

List of Conspiracy Theories:

1. The Salem Witch Trials
2. The JFK Assassination
3. The Illuminati and the Freemasons
4. The Stab-in-the-back (Germany's WWI defeat)
5. Operation INFEKTION: the CIA and AIDS
6. QAnon
7. The Second Red Scare, the John Birch Society, and McCarthyism
8. Vaccines and Autism
9. Did the Jews Cause the Black Death?

Recommended General Readings (essays and articles):

MacCath-Moran, Ceallaigh S. "What is a conspiracy theory?". *Folklore & Fiction*. 6 February 2020, csmaccath.com/blog/what-conspiracy-theory

Hofstadter, Richard. "The Paranoid Style in American Politics". *Harper's Magazine*, November 1964, harpers.org/archive/1964/11/the-paranoid-style-in-american-politics

Cheatham, Mark R. "Conspiracy Theories Abounded in 19th-Century American Politics". *Smithsonian Magazine*, 11 April 2019, smithsonianmag.com/history/conspiracy-theories-abounded-19th-century-american-politics-180971940/

Griffiths, Edmund. "Truth shall make you free". *Weekly Worker*, 30 April 2020, weeklyworker.co.uk/worker/1297/truth-shall-make-you-free/

Rohde, David. "How America Escapes Its Conspiracy-Theory Crisis". *The New Yorker*, 29 October 2020, newyorker.com/news/the-future-of-democracy/how-america-escapes-its-conspiracy-theory-crisis

Additional references related to specific conspiracy theories available from the moderators on request

Books (not required):

Olmsted, Kathryn S. *Real Enemies: conspiracy theories and American democracy, World War I to 9/11*. Oxford University Press, 2009 (available online and at C/W MARS)

Uscinski, Joseph E and Parent, Joseph M. *American Conspiracy Theories*. Oxford Press, 2014 (available online at Oxford Scholarship Online August 2014)

