

WHO PAVED THE GROUND FOR AMERICAN NEONATICISM

... who are now terrifying the whole world with their intentions to introduce serfdom, return to feudal relations, even slavery, turn a huge multicultural country into a kingdom, and appoint (yet to be decided) D. Trump or someone else standing behind him as king?

So, who prepared the ground for that? It is easy to answer unequivocally - the Internet, social networks, i.e. new technologies. It was on these platforms that various neo-Nazi groups emerged and established themselves. *also known as - alt-right* groups. When did it start and who contributed the most to it? Everything has already been described - it remains to follow the research of the fallen.

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Alt-right (*abbreviated from alt-right*) is a far-right white nationalist movement. The alt-right, a largely online phenomenon, emerged in the United States in the late 2000s, and by the mid-2010s had gained popularity and taken hold in other countries. The term is loosely defined by academics, journalists, and media commentators, and is used variously by alt-right members themselves. The alt-right includes white supremacists and white nationalists, neo-Nazis, neo-fascists, anti-communists, neo-Confederates, Holocaust deniers, and other far-right groups that in the United States are described as *hate groups*.

Alt-right beliefs are described as isolationist, protectionist, anti-Semitic, and white supremacist, and are identified with neo-Nazism, identitarianism, nativism and Islamophobia, anti-feminism, misogyny and homophobia, right-wing populism, and neo-reactionary movements. The movement concept is associated with several groups, including American nationalists, paleoconservatives, anarcho-capitalists, national anarchists, paleolibertarians, Christian fundamentalists, neo-monarchists, supporters of the men's rights movement, and supporters of Donald Trump's presidential campaign.

The main platforms for communication and exchange with alt-right ideas are image boards, internet forums and portals such as 4chan and 8chan, where *anonymous users* posts internet memes on political topics. The alt-right also makes extensive use of social media such as Twitter and news

portals (Breitbart News) to spread their ideas. Common topics of alt-right posts included Donald Trump's election campaign, as well as criticism of immigration, multiculturalism, and political correctness.¹

Like all hate groups, the alt-right has been characterized by its propaganda and acts of violence. According to a 2018 report by the Southern Poverty Law Center, there have been 13 attacks by alt-right-inspired individuals since 2014, killing or injuring more than 100 people. Political scientists and political leaders have suggested classifying the alt-right as a terrorist or extremist movement. But the movement spread and no one was able to stop it: someone needed it. Who? First, politicians, and...someone else.

For example, American white nationalist Richard B. Spencer founded the online magazine *The Alternative Right* in 2010. His "alt-right" was influenced by earlier forms of American white nationalism, such as paleoconservatism, the Dark Enlightenment, and the Nouvelle Droite. His term was shortened to "alt-right" and popularized on the politics board of the far-right online forum 4chan. He has been associated with other white nationalist websites and groups, including **Andrew Anglin**'s *Daily Stormer*, **Brad Griffin**'s *Occidental Dissent* and **Matthew Heimbach**'s *Traditionalist Worker Party*. In 2015, those ideas spread particularly through **Steve Bannon**'s *Breitbart News*' activities in seeking alt-right support for **Donald Trump's presidential campaign**. It is said that Trump, who was elected, later distanced himself from this movement.

The alt-right movement internationally promotes the pseudoscientific idea of biological racism, identity politics that favors European Americans and white people. Anti-egalitarian in nature, it rejects the liberal democratic basis of U.S. governance and opposes both the conservative and liberal wings of the country's political mainstream. **Many of its members seek to turn the United States into a white separatist ethnostate.** Some alt-right members are anti-Semitic, promoting conspiracy theories about Jews as a danger to white people, while others view most Jews as members of the white race. The alt-right is anti-feminist and Islamophobic. **Its members reject the American democratic ideal that all should be equal before the law, regardless of their beliefs, gender, ethnicity, or race.**

Encyclopædia Britannica defined the alt-right as “a loose association of relatively young white nationalists, extreme libertarians, and neo-Nazis” who “operated primarily online.” The alt-right is “a collection of far-right ideological groups and individuals whose core belief is that ‘white identity’ is being attacked by multicultural forces using ‘political correctness’ and ‘social justice’ to harm white people and ‘their’ civilization.”

