 10, 8:30 - 10 am, Grant & Campbell
- * Wed Feb 11, 8-10 am, River & Campbell
- * Wed Feb 11, 4-6 pm, Wilmot & Speedway
- * Thu Feb 12, 8-10 am, Tangerine & La Cañada
- * Thu Feb 12, 4-6 pm, Country Club & Speedway

STOP ICE KIDNAPPINGS & MURDERS

SPEAK UP NOW WHILE YOU STILL CAN

**THURSDAY FEB 12TH
4-6 PM**

End the
Killing
&
Corruption

**PROTEST LOCATION:
LA CHOLLA BLVD
& INA RD, TUCSON**

COSTUMES WELCOME!

The organizers will be at the NE corner.
But protesters can go to any corner.

This ITAA supported peaceful
protest will follow all safety
practices & protocols.



Thu Feb 12, 4-6 pm, La Cholla & Ina: Stop ICE Kidnappings & Murders!

Organized by ITAA. The organizers will be at the NE corner. This is a peaceful protest and will follow all safety practices and protocols.

Per the organizers: Ample parking on 3 of the 4 corners. Specifically: You can park on the NE corner in the large parking lot where the Albertsons and other stores are located OR you can park on the NW corner in the big parking lot where the Barnes and Noble & other businesses are located and there is parking on the SW corner around the Dollar Tree Store area.



Sat Feb 14, 9am, Outside Ciscomani's Office, 1636 N Swan Road

Sponsored by LD18 Democrats

Stand Strong - Speak Up - Stop Project 2025 - Rally and Resist!

Tell Ciscomani to honor his oath and protect our constitution

Bring a sign or use one of ours.

3. Local News

Mendoza, Ciscomani raking in campaign donations as southern Arizona congressional race picks up speed

Both candidates offered moderate responses to recent killings by federal immigration agents in Minnesota.

<https://news.azpm.org/p/azpmnews/2026/2/3/228270-mendoza-ciscomani-raking-in-campaign-donations-as-southern-arizona-congressional-race-picks-up-speed/>

Mendoza criticized recent federal immigration enforcement actions in Minneapolis. She said agents are not using “de-escalation tactics, crowd control and the things that usually you would see from a federal law enforcement agent.”

“Department of Homeland Security enforcement operations are not keeping our community safe, and they're not targeting the criminals that they should be targeting,” Mendoza said.

Sen. Slotkin Refuses To Comply With Trump Regime, Sen. Gallego Calls For General Strike If This Happens, and Mayor Mamdani Takes On ICE

Great news that's truly terrible for Trump

<https://www.dworkinsubstack.com/p/sen-gallego-calls-for-general-strike>

Judge seems skeptical of legal justification for Pentagon's punishment of Sen. Mark Kelly

<https://apnews.com/article/pentagon-kelly-hegseth-illegal-orders-lawsuit-57e0ff8794f09c27029695226ca0572d>

University of Arizona students learn to spot misinformation during News Literacy Week

Journalism students at the U of A are learning how to check sources and identify false information as part of News Literacy Week.

<https://www.kgun9.com/news/local-news/university-of-arizona-news/university-of-arizona-students-learn-to-spot-misinformation-during-news-literacy-week>

Ballot initiative aims to put early, mail-in voting right into Arizona constitution

A new initiative seeks to ask Arizona voters whether they want to constitutionally preserve the right used by nearly 90% of them to vote early and even to drop off their ballots on Election Day.

<https://www.yourvalley.net/stories/ballot-initiative-aims-to-put-early-mail-in-voting-right-into-arizona-constitution.658821>

Fight Against Federal Overreach

The Fight Against Federal Overreach (FAFO) is a national coalition of District Attorneys collaborating to ensure federal officials are held accountable when they exceed their lawful authority.

federaloverreach.org

proud of **Laura Conover** being one of the FAFO

founders <https://federaloverreach.org/>

Progressive prosecutors launch 'FAFO' group to push for accountability after Prett shooting

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/articles/progressive-prosecutors-launch-fafo-group-215704644.html>

Here's a great article from the AZMirror about immigration resistance actions in southern AZ <https://azmirror.com/2026/02/04/rural-arizona-becomes-new-front-for-immigration-activism-with-detention-center-vigil/>

TUSD preps teachers, staff for potential ICE activity [Margrit comments IT'S ABOUT TIME]

Pima County's largest school district starts mandatory ICE-preparedness training.

