

# CONSPIRACY THEORIES

/kən'spɪrəsi θiəri/

Noun:

[ A proposed plot that rejects the standard explanation for an event and instead credits a covert group or organization with carrying out a secret plot. Their goal is sinister and they have something to gain from what they're doing while not having people's best interests at heart ]

Conspiracy theories are speculative and they're not supported by actual evidence.

Many conspiracies are a deliberate attempt to misinform the public for political gain and leverage.

People tend to believe theories that reaffirm their beliefs more easily.

## Why people believe in them?

### Epistemic motives

The desire to maintain a thorough understanding of the world

### Existential motives

The need to be in control of a situation and feel safe & secure

### Social motives

The human need to interact with others & to be accepted by them

## Fun facts

Traits like extreme paranoia, narcissism & deep suspicion of others contribute in conspiracy beliefs

Younger people believe more in conspiracy theories than older people do

Man and woman are equally likely to believe conspiracy theories

