

The Escalation of Trump: Stormfront and the 2016 Election

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This paper explores the 2016 presidential election through the lens of Stormfront, the first Internet Web site dedicated to individuals who self-identify as white nationalists. Since 1995, the year of its inception, Stormfront has grown to 318,688 members worldwide. At the end of December 2016, the site contained 944,557 threads and 12,206,400 individual posts. The Internet site is a rich source of material that represents attitudes of a segment of the white population who believe that they are marginalized due to multiculturalism and immigration patterns from Latin America along with countries from the Middle East, Asia, and Africa. Findings indicate that not all people who are affiliated with Stormfront supported Donald Trump's candidacy and subsequent election. Some discussants hoped, that if elected, he would shake up Washington and many supported his opinions about women, minority populations, and immigration. One of the key factors in less than overwhelming support among white nationalists who populate the online world of Stormfront was distrust based on his Jewish connections through his daughter Ivanka and son in law, Jared Kushner. *[Article copies available for a fee from The Transformative Studies Institute. E-mail address: journal@transformativestudies.org Website: <http://www.transformativestudies.org> ©2018 by The Transformative Studies Institute. All rights reserved.]*

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