<https://news.azpm.org/p/azpmnews/2026/2/5/228335-tusd-preps-teachers-staff-for-potential-ice-activity/>

Maximizing Signal group chat safety

Published Feb. 3, 2026 Updated Feb. 3, 2026

<https://freedom.press/digisec/blog/signal-group-safety/>

4. The RTA Next vote (props 418 & 419)

Note: This is a mail-in ballot ONLY election. If you live in Pima County, this is a great opportunity to make sure you're registered to vote!

If you're not comfortable with the new one-envelope mail-in system, you can drop your ballot at any "early voting site" (even though there is no in-person early voting) or at a Ballot Drop Box:

<https://recorder.pima.gov/EarlyVotingSites> (includes locations of Drop Boxes)

From the Pima County Recorder's Office website:

The next election in Pima County is the March 10 Regional Transportation Authority Special Election. **All Pima County registered voters are eligible and will be mailed a ballot.** [Check your Voter Registration](#) to make sure it's up to date.

There will be two items on the ballot:

- Proposition 418 will ask voters to approve a new regional transportation plan for Pima County.
- Proposition 419 will ask for a sales tax to go toward regional transportation in Pima County.
- See the [RTA Next website](#) for more information.

There's a lot of arguments for and against these initiatives. Here are some resources:

Miranda Schubert says No

https://tucson.com/opinion/column/article_b491c83c-8e26-4b73-9cf9-e25b8e5930a8.html

(because this is behind a paywall, I'm providing a pdf of this article here:

[Miranda Schubert on RTA Next.pdf](#)

Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection says Yes

A vote for Props 418 & 419 is a vote for wildlife linkages

https://www.sonorandesert.org/2026/01/13/a-vote-for-props-418-419-is-a-vote-for-wildlife-linkages/?blm_aid=342396929

Info about RTA from AZPM:

Arizona Illustrated segment:

News and Public Affairs

February 4, 2026

RTA After 20 Years

On March 10 2026, 20 years after the first RTA election, Pima County residents will have an opportunity to vote on RTA Next, which could continue the existing half cent sales tax and the Regional Transportation Authority for another 20 years.

<https://tv.azpm.org/p/new/2026/2/4/228278-rta-after-20-years/>

The Press Room: RTA Next Special

The Press Room - January 29, 2026

Video has Closed Captions CC

1/28/2026 | Journalists and live studio audience members speak with Regional Transportation Authority leaders. (1h 26m 10s)

"This week on The Press Room, our panel of journalists and a studio audience engage in a conversation with leaders from the Regional Transportation Authority about RTA Next, a 20-year extension of the RTA 1 plan that voters approved in 2006. RTA Next, Propositions 418 & 419 on the upcoming ballot, asks to extend the current half-cent sales tax and puts a new transportation plan before voters.

<https://playpbs.azpm.org/video/the-press-room-january-29-2026-bufpud/>

5. UNSEAT CISCOMANI TEAM MESSAGE 2/8/2026

OUR MISSION

The Unseat Ciscomani Team is holding Rep Ciscomani accountable to the voters of Southern Arizona's 6th Congressional District. We believe he should understand how his congressional votes impact his district and that he should be responsive and truthful to us instead of blindly following the President's political agenda. **Since it appears he cannot or will not do his job, we are working to replace him in 2026!**

Our team is over 100 members strong and welcomes your participation!

If you want to help, contact:

Ken Minkoff at kminkov@aol.com.

All you need is willingness to act. We will help you find the right actions to take!

Check on our webpage <https://www.indivisibleucson.org/ciscomani.html>

CHECK OUR WEBSITE AT [HTTPS://JUANLIES.COM](https://juanlies.com)

Please share these links everywhere you can so we can disseminate the truth about Juan.