The New York Times journalists Aishvarya Kavi and Alan Feuer defined the far right as “a loosely knit group of racists, misogynists and Islamophobes that rose to prominence around **during Mr. Trump's first campaign**”.

The ideological precursors of the alt-right.

The idea of white supremacy dominated American political discourse throughout the 19th and early 20th centuries. After World War II, it was increasingly rejected and relegated to the far right of the country's political spectrum. Far-right groups that espoused such ideas, such as George Lincoln Rockwell's American Nazi Party and William Luther Pierce's National Alliance, remained marginalized.

American white nationalist ideologue **Jared Taylor** became a respected figure among the alt-right; many alt-right members attended events organized by the group he led, American Renaissance.

In the 2000s, under Republican George W. Bush, the white nationalist movement focused on criticizing conservatives rather than liberals, accusing them of betraying white Americans. During this period, they increasingly relied on conspiracy theories developed by the patriot movement since the 1990s; online, the white nationalist and patriot movements increasingly converged.

When Democratic candidate Barack Obama was elected president in 2008, becoming the country's first black president, the worldviews of patriots from various right-wing movements, including white supremacists, became even closer, partly due to a shared racial hostility to Obama.

Many senior alt-right activists previously considered themselves libertarians, and right-wing libertarian theorists **Murray Rothbard** has been cited as a special link between the two movements due to its strong anti-egalitarianism and support for ideas about different IQ levels between racial groups. In the 1990s, there were "alt-right" Usenet groups consisting of extreme libertarians, anarcho-capitalists, and

American writers and philosophers **Ayn Rand** fans who advocated the abolition of the state in favor of private property and markets. In November 2008, the paleoconservative ideologue and academic **Paul Gottfried** gave a talk at his HL Mencken Club in Baltimore. Although the talk was titled "The Decline and Rise of the Alt-Right," it did not contain the phrase "alt-right." Gottfried observed that as the paleoconservative movement waned, a new group of young right-wingers was emerging to take its place and challenge the neoconservative ideology that was then dominating the Republican Party and the broader U.S. conservative movement. **Richard B. Spencer** claimed that he coined the term "alt-right" in 2008.

One of those who supported Gottfried's idea was a fellow paleoconservative **Richard B. Spencer**. Born in 1978 to a wealthy family and raised in Dallas, Texas, Spencer dropped out of a doctoral program at Duke University to work for The American Conservative magazine. In later years, as the "alt-right" became increasingly associated with white nationalism, Gottfried distanced himself from it. When The American Conservative magazine fired Spencer, he became editor-in-chief in 2008. **Taki Theodoracopulos' right-wing website Taki's Magazine** CEO. Initially, the site was written mostly by paleoconservatives and right-wing libertarians, but under Spencer's tenure, white nationalists such as Taylor also found space. In 2009, Spencer was named the white nationalist **Kevin DeAnna** used the term "alt-right" in the title of the article. **By 2010, Spencer had completely transitioned from paleoconservatism to white nationalism.**, although various later press sources have called him a white supremacist. After leaving Taki's Magazine, Spencer founded the online magazine The Alternative Right in 2010. Spencer noted that **"it was the first stage in the unfolding of the Alt-Right movement."** AlternativeRight.com consisted mainly of short essays covering a variety of political and cultural issues. Many of them reflected the influence of the French Nouvelle Droite, although this has been declining with the growth of the alt-right movement. **In 2011, Spencer became the head of the white nationalist National Policy Institute.** and founded a magazine **Radix**, to spread his views. In 2012, he left the AlternativeRight website and deleted it in December 2013. That year, Spencer expressed ambivalence about the "alt-right" label - he preferred to be called **"identitarian"**. "The "alt-right" label was shortened to "alt-right" for public relations purposes, allowing white nationalists

to soften their image and attract new recruits from the conservative wing. Many white nationalists have resorted to this term to avoid the negative connotations of the term "white nationalism". **Spencer believed that the alt-right had become "the banner of white identity politics" at that time.**

