

## American Dialect Society 2016 Words of the Year

NOMINATIONS to be voted on by  
the American Dialect Society  
Jan. 6, 2017, Austin, TX

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### POLITICAL WORD OF THE YEAR

**deplorables (basket of)**: epithet used by Clinton in speech about Trump supporters  
**nasty woman**: epithet used by Trump addressing Clinton in final presidential debate  
**Pantsuit Nation**: popular Facebook group for Clinton supporters  
**post-truth**: belonging to a time in which facts matter less than beliefs and emotions  
**unpresidented**: erroneous version of *unprecedented* in a tweet by Trump

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### DIGITAL WORD OF THE YEAR

**fam**: one's crew, squad, circle of friends, etc.  
**Harambe**: gorilla killed at Cincinnati Zoo, launching numerous tributes and memes  
**tweetstorm**: series of connected tweets about a particular subject, often a passionate rant  
**@**: (verb) reply on Twitter using the @ symbol

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### SLANG WORD OF THE YEAR

**fire**: (adj.) cool, fun, stylish  
**receipts**: proof (as in "show me the receipts")  
**slay**: succeed, be excellent or amazing  
**woke**: socially aware or enlightened

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### MOST USEFUL/LIKELY TO SUCCEED

**chip**: (verb) insert a bank card into an electronic chip reader (as opposed to *swipe*)  
**gaslight**: psychologically manipulate a person into questioning their own sanity  
**normalize**: render normal that which was previously deemed beyond acceptable bounds  
**turn up**: get excited, have fun, enjoy oneself

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### MOST CREATIVE

**-exit**: combining form relating to departure, after *Brexit* (*Calexit*, *Texit*, *Brangelexit*)  
**facticide**: killing or distortion of facts  
**gynotician**: politician seen as interfering with women's healthcare  
**laissez-fairydust**: magical effect brought upon by laissez-faire economics

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### EUPHEMISM OF THE YEAR

**alt-right**: umbrella term for extremist racial ideologies including white nationalism and white supremacy  
**fake news**: misinformation, hoaxes, and propaganda, especially as spread on social media sites to boost web traffic  
**locker-room banter**: lewd, vulgar talk (used by Trump to downplay Access Hollywood tape)  
**small/tiny hands**: jab at hand size implying other anatomical deficiencies

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### WTF WORD OF THE YEAR

**bigly**: in a significant manner (from widespread mishearing of Trump's use of *big-league*)  
**cuck, cuckservative**: derisive term for mainstream Republicans by alt-right  
**pussy**: term for female genitalia used by Trump in Access Hollywood tape  
**yuge**: dialect pronunciation of *huge* used by Trump and Bernie Sanders






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### HASHTAG OF THE YEAR

**#blackgirlmagic**: celebration of black women and their achievements  
**#NoDAPL**: protest against construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline  
**#OscarsSoWhite**: criticism of Academy Award nominees' lack of diversity  
**#pussygrabsback**: rallying cry responding to Trump's "pussy" remark

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### EMOJI OF THE YEAR

: raising hands (celebration, praise)  
: raised fist (fist pump, solidarity)  
: upside-down face (silliness, sarcasm, irony)  
: fire ("lit," exciting); : dumpster fire

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### WORD OF THE YEAR

*Nominations to be made at final meeting.*

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