AMPLIFY OUR POSTS (Like, comment, and/or share)

Our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/HoldCiscomaniAccountable>

Our Instagram page: <https://www.instagram.com/HoldCiscomaniAccountable>

Our Blue-Sky page

<https://www.pressureciscomani.bsky.social>

Our AZ CD-06 Substack Page:

@cd6pressureciscomaniteamofITAA

NEW! Our YouTube

Channel: https://youtube.com/@unseatciscomani?si=uvxob_3VfqjOY6Fe

**ACTIONS FOR THIS WEEK
MESSAGING TO GET HIM OUT**

Quote of the week (again):

"The cuts to your health care are what's paying for ICE. All that extra money - that everyone is paying in their premiums - was taken out of the budget and given to ICE. You get screwed over to pay a bunch of thugs in the street that are shooting mothers in the face. That's what the Republican party (Ciscomani) did."

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez on Instagram.

A. MAGA-SHAVE VIDEO – Must see! We videotaped our second mobile MAGA-Shave demonstration, lining up before a busy intersection in Ciscomani's district, carrying six signs in sequence, bringing awareness of the need to UnSeat Ciscomani to swing and low information voters.

Here is a narrated video of our Maga Shave demonstration focused on Ciscomani...

please view and share!

<https://vimeo.com/1162704544?share=copy&fl=sv&fe=ci>

We will be continuing these types of demonstrations at different locations throughout our district all through 2026.

IF YOU WANT TO HELP US BY VOLUNTEERING TO BE PART OF A TEAM HOLDING A SIGN FOR AN HOUR DURING RUSH HOUR, PLEASE LET ME KNOW. We are planning to have teams covering different towns and neighborhoods, so these "pop-up" demonstrations will appear to be happening everywhere....

B. WE NEED YOU!!! Join the Weekly Saturday (9-11) Demonstrations at Ciscomani's Office: 1636 Swan Rd, Tucson. Our team will be tabling regularly at these protests and would love you to come and say hello. There will be a sign-up sheet on our table if you want to join our team.

SEE ATTACHED FLYER AND PICTURE OF CARDBOARD CUTOUT CISCOMANI AT THE SATURDAY PROTEST

STAND STRONG SPEAK UP

**STOP
PROJECT
2025**



**RALLY
AND
RESIST!**

SATURDAYS, 9AM

OUTSIDE CISCOMANI'S OFFICE

1636 N SWAN ROAD

**TELL CISCOMANI TO HONOR HIS OATH
AND PROTECT OUR CONSTITUTION**

Bring a sign or use one of ours.

Sponsored by LD18 Democrats, LD18dems.Org

Kimberly Fitch, Treasurer



C. Signatures on nominating petitions to UnSeat Ciscomani

This is the time of year when pro-democracy candidates – including (but not limited to) candidates to UnSeat Ciscomani in AZ-CD-06) need signatures to get themselves on the primary ballots. YOU CAN HELP. (it's super easy.)

Qualified registered voters (registered Democrats and No Party Preference voters in CD06 that have not signed another petition) can sign candidate petitions online using the E-Qual system from the Secretary of State. You will need your driver's license or voter registration to verify your identity.

Here is the shortened link: <https://go.azsos.gov/2jyc> and here is the full web link: <https://apps.azsos.gov/apps/election/eps/op/>

For Ciscomani's seat, Jo Mendoza is the leading candidate, and has been endorsed by Kelly, Gallego, and others. She still needs your signatures.

D. Canvassing and Lit Drop:

We need help going to door to door to drop anti-Ciscomani voter cards (below). Let us know if you would like to help in your own neighborhood. In addition, you can help UnSeat Ciscomani by helping Mendoza's campaign go door to door. If you are interested, contact claire@joannamendoza.com

(Click on the image to download the pdf of the two-sided card)

JUAN CISCOMANI HIT THE ROAD!



Your Congressman Juan Ciscomani
pretends to be a political moderate

BUT

his **voting record** shows 100% support
for the **extreme Trump / MAGA agenda**

**VOTE HIM OUT
in 2026!!**

6. Team Boycott & Build

MESSAGE FROM THE BOYCOTT AND BUILD TEAM

The Boycott and Build Team will have our next meeting on February 9th at 6pm on Zoom. Want to join us? Send us an e-mail at boycottbuildteam@proton.me and let us know how you'd like to help our team. We'll send you the meeting link information. We are looking for new people to join us who want to take on some leadership roles -- but please join us regardless!