According to Hawley, **alt-right was "an outgrowth of internet troll culture"**, and Hermansson et al. observed that **"online antagonistic communities"** were very important in the formation of the alt-right as a separate movement.

Notable alt-right proponents included Spencer, Vox Day, and Brittany Pettibone. Earlier white nationalist thinkers have also been described as alt-right thinkers, including Taylor and MacDonald, while other notable alt-right proponents included Brad Griffin, a neo-Confederate Southern Leaguer who founded the blog Occidental Dissent, Matthew Heimbach, who founded the Traditionalist Youth Network in 2013, and Andrew Anglin, who launched the website Daily Stormer in 2013, named after the Nazi German newspaper Der Stürmer. Anglin has called the Daily Stormer "the most visited alt-right website in the world." While some websites associated with alt-right views, such as The Daily Stormer and Traditionalist Youth Network, have adopted a neo-Nazi stance, others, such as Occidental Dissent, The Unz Review, Vox Popoli, and Chateau Heartiste, have adopted a less extreme form of white nationalism.

Much more widely known than these alt-rights **Breitbart News** a website that received more than 10 million unique visitors per month from 2016 to 2018. It is a website founded in 2005 by conservative Andrew Breitbart, which **In 2012, Steve Bannon took over** As a right-wing nationalist and populist, Bannon was hostile to mainstream conservatism, did not promote white nationalism, and differed from the mainstream conservative press more in tone than in content. **Alt-rightists have called Breitbart "altlite."** Breitbart News, under the leadership of alt-lite Steve Bannon, has developed and popularized alt-right ideas; the writings of Milo Yiannopoulos have been particularly influential. In July 2016, Bannon stated that Breitbart had become an alt-right platform, and journalist Mike Wendling called Breitbart "the main amplifier of alt-right ideas in popular media."

March 2016 writers **Allum Bokhari and Milo Yiannopoulos** published an article in Breitbart magazine discussing the alt-right movement. They downplayed its extreme elements and defended its countercultural value. Bokhari and

Yiannopoulos' article was later widely quoted in the mainstream press, with Hawley describing it as "the most sympathetic portrayal of the movement to appear in mainstream media to date." Many on the alt-right reacted negatively to Bokhari and Yiannopoulos' article. The Daily Stormer called it "the product of a degenerate homosexual and an ethnic miscegenation."

Donald Trump's 2016 presidential campaign is approaching. The alt-right largely supported Donald Trump's presidential bid, although he distanced himself from the movement. Billionaire businessman Donald Trump's announcement of his plans to run for the Republican nomination for president attracted interest from the alt-right, as well as from the broader white nationalist, neo-Nazi, KKK, and Patriot movement. Trump's campaign inspired the alt-right and gave them the opportunity to reach a wider audience. Niewert noted that "Trump was the gateway to the alt-right," with many people learning about the movement through their interest in Trump.

Ideologically, the alt-right remained "far to the right of Trump," and Trump himself had little understanding of the movement. Many alt-righters acknowledged that Trump did not share their white nationalism and would not achieve all the changes they wanted, but they nevertheless supported his hardline stance on immigration, his calls to ban Muslims from entering the United States and to build a wall along the border with Mexico to curb illegal immigration. They were grateful that he had shifted the national conversation to the right, and that he had shown that it was possible to challenge the mainstream conservative movement from the right. Griffin urged the alt-right to "join the Trump campaign... to overthrow the hated conservative establishment." A small minority of alt-righters opposed supporting Trump. However, **In August 2016, Trump appointed Bannon to lead his election campaign.** Presidential candidate Hillary Clinton immediately blasted Bannon's claim that Breitbart was an "alt-right platform," describing the movement as an "emerging racist ideology" and warning that "a fringe element has effectively taken over the Republican Party."

