



Kellyanne Conway doubles down on speculation a trove of hidden Trump voters will shock on Election Day

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Former White House counselor Kellyanne Conway believes President Donald Trump's reelection chances will be boosted by "even more" supporters who are currently "undercover."

Conway pointed to the many "hidden" Trump supporters who came out in 2016 to help secure the president's White House victory, saying in an interview released Wednesday by Showtime's "The Circus" that the type of voters who will come out of the shadows to vote for Trump in November may be surprising to some.

In a sometimes contentious interview filmed during the week of the Republican National Convention last month, Conway pushed back on claims about Trump supporters by Jennifer Palmieri, former President Obama's White House communications chief.

After Palmieri contended that the "vast majority of his support is white working Americans," Conway called out the "snide remarks" made against Trump supporters.

"I always feel a fire in my belly, a bile in my throat when people, who are the way I grew up, are mocked and ridiculed as either irredeemable or deplorable or looked down upon because they go to church or they own a firearm," she said.

“But I’ve got to tell you, as the person who coined the term, ‘hidden, undercover Trump voter’ in 2016, there are even more of them, and they’re even more committed now, and they’re going to surprise you as to who they are this time,” Conway said.

She noted a poll indicating that a majority of Trump supporters are “afraid to even express themselves,” likely referring to a Cato Institute poll released in July which found that 62 percent of Americans, mostly conservatives, are afraid to share their political views.

“But they express themselves at the ballot box,” Conway said.

The president’s former 2016 campaign manager, who announced that she was leaving her position in the administration at the end of last month, also reiterated her personal support for Trump.

“I very much believe in America, and I think America needs a leader for a time such as this,” she told Palmieri, a former adviser to Hillary Clinton’s 2016 campaign.

A new opinion piece by J.T. Young, former director of communications in the Office of Management and Budget under President George W. Bush, echoed Conway’s contention about silent Trump supporters who “are far more likely to hide their preference in polls.”

“There is growing suspicion that Trump supporters are not divulging their preferences to pollsters. This would hardly be surprising considering the left’s current cancel culture climate,” Young wrote in an op-ed published by [The Hill](#).

Trump supporters were found to be “significantly more reluctant to share their opinions on phone surveys compared to Biden supporters,” according to a [CloudResearch](#) study.

“These seemingly small percentages could have major November implications,” Young contended, citing 2016 exit polling.

“The left have brought the hidden Trump supporter problem on themselves. By ‘villainizing’ Trump supporters, they have made a dangerously high percentage invisible. Despite intending to avoid Clinton’s 2016 mistake of misappropriating her resources, they may be recreating it unintentionally for Biden’s campaign,” Young wrote.

“If true in even small percentages, an imposing Trump surge could be hiding within the electorate,” he noted.

“A hidden Trump supporter phenomenon in 2020 could be no less dramatic than the president’s 2016 upset. It could also have an even bigger political impact if those hidden voters also vote Republican down-ballot,” Young added.

A July 15 Monmouth University survey in Pennsylvania revealed that 57 percent of those surveyed believed there were “secret” Trump voters in their communities. The issue could have major implications as Trump narrows the gap between himself and Biden who was leading by small percentages in polls following the conventions last month.