You can learn more about our work on the ITAA website here: <https://www.indivisibletucson.org/boycott-and-build.html> and on our Don't BuyIt Substack page here: <https://dontbuyittucson.substack.com/>

SUPPORT BUSINESSES WHO JOINED IN FRIDAY'S (Jan 30) ICE OUT EVENT

Check out this KGUN 9 story "**Tucson businesses announce plans to close Friday for 'ICE Out! Day of Action':**

<https://www.kgun9.com/news/local-news/tucson-businesses-announce-plans-to-close-for-ice-out-day-of-action-friday>

The story provides a list of a number of businesses who decided to take a stand here in Tucson. Consider visiting them and thanking them for standing up against ICE. These are the types of businesses we need to be supporting as often as we can instead of businesses who suck up to the Trump regime to curry favor and get richer.

A prime example of who to stop supporting is Jeff Bezos. Reportedly spending \$75 million total on the 'Melania' documentary that is in theaters now, we should all be asking ourselves, why in the world would I support someone like this? Ditch Amazon, Whole Foods, your Ring camera, Alexa, Audible, and everything else

Bezos profits from. And while you are at it, be sure to boycott any theater that is showing 'Melania' and tell them why you won't be back. **We have to stop funding the regime.**

If you took place in the ICE Out action this weekend - bravo! Now let's keep it up. Keep up the financial pressure until we save our democracy -- not just for a day, a week, or a month, but consistently for as long as it takes. Support businesses that stand with all of us and permanently ditch the companies that support the regime.

LOOKING FOR IN-PERSON PROTESTS AGAINST SPECIFIC BUSINESSES TO TAKE PART IN?

Though our Boycott and Build Team has not yet been organizing in-person protests against specific companies, other organizers in Tucson have. We encourage you to keep up-to-date on upcoming opportunities with other organizers by visiting <https://www.takeactiontucson.org/>.

7. The "Wyden Siren"

<https://bsky.app/profile/masnick.com/post/3me4z7djj6c2z>

Mike Masnick @masnick.com

"Wrote about some of the history of the Wyden Siren from @wyden.senate.gov and why we should take it VERY seriously when he sends a cryptic letter like he did yesterday.

Techdirt @techdirt.com

<https://www.techdirt.com/2026/02/05/the-wyden-siren-senators-cryptic-cia-letter-follows-a-pattern-thats-never-been-wrong/>

The Wyden Siren: Senator's Cryptic CIA Letter Follows A Pattern That's Never Been Wrong

If you've been paying attention to surveillance and civil liberties issues over the past fifteen years, you've likely learned to recognize a particular pattern. Senator Ron Wyden will occasionally send a public letter that essentially says "hey, I can't

tell you what's happening because it's classified, but something really bad is going on and you should all be paying attention.”

A decade ago some dubbed this the Wyden Siren. And when the Wyden Siren goes off, history tells us we should listen. Because every single time he's done this, he's eventually been proven right.

On Tuesday, Wyden sent a remarkably short letter to CIA Director John Ratcliffe. The entire substantive content is this:

I write to alert you to a classified letter I sent you earlier today in which I express deep concerns about CIA activities.

That's it. That's the whole thing. “Deep concerns about CIA activities.” He can't say what. He can't say why. But he's making damn sure there's a public record that he raised the alarm.

And if he's done that, it means something very, very, very bad is happening.

If you're not familiar with the Wyden Siren, let me walk you through the pattern, because it's been remarkably consistent.

MORE ABOUT THE "Wyden Siren"

Senator, who has repeatedly warned about secret US government surveillance, sounds new alarm over 'CIA activities'

https://techcrunch.com/2026/02/06/senator-who-has-repeatedly-warned-about-secret-u-s-government-surveillance-sounds-new-alarm-over-cia-activities/?utm_source=firefox-newtab-en-us

8. National News

The Risk We Face in Opposing Trump (unlocked article)

https://www.nytimes.com/2026/02/03/opinion/america-ice-trump-minneapolis.html?unlocked_article_code=1.JIA.9MA1.6im3-x3fU2nG&smid=url-share

People often misunderstand nonviolent protest. It is not merely eschewing violence. It doesn't mean that we are silent or that we are not angry. Instead, nonviolent protest means, among many things, that we understand who we are fighting. We know that nothing will reveal who they are more clearly than the contrast between their actions and ours.