When Trump won the election in November, the far-right reacted with triumph. Anglin declared, "Make no mistake: we did it. Without us, this wouldn't have been possible." Spencer tweeted, "The far-right has been declared the winner... We are now the establishment." The far-right supported Trump's decision to appoint Bannon as his chief strategist and Jeff Sessions as attorney general.

After Trump's election, Wendling said that **Trump's election marks the 'beginning of the end' of the alt-right movement**, and from that point on, the movement's growth stalled. In celebration of Trump's victory, Spencer held a rally in Washington in November where he said he believed he was connected **""a psychic connection, a deeper connection with Donald Trump that we just don't have with most Republicans""**He ended the conference by declaring: "Glory to Trump! Glory to our people! Glory to victory!", to which various participants responded with Nazi salutes and chants.

Later that month, Trump was asked about the alt-right movement in an interview with The New York Times. He replied, "I don't want to incite the group and I don't support its members." This denial angered many alt-righters. Hawley noted that the alt-right's influence on the Trump administration was "insignificant." However, press sources said that several appointments in the Trump administration were linked to the alt-right, including senior adviser to the president Stephen Miller, national security adviser Michael Flynn, deputy assistant to the president Sebastian Gorka, special assistant to the president Julia Hahn, and speechwriter Darren Beattie.

In 2016, Twitter began shutting down alt-right accounts that were posting insults or harassment. Among those shut down were Spencer's and his NPI accounts. In February 2017, Reddit shut down the subreddit r/altright after it was found that its members had violated its policy prohibiting doxing. Facebook then shut down Spencer's pages on its platform in April 2018. In January 2017, Spencer launched a new website, Altright.com.

In August 2017, the Unite the Right rally was held in Charlottesville, Virginia, and was attended by members of the far-right and other far-right movements. Many far-right activists believed that the rally would mark a turning point in their movement's transformation from an online phenomenon to a street movement. The rally saw a variety of violent acts. DeAndre Harris, an African-American, was attacked by demonstrators, and Richard W. Preston, the Imperial Warlock of the White Knights of the Confederate Ku Klux Klan, based in Maryland, fired a gun at counter-protesters. One protester, a 20-year-old man from Ohio named James Alex Fields Jr., drove his car into counter-protesters, killing 32-year-old Heather D. Heyer and injuring 35 others. While Spencer condemned the killing, other alt-right activists celebrated it.

Trump said there were "very fine people on both sides" of the Charlottesville protests, suggesting that what he called the "cold left" was partly responsible for the violence. Spencer said he was "very proud" of the president for the comments. Amid criticism of his comments, Trump added that he believed "racism is evil" and that "those who commit violence in its name are criminals and thugs."

Breitbart and Yiannopoulos distanced themselves from the alt-right, claiming they had "nothing to do with Spencer." The far-right movement weakened significantly in 2017 and 2018. This was due to several factors, including the negative reaction to the Unite the Right rally. However, other neo-Nazi groups emerged and organized violent acts.

In 2020, several alt-right organizations were founded outside the United States, including the Australian National Socialist Network and the Canadian group Diagon. Diagon participated in the 2022 Canadian Convoy protest. In 2024, the Canadian alt-right organization Second Sons was founded by Canadian podcaster and war veteran Jeremy MacKenzie, the same person who founded Diagon. On November 16, 2024, 11 days after Trump was re-elected president, the alt-right neo-Nazi group Hate Club 1488 marched through Columbus, Ohio, and several groups held a roadside demonstration in Decatur, Alabama. The American magazine Wired compiled all reported cases of similar neo-Nazi demonstrations and found that alt-right neo-Nazi rallies were on the rise.

