

# Protesters outside his Cincinnati house angered JD Vance: What we know

By **Scott Wartman**  
**Cincinnati Enquirer**

Vice President JD Vance confronted protesters [outside his East Walnut Hills home](#) this weekend and made national news. The protesters and Vance gave different accounts of what happened.

Here's what we know.

## **Why was JD Vance in town?**

Vance did not announce any public events over the weekend. He and his family moved to Cincinnati's East Walnut Hills neighborhood in 2018 when he bought a 157-year-old home for \$1.4 million.

Prior to becoming vice president, he split time between the local home and a residence in [the Del Ray neighborhood of Alexandria, Virginia](#). [The vice president also](#) has an official residence in Washington, D.C. It's not clear how often he comes back to Cincinnati, but he's been seen around town eating at local restaurants.

## **What was the protest?**

A group of pro-Ukrainian demonstrators gathered Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the bottom of the hill at the intersection of Columbia Parkway, William Howard Taft Road and Torrence Parkway not far from Vance's home.

They held signs saying, "JD Vance: Ukraine's kids are way more scared than yours," "JD Vance: Have you no shame?" and "Ohio supports Ukraine!" among many other pro-Ukraine sentiments.

## **Why were they protesting?**

[Vance and President Donald Trump's treatment of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky](#) at a Feb. 28 meeting in the Oval Office has touched off a wave of protests in support of Ukraine.

## **What Vance said happened**

Vance was walking around the neighborhood on Saturday with his 3-year-old daughter when protesters followed him, the vice president wrote in a post on the social media site X.

"Today while walking my 3 year old daughter a group of 'Slava Ukraini' protesters followed us around and shouted as my daughter grew increasingly anxious and scared," [Vance said in the post](#).

Vance said he spoke with the protesters "in hopes that I could trade a few minutes of conversation for them leaving my toddler alone."

He described the conversation as "mostly respectful," but added, "if you're chasing a 3-year-old as part of a political protest, you're a (expletive) person."

## **What protesters said happened**

[One demonstrator told WCPO over the weekend](#) that protesters weren't following Vance but happened to come upon him en route to the protest. Demonstrators have described the protest during the weekend as peaceful. Natalie Hastings, a resident of Anderson Township, went to the protest on Sunday after seeing the news coverage. She said the protest was peaceful. "A couple" of motorists seemed upset by the protest, with one giving an obscene hand gesture to the protestors, Hastings said. She estimated about 100 people were there on Sunday. There didn't appear to be a single organizer, she said.

There weren't any interactions between police on the hillside and the protesters, Hastings said.

"It was really supportive, a bunch of people honking in support, waving," Hastings said.

The Enquirer reached out to Cincinnati Police to see if there were any arrests or citations. Police spokesman Lt. Jonathan Cunningham, in a text to The Enquirer, said Vance's visits are primarily handled by Secret Service. He said he didn't "believe anyone was cited over the weekend."

### **What the video shows**

A cellphone video shared across national media and social media shows a small group of people, including the vice president, gathered on a sidewalk.

"People are dying," one woman tells the vice president, [according to a video posted by CNN](#).

Vance, dressed in a red parka and ballcap with a stroller in front of him, responded by saying it's in the best interest of the Ukrainians and the United States for the fighting to stop.

Vance tried to end the conversation.

"I'm with my 3-year-old daughter now," Vance said. "I've talked to you for five minutes."

A woman responded, "You signed up for this job. That's what you agreed to."