Democrat flips reliably red Texas district in victory that stuns Republican party

Taylor Rehmet's win adds to Democrats' record of overperforming in special elections so far this cycle

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2026/feb/01/democrat-wins-red-texas-district-taylor-rehmet>

The People of Minneapolis Will Simply Not Let the ICE Thugs Prevail

A native son explains why attempts to permanently undo the last half-century of societal change are destined to fail because the people who live here just won't allow it.

Dan Simmons, Feb 5, 2026

<https://newrepublic.com/article/206068/people-minneapolis-resistance-ice-thugs>

Judge blocks DHS policy to keep House Dems from visiting detention facilities unannounced

By: Ariana Figueroa - February 2, 2026 11:28 am

<https://sourcenm.com/2026/02/02/repub/judge-blocks-dhs-policy-to-keep-house-dems-from-visiting-detention-facilities-unannounced/>

The Right's Greatest Fear Is an Organized Left

What's happening in Minneapolis is deep democratic participation, and the right says it can't be real.

Paul Waldman

Feb 02, 2026

<https://paulwaldman.substack.com/p/the-rights-greatest-fear-is-an-organized?triedRedirect=true>

Shutting down the Kennedy Center is even more serious than it looks

President Donald Trump is showing his desire to control American culture, echoing similar moves by autocrats around the world. And the Kennedy Center is a test case.

<https://www.ms.now/opinion/trump-kennedy-center-shutdown-renovations-autocracy>

Democrats demand ‘dramatic changes’ for ICE, including masks, cameras and judicial warrants

<https://apnews.com/article/congress-immigration-enforcement-democrats-homeland-security-trump-bcde78c38605732106fb77e46373dc9a>

In Ohio, I Caught a Glimpse of the New Resistance (unlocked article)

https://www.nytimes.com/2026/02/03/opinion/ohio-resistance-trump-ice.html?unlocked_article_code=1.KFA.MawT.B5NZAz0SU-dx&smid=url-share

ICE attorney who said ‘this job sucks’ removed from detail

Julie Le expressed frustration to judge, in response to questions about failure to comply with court orders

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2026/feb/04/ice-attorney-minnesota-removed-after-court-statement>

The criminalizing of protest and dissent has a long history in America

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2026/feb/03/criminalizing-protest-dissent-history>

This is what democracy looks like

February 3, 2026

<https://www.pbump.net/o/this-is-what-democracy-looks-like/>

A Legal Tool for Holding ICE Agents to Account, Hiding in Plain Sight (unlocked article)

A proposal in a 1987 law review article could address a gap that makes it all but impossible to sue federal officials for violating the Constitution.

https://www.nytimes.com/2026/02/02/us/ice-lawsuits-states.html?unlocked_article_code=1.KFA.fgB.ZVccE2SotFZB&smid=url-share

02/05/26

Science Friday: In The Age Of ICE, How Is Our Personal Data Getting Used?

Why Worry About My Data If Have Nothing To Hide?

<https://www.sciencefriday.com/segments/surveillance-data-brokers-ice-privacy/>

NSA detected phone call between foreign intelligence and a person close to Trump

Whistleblower says that Tulsi Gabbard blocked agency from sharing report and delivered it to White House chief of staff

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2026/feb/07/nsa-foreign-intelligence-trump-whistleblower>

Prosecutors Began Investigating Renee Good's Killing. Washington Told Them to Stop. (unlocked article)

Federal prosecutors had a warrant to collect evidence from Ms. Good's vehicle, but Trump administration leaders said to drop it. About a dozen prosecutors have departed, leaving the Minnesota U.S. attorney's office in turmoil.

https://www.nytimes.com/2026/02/07/us/renee-good-investigation-minnesota-trump.html?unlocked_article_code=1.KVA.sFj9.TWFep9nuizc6&smid=url-share