The main division within the alt-right movement is between those who explicitly support neo-Nazi and white supremacist positions, and those white nationalists who present a more moderate image.

The alt-right is a white nationalist movement that is fundamentally concerned with white identity. They view all political issues in the context of race. Spencer has described the alt-right as "identity politics for white Americans and Europeans around the world", while alt-right spokesman Greg Johnson of CounterCurrents Publishing has stated that "The alt-right stands for white nationalism". Not all alt-right members actively use the term "white nationalist"; Spencer is one of those who prefers to call themselves "identityists". Main has described the alt-right as promoting "white racism", while Hawley has commented that the alt-right is "essentially a racist movement".

Rejecting the idea that race is a sociocultural construct, the alt-right promotes scientific racism, arguing that racial categories distinguish biologically distinct groups. They call this belief "racial realism." A recurring trend among the alt-right is to organize these races into a hierarchy based on perceived intelligence quotient (IQ). At the top of this hierarchy are Asians and Ashkenazi Jews, followed by non-Jewish whites, then Arabs, and finally black Africans.

After analyzing alt-right posts online, political scientists Joe Phillips and Joseph Yi observed that a core theme is the belief that white people are victims and that white Americans have been discriminated against due to government policies, for supporting non-white groups, for aiding illegal immigrants, and for belittling Christopher Columbus and the Confederate States of America.

The alt-right is typically white separatist, with members seeking autonomy within their white communities. Some envision the United States being divided into several states, each inhabited by a different ethnic or racial group, one or more of which would represent white ethnic states. Writing in the *Pacific Standard*, journalist Jared Keller commented that this desire for an independent ethnostate is similar to the anarcho-fascist ideas promoted by the British National Anarchist Movement.

Some alt-righters like to fantasize in the empty space: they dare to promote a common white empire that would encompass Europe and North America. Spencer wanted his white ethnic state in North America to eventually become part of a "global empire" that could provide "a homeland for all white people," expanding its territory into the Middle East, conquering Istanbul, which, in his words, was "such a deeply symbolic city. Retaking it would be a statement to the world." The alt-right's fantasies don't end there. And there's much more that could be mentioned. Fantasies of fantasy, but in reality just empty words, a lot of arrogance and a desire to appear even more "patriotic" than other patriots. For example, a fairly prominent alt-right ideologue, Brad Griffin, has stated: "The alt-right presents itself as a new, elegant challenge to mainstream conservatism and libertarianism...The alt-right was created to attract a younger audience that rejects the left but also does not fit into the narrow or banal right." The alt-right pays little attention to economic issues. Unlike mainstream US conservatives, the alt-right is not inclined to support laissez-faire economics, and most seem to **supports President Trump's protectionist economic measures.**

It is not surprising, then, that **The alt-right often favors Russian President Vladimir Putin**, viewing him as a strong, nationalist white leader defending his country from both radical Islam and Western liberalism. Spencer has praised Putin's Russia as "the most powerful white power in the world", while prominent alt-right figure Matthew Heimbach has called Putin "the leader of the free world". Although the American right often saw the Soviet Union as the main threat to the United States during the Cold War, ties between the American far right and Russia grew stronger in the 2000s, with prominent far-right activists such as David Duke visiting the country. The latter described Russia as "the key to white survival". The far-right Russian political theorist Alexander Dugin is also viewed favorably by alt-right figures. Dugin has written for Spencer's websites. Many alt-righters also consider (considered!!!) Syrian President Bashar al-Assad to be a heroic figure who resisted rebel groups in the Syrian civil war.

Alt-right attitudes towards women.

