

### *What is the Q movement?*

Q research is a political movement that emerged in 2017, originating from anonymous online posts by a figure known as "Q" said to be high up in the Trump administration[1][2][3]. Q followers believe that a secret cabal of Satan-worshipping pedophiles, including prominent Democrats and celebrities, controls world affairs and operates a global child sex-trafficking ring[1][2][4]. Anons claim that Donald Trump is working to expose and defeat this cabal[1][2][3]. The movement evolved from an earlier incident called "Pizzagate"[1][4]. Q research spread rapidly through social media, attracting followers who interpret cryptic messages or "Q-drops" posted on 4chan and 8kun.[1][3]. Trumpian cultists often incorporate elements that resemble apocalyptic religious beliefs[1][2][3]. Q researchers create memes to influence the culture based on their unfounded beliefs[1][3].

[1] Martin, C. (2022). *Terms of Service: The Real Cost of Social Media* (p. 105). B&H Books.

[2] Verhaagen, D. (2022). *How white evangelicals think: the psychology of white conservative christians*. Cascade Books.

[3] Ian Fleming, M. (2024). *The End Is the Beginning* (p. 31). Broadleaf Books.

[4] Struckmeyer, K. (2023). *People of the Way: Passion and Resistance in a Postmodern World*. Resource Publications.