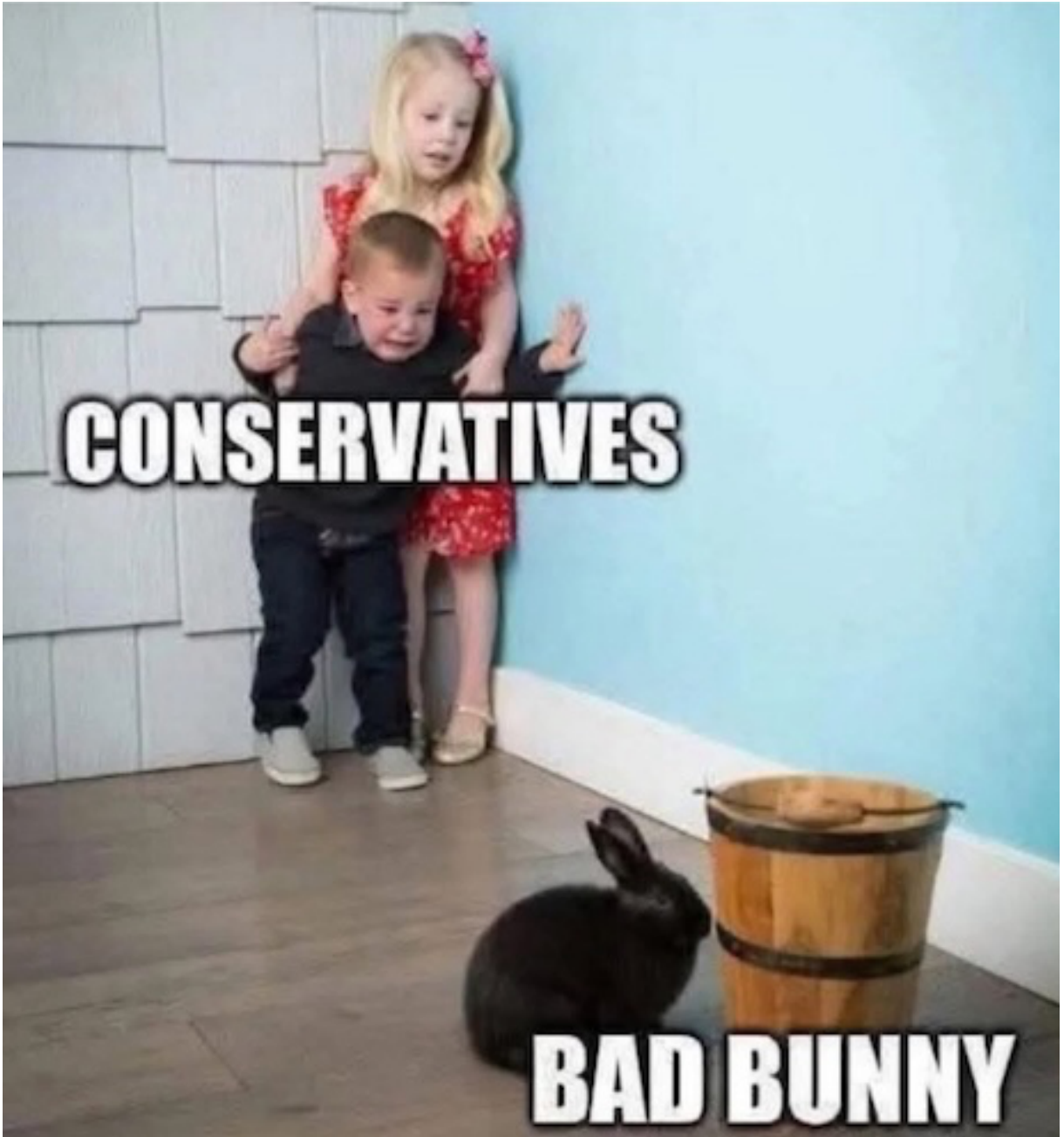
ICE is 'weaponizing your private data,' Oregon senator warns

<https://www.oregonlive.com/politics/2026/02/ice-is-weaponizing-your-private-data-oregon-senator-warns.html>

