

June 20, 2016

## **Fusion 2016 Issues Poll: Visions of President Trump, in a Word**

“Awesome” to “yikes” covers the range of single-word responses from young adults when it comes to the idea of a Donald Trump presidency, with a few choice cuss words thrown in, the latest Fusion 2016 Issues poll finds.

Negative responses far exceed positive ones. “Scary,” “horrifying,” “terrified” and “no” are among the terms that top the list, though “okay” and even “good” receive mentions as well. And some young adults, perhaps remarkably, say they’re “indifferent” to a Trump presidency.

The survey was conducted by cell and landline telephone among a random national sample of 983 adults age 18 to 35. It asked a simple, open-ended question: “What one word best describes how you feel about the possibility of Donald Trump as president?”

A wide range of responses followed – about 70 percent of them negative, with the rest divided between neutral and positive comments. Using raw numbers rather than percentages, 55 of the 920 respondents said “scary” or “scared” summed up their feelings and 46 used a word rooted in “horror” – horrified, horrifying, horrid, horrific or horrible. Thirty-nine summoned the word “terrified” or “terrifying.” And for 38 respondents a simple “no” sufficed.

Tops on the positive side, 16 respondents offered “good,” and the same number a more subdued “okay.”

Some were a little more creative:

“Ecstatic,” said a 19-year-old Ohioan.

“Proudness,” from a woman in Oklahoma, inventing a new word for the occasion.

“Nausea,” said a Californian in her 20s.

“Anguish,” said a New Jersey man – an inauspicious first election for this 18-year-old.

“Excitedly scared,” said a Texan, exhibiting what can only be described as mixed emotions.

Many did not share his ambivalence, including, in particular, the 23 who concluded that only expletives could communicate their true feelings. Others decided to offer personal evaluations of

a hypothetical President Trump, with descriptions like “strong” and “innovative” – but also “clown” and “Satan.”

Sentiment broke down to some extent along partisan lines; more than 30 percent of Republicans gave positive responses (still, notably few), compared with 11 percent of independents and just 2 percent of Democrats.

Sometimes a single word seemed insufficient: “Help us all we’re doomed,” said one. “I don’t believe everything he says but we need to stop immigrants from coming in,” another. And more generally, “not with it.”

But for some, it’s all relative. “Better than the alternative,” said a 28-year-old Florida man. Or maybe, “pick your poison,” from a 24-year-old in Illinois.

One Georgian, lastly, suggested a destination as his reaction should Trump win the White House: “Canada.”

**METHODOLOGY** – This Fusion 2016 Issues Poll was conducted by landline and cell phone interviews June 1-14, 2016, among a random national sample of 983 adults age 18 to 35. Results have a margin of [sampling error](#) of 3.5 points for the full sample, including the survey’s design effect. This survey was produced for Fusion by [Langer Research Associates](#) of New York, N.Y., with sampling, data collection and tabulation by SSRS/Social Science Research Solutions of Media, Pa. See methodological details [here](#).

1. What one word best describes how you feel about the possibility of Donald Trump as president?

	6/14/16	
	Percentages	Number of respondents*
a. Scary/scared	6	55
b. Horrible/horrified/horrifying/ horrific/horrid/horror	5	46
c. Terrified/terrifying	4	39
d. No	4	38
e. Disgust/disgusted/disgusting	3	26
f. Disappointed/disappointing/disappointment	3	22
g. Bad	2	26
h. Terrible	2	21
i. Indifferent	2	16
j. Good	2	16
k. Okay	2	16
l. Other response	61	599
m. No opinion	5	48

\*unweighted

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