

In a tough editorial titled "Royal Reform," The Times of London urged the royal family, as an institution, to slim down and send its children to work. "It is striking," the newspaper notes, that "the queen's children have been most constructive while gainfully employed." Outside such roles, "they represent more of a risk than a benefit to the royal family."

Prince Andrew is held up as an object lesson. "For too long Prince Andrew has lacked a real role," the newspaper said. "He has tried and failed to find one because he has been looking in the wrong place." Instead of a profession, "he has been content to craft for himself the portfolio existence of a freelance royal" and has "depended too much on his friends to help support a lifestyle" that he could not afford himself, "even as a scion of one of Britain's richest families."

As the Times of London columnist Libby Purves wrote about the latest scandal, "Prince Andrew dazzles easily when confronted with immense wealth and apparent power. He has fallen for 'friendships' with bad, corrupt and clever men, not only in the U.S. but in Libya, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tunisia, wherever."

The media frenzy continues, with the British tabloids printing excerpts from what are said to be Ms. ████████ diaries describing her frolic with Prince Andrew in a bathtub, though apparently written only five years ago, in 2009, eight years after she says the encounter occurred. Nor did it help when it emerged recently that Andrew bought a Swiss chalet with his ex-wife, Sarah Ferguson, for \$20 million with a joint mortgage.

Roy Greenslade, a media critic, said the press was right to pursue questions about how Prince Andrew finances such a lifestyle on a naval pension and a modest stipend from his mother, the queen.

But Mr. Greenslade also cautioned that Ms. ████████ allegations "have not been tested in court," noting that Mr. Dershowitz, who also denies the allegations, wants to do precisely that.

Still, some were also reminded of the dangers that lie in the latest generation's escapades. Prince Harry was photographed frolicking naked in Las Vegas and playing strip billiards with a naked woman in August 2012, and there were photos of the prince surrounded by young women in bikinis on the same trip. He was on his way to Afghanistan and apologized when the pictures emerged, saying that "I probably let myself down, I let the family down, I let other people down."

It was, he said, "probably a classic example of me probably being too much army, and not enough prince."

The person close to the royals said: "Not everyone did think it was charming, but it was spun to be 'just young oats.' But there's a potential area of trouble there."

Mr. York said: "I think he'll work out better than Andrew because he's been brought up, due to his mother, in a slightly more modern world. But he still has to find a role and a way of life."

URL: <http://www.nytimes.com/2015/01/17/world/europe/prince-andrew-back-in-the-news-faces-a-familiar-challenge.html>

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GRAPHIC: PHOTOS: Prince Andrew, the Duke of York, in 2012. Allegations that the prince had sex with a minor have resurfaced. Buckingham Palace has issued denials. (PHOTOGRAPH BY LEON NEAL/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE -- GETTY IMAGES) (A4)
Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson, then the Duchess of York, in 1986 after their wedding. The two divorced in 1996. (PHOTOGRAPH BY ASSOCIATED PRESS) (A6)

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