By supporting a more patriarchal society, the alt-right is anti-feminist. Unlike many conservatives in the United States, the alt-right does not base its anti-feminist stance on traditional Christian perspectives. Instead, the alt-right claims to be rooted in what they call "sex realism," arguing that biological differences make men and women suited to different roles in society. Lyons has commented that the alt-right has been misogynistic and has portrayed women as irrational and vindictive. The Daily Stormer has banned women from collaborating and called for a reduction in female participation in the white nationalist movement, drawing outrage from various white nationalist women.

The alt-right intersects with the manosphere, an online anti-feminist subculture, including the men's rights movement, which believes that men are more oppressed than women in Western society. They believe that feminism has damaged and depleted men, and that men should aggressively reassert their masculinity so as not to become "beta males" or "males." Some alt-right figures have distanced themselves from the manosphere and its supporters. Greg Johnson of Counter-Currents Publishing has argued that "the manosphere morally corrupts men" because it does not encourage "a revival of traditional and biologically based sexual norms." The alt-right is much less interested in homosexuality and abortion than the conservative movement in the United States, while the alt-right views these issues differently.

Attitude towards religion

The alt-right is a fundamentally secular part of the movement. **Many of its members are atheists, or very skeptical of organized religion and God.** Some alt-right members identify as Christians. There are also those within the movement who do not believe in Christian teachings but who consider themselves cultural Christians, admiring the Christian heritage of Western society. Other alt-right members are outright opposed to Christianity, criticizing it for its Jewish roots, for being a universal religion that seeks to transcend racial boundaries, and for promoting what they see as "slave morality." Some elements profess modern paganism. White evangelical leaders belonging to the Southern Baptist Church have angered the far-right movement by expressing support for refugees entering the United States, calling for measures to help illegal immigrants gain legal status, and urging members not to display the Confederate battle flag. Nevertheless, the far-right's hostility to Christianity has diminished over time, with many far-right commentators identifying as Christians but rejecting mainstream Christian politics and most major Christian religious leaders, notably Pope Francis.

Several media outlets have linked the far-right to Islamophobia, and Wendling has argued that far-right supporters see Islam as a fundamental threat to Western society. Hawley has opined that "ironically, far-right people are less Islamophobic than many mainstream conservatives." He has noted that many U.S. conservatives have criticized Muslim immigration to the United States because they see Islam as a threat to freedom.

Alt-right structure

Alt-right groups live, recruit, and coordinate (and thus thrive) online. And from what we can already see, they do so in much the same way that ISIS-supporting groups thrive and coordinate, yet Facebook has so far been in no hurry to shut them down.

Academic Timothy J. Main described it as an "ideological movement" more interested in spreading its ideas than in acting as a social movement or political party, and according to Hawley, the alt-right was "a loose mob that broadly subscribes to a wide range of goals and beliefs." The alt-right is not an organized movement and has no formal institutions or leading elite. It is largely an online phenomenon, lacking print media and having little

radio or television. According to Hawley, it was the movement's success with the Internet that allowed it to "punch above its weight in the political arena." The movement's online structure had its strengths, as it allowed members to say things anonymously online that they would not have said on the street or in any other public place. The lack of a formal organization also meant that no one could be excluded from the alt-right movement. The alt-right's online activities allow its members to operate anonymously, and in order to participate in events, they often have to reveal their views to journalists and protesters, increasing the likelihood that their views will become public knowledge. The far-right in the United States has also sought to establish ties with other far-right and white nationalist groups elsewhere in the world. For example, Heimbach reached out to nationalists in Greece and Germany. Far-right activists living in the US used social media to encourage support for the Alternative for Germany party in the country's 2017 federal elections.

Harassment tactics

Wendling noted that politically motivated smear campaigns are a "classic alt-right tactic," while Hawley called the alt-right "part of a broader internet troll culture." **This trolling contributed to inciting racial hatred** and brought the movement to the attention of the press. The most common targets were Jewish journalists, conservative journalists, and celebrities who had publicly criticized Trump. Such harassment was usually spontaneous rather than premeditated, but in various cases many alt-right trolls joined in. After criticizing Trump and the alt-right, conservative journalist David A. French, who is white, received a lot of abuse related to his white wife and adopted black daughter. Alt-right trolls sent him photos of his daughter in a gas chamber and repeatedly claimed that he enjoyed watching his wife have sex with "black deer."