This will be the most important ad you will see on #SuperBowl Sunday

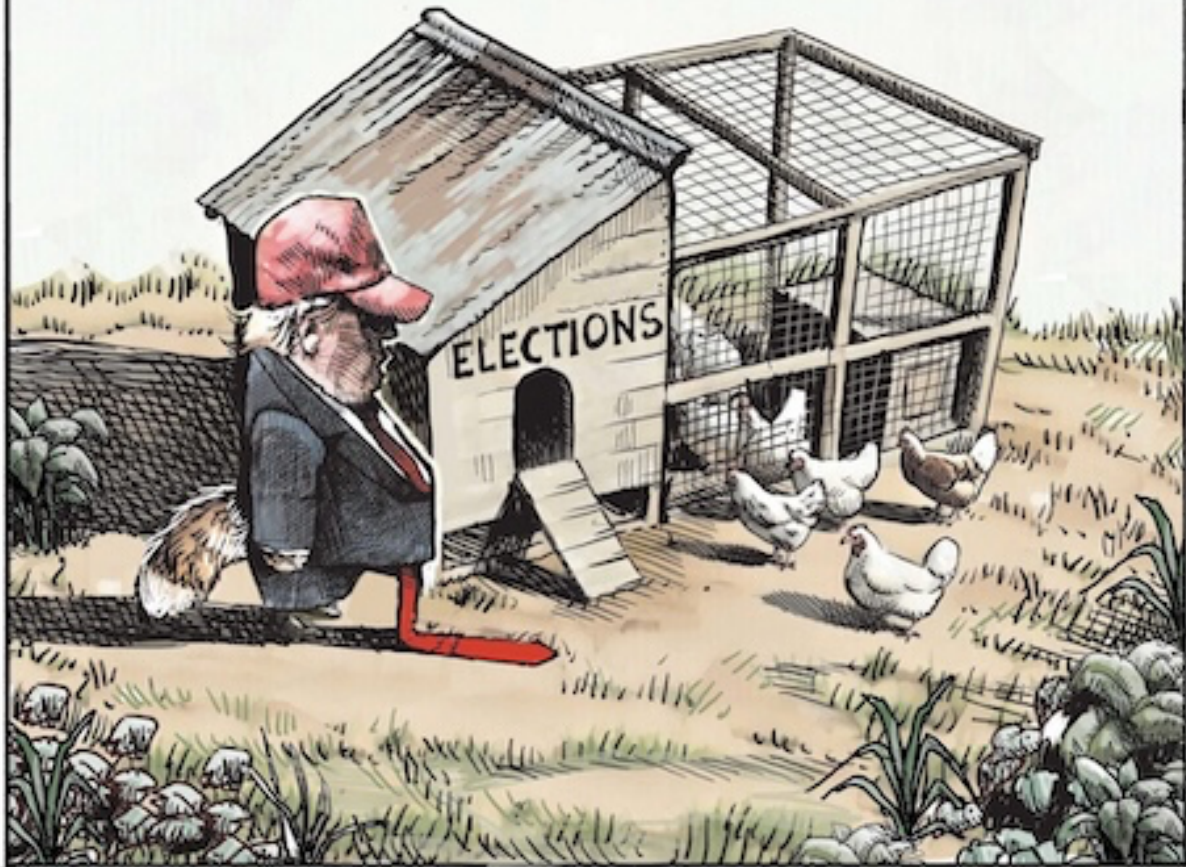
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dcQJjYWxpAs>

9. Humor



HOW NATIONALIZING ELECTIONS WOULD LOOK:

deAter






Slyngstad

Reposted by you



Angry @angrystaffer.bsky.social · 1d




Yes, FBI? I'm calling to report a murder.

 **Governor Hochul Press Office** · 16h 

Won't matter. His name is on the next page too.

 **unusual_whales** @unusual_w... · 17h

Trump: It is time to turn the page on the Epstein scandal

 620  13K  119K  1.8M  

 111

 1.6K

 7.7K



Don't give up the ship!

-- Margrit of ITAA



10. Indivisible National Messages

(a) Halt the Ice Terror Machine

<https://indivisible.org/campaigns/halt-ice-terror/>

Congress is negotiating new funding for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) at a moment when ICE and CBP are inflicting real harm on communities. This resource breaks down what we're demanding and how you can take action.