Geographic distribution

The anonymous and decentralized nature of the alt-right movement makes it difficult to determine the number of individuals involved or the demographics of its membership. The movement's membership is primarily based in the United States, but there are also participants in other English-speaking countries such as Canada, the United Kingdom, and Australia, as well as in parts of continental Europe. Recognizing that

that the US is a "central" part of the alt-right movement, Hermansson et al. emphasized that it is an "international phenomenon."

Statistics

Alt-right figures have offered their own estimates of the size of their membership. In 2016, Anglin estimated the movement's "unified constituency" to be between 4 and 6 million people, while Griffin estimated that its core membership was in the hundreds of thousands, with a larger number of supporters. Main found that between September 2016 and February 2018, alt-right websites averaged 1.1 million unique visitors per month, compared to 46.9 million unique visitors for broader right-wing websites and 94.3 million unique visitors for left-wing websites. He assessed the size of the alt-right as "minimal [sic]". Thomas Main, based on web traffic, estimated that alt-right websites, excluding Breitbart News, have a readership comparable to that of small magazines such as Commentary or Dissent.

In 2017, after the Charlottesville car attack, an ABC News/Washington Post poll found that 10% of all Americans supported the alt-right. In their 2020 study on the subject, researchers Patrick Forscher and Nour Kteily estimated that alt-right support among the general American population was 6%, while **among Trump supporters, this number rises to 10%.**

Age and gender

The alt-right movement is predominantly male, although Hawley has suggested that about 20% of its supporters may be female. Based on the nature of online discourse and attendees at events organized by NPI and American Renaissance, Hawley has suggested that most alt-right participants are, on average, younger than those of most previous American far-right groups.

Wending also believed that the alt-right movement tried to position itself as a "cool bunch of young smart kids," but that was a mistake. He found that many of those active on alt-right forums were middle-aged men from working-class families.

Tait said that younger members of the alt-right "recognized that the internet allowed them to bypass the systems that marginalized their ancestors. It was this younger cohort that shaped [the movement]." Tait also said that "the majority of the movement was made up of young male YouTubers and meme creators who spread misogynistic,

anti-liberal, anti-Semitic and often racist ideas, **posting pro-Trump or anti-progressive memes** under the guise of absurd pseudonyms."

American studies scholar Annie Kelly has argued that the alt-right movement has been influenced by a pervasive "discourse of anxiety about traditional white masculinity" in mainstream US culture. She believes that much of the "foundation" for this discourse was laid by the conservative movement after the September 11, 2001 attacks.

An ABC News/The Washington Post poll found that 10% of respondents supported the alt-right movement, while 50% opposed it. An Ipsos/Reuters poll found that 6% supported the movement. Such polls show that while millions of Americans support the alt-right movement's message, they remain a clear minority.

Trump's election led to the release of various books about the alt-right movement. In 2018, the documentary film *Alt-Right: Age of Rage* was released. Directed by Adam Bhala Lough, it featured interviews with Spencer and Taylor, as well as anti-fascist activists dedicated to combating the alt-right.

Opposition to the alt-right movement

"Trump is with us alt-right." Anti-Trump protesters highlight what they see as his ties to the alt-right movement and historical fascism by dressing up as Hitler and Mussolini.