(b) No Kings 3 and "Do Protests Work?" (Email dated 02/02)

No Kings III now has a date: March 28. It's going to be the largest protest in American history, and the flagship event will be the largest in Twin Cities history.

But what's the point of a protest, even an historically huge one? Last week, we had our friend and social movement expert Erica Chenoweth of "3.5%" fame

<https://www.hks.harvard.edu/centers/carr/publications/35-rule-how-small-minority-can-change-world>

on What's the Plan to discuss the logic of No Kings (you should check out the new WTP podcast here -- like, share, etc, thanks).

It's easy to overplay or underplay the role of mass mobilizations. So let's review two strawman sides of the debate:

Argument A: Protests are the sole answer.

Some folks think the "3.5% rule"

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/3.5%25_rule

means all we need is to get 11-12 million people to show up, and suddenly fascism loses. Already with last year's mobilization, Trump has seen a string of electoral defeats, his poll numbers are in the toilet, and his congressional coalition is fracturing. But as Chenoweth counsels: That 3.5% has to be actively engaged in the work of opposition, before and after national actions. One-day protests aren't a magic solution to fascism.

Argument B: Protests don't work.

Others discount protest entirely. Sure, we saw protests hit historic levels last year. But then what have we seen this year? Venezuela. Greenland. An amped-up secret police

force murdering people in the streets. If anything, the regime is escalating. As we discussed with Chenoweth, while the regime is undeniably weakened, weakened authoritarians lash out. We should expect more of that as the walls close in on Trump -- it's a sign of weakness, not strength.

Where does that leave us?

Reality: Protests are a tactic. Think of organizing like this: goal, strategy, tactics. A campaign that starts with tactics is never gonna accomplish much. A goal with no strategies or tactics is never gonna get us where we want to go. So think in this order: goal, strategy, tactics.

- ***Our goal: Stop the fascist regime from consolidating its grip on power.***
- ***Our strategy: Organize overwhelming, nonviolent people power and foster a culture of mass defiance.***
- ***Our tactics: No Kings is one tactic, that fits into our strategy, and aims to achieve our goal. Specifically, No Kings is designed to do three things:***

1. Model defiance on a national scale. Optimism in the face of fascism is one of the most accessible forms of defiance. The regime's plan is to scare everyone into submission. But millions of people taking to the streets calls the regime's bluff, and is a powerful display of optimistic noncompliance.

2. Create social proof that opposition is widespread. Humans are social animals. We follow each other. A massive demonstration of popular opposition helps reinforce that wherever you are, you're not alone. Courage is contagious, but it only spreads if people see it.

3. Recruit folks who were not previously active. People-powered movements depend on new people flooding into their local organizing home. From ICE watch to mutual aid to advocacy to electoral work, everyone starts somewhere, and each No Kings is the entry point for millions to get involved beyond one day of protest.

This is all important enough that Indivisible's throwing everything we have into making No Kings III historically huge. I think that's a good investment of time, energy, and money.

And I also know it's not enough.

Where we're headed. The people of the Twin Cities are showing us our future. The deep, daily neighborhood-by-neighborhood organizing is breathtaking.

<https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/2026/01/minneapolis-uprising/685755/>

It's what it looks like when contagious courage becomes endemic.

There's a big lesson there, and in the regime's sadistic response.

<https://bsky.app/profile/atrupar.com/post/3mdth7vc6yh22>

This regime doesn't intend to deescalate. It's going to ramp up attacks on our communities while doing everything possible to subvert elections and hold onto power. To defeat fascism, we're going to have to marry the breadth of No Kings mobilizations with the depth of organizing we're seeing in the Twin Cities.

Which is why I got downright emotional seeing the massive response to the Eyes on ICE training Indivisible hosted with our No Kings Coalition partners last week when 200,000 people showed up to learn how to observe and record ICE.

<https://bsky.app/profile/ezralevin.bsky.social/post/3mdh5quoooc23>

Two days after Alex Pretti's murder, and in historic numbers, our neighbors are training to stand up for their rights, just as Alex did, and just as Renee did, and just as countless Minnesotans are doing now.

We're going to win. It's going to take a lot more mobilizing and a lot more training and a lot more organizing. But we're going to win.

In solidarity,
Ezra Levin
Co-Executive Director, Indivisible