The alt-right movement has presented journalists, progressives, and conservatives with a "unique set of challenges." Its opponents have been unable to agree on how to respond to it, and there has been much debate in U.S. public discourse about how to avoid its normalization. Some opponents have emphasized the tactic of "criticism," calling the alt-right movement "racist," "sexist," "homophobic," and "white supremacist," believing that this will deter people from using it. Many commentators have urged journalists not to call the alt-right by its chosen name, but to use terms such as "neo-Nazi." In 2017, the Associated Press advised journalists to avoid the term. The activist group Stop Normalizing has created a Chrome extension called "Stop Normalizing Alt Right" that replaces the term "alt-right" with "white supremacist" on websites.

Some on the political right, including Yiannopoulos, have argued that the alt-right's appeal would diminish if the public accepted many of its less extreme demands, including curbing political correctness and mass immigration.

Commentators such as conservative David Frum have argued that if issues such as immigration policy were more openly discussed in public discourse, the alt-right would no longer be able to monopolize them.

Some opponents have sought to break the alt-right's stereotype of the left as lacking humor and joy by using humor and irony tactics they themselves developed against them; for example, calling angry alt-righters "snowflakes" who were "excitable." Anti-fascists have also adopted jokes used by the alt-right. On several occasions, they have publicized meetings to destroy Confederate monuments or tombstones.

Various opponents have used doxing to publicly expose the identities and addresses of far-right activists, many of whom previously operated anonymously. This has discouraged individuals from engaging in far-right activity, fearing that exposure as far-right activists could result in job loss, social exclusion, or violence. Since 2016, some anti-fascists have also resorted to physical confrontation and violence against the movement. For example, on the day of Trump's inauguration, a masked anti-fascist punched Spencer in the face as he spoke to reporters; the video was widely shared online.

Other commentators have called for governments and companies to tighten their grip on the internet to combat the alt-right movement. Banning the alt-right from mainstream social media would limit it to far-right websites like Stormfront, thereby isolating it from those not yet committed to its cause. Many alt-right supporters agree that banning access to social media would undermine its ability to proselytize.

Alt-left

In the 1990s, a loose group of left-wing online activists based on Usenet groups called themselves **"alt-left" or "atleft"** to distinguish their ideas from more mainstream left-wing thought. At the time, ideas promoted by alt-left activists included universal basic income and hostility to work. As the term "alt-left" gained popularity in the 2010s, it was increasingly used to describe far-left groups; among the press sources that did so were Fox News in December 2016 and Vanity Fair in March 2017. Following the Unite the Right rally that same year,

Trump commented that some of the counter-protesters were part of a "very, very violent... alt-left" movement.

Commentator Brian Dean thought that **Trump has essentially equated the term "alt-left" with "anti-fascist."** In response to Trump's use of the term, various commentators have criticized the use of the term "alt-left", arguing that it was not created or adopted by the left, but rather was created by right-wing and/or centrist liberals to denigrate left-wing protesters by falsely identifying the alt-right with their opponents. Historian Timothy D. Snyder has argued that "alt-right" is a term... intended to provide a new label that sounds more appealing than "Nazi", "neo-Nazi", "white supremacist", or "white nationalist".

The "alt-left" is a different story. There is no group that describes itself that way.

Non-Western equivalents

Some people outside the Western world have adopted alt-right memes, slang, and imagery to promote different extremist ideologies unrelated to white nationalism. Examples: **"akh-right", which is Islamist** and promotes similar policies to traditional Islamist groups such as the Taliban, but with a different aesthetic. **The alt-right and alt-right supporters have come together online to support anti-Semitism, misogyny, homophobia, and the Taliban themselves. This is why the fusion of extremist groups of all stripes is so dangerous. It must be emphasized once again that Nazis will always find common ground with Nazis in other countries.**

And here it is **"Trads, India's alt-right subculture**, promotes Hindu nationalism, Brahmin supremacy, and Islamophobia. They use a saffron-colored version of Pepe the Frog to avoid the original green color's associations with Islam. The Trads believe that **mainstream Hindu rightists like Narendra Modi are *not dedicated enough* for true Hinduism.** This should only be welcomed, because India is a powerful nuclear power.

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* Sources:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alt-right>

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