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**FOR RELEASE: SEPTEMBER 20, 2018**

**TEXAS LIKELY VOTERS BACK KAVANAUGH BY WIDE MARGIN,  
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;  
PLAYERS HAVE RIGHT TO TAKE A KNEE, VOTERS SAY ALMOST 2-1**

The U.S. Senate should confirm Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court, Texas likely voters say 54 – 39 percent in a Quinnipiac University Poll released today.

Supporting confirmation are men likely voters 60 – 33 percent. Women are divided as 48 percent support confirmation, with 44 percent opposed, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University Poll finds.

Republicans back confirmation 92 – 3 percent, with Democrats opposed 77 – 12 percent. Independent voters oppose confirmation by a narrow 50 – 43 percent.

White voters back confirmation 67 – 27 percent. Opposed are black voters 87 – 3 percent and Hispanic voters by a slim 47 – 40 percent.

“Texans say confirm Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court. His margin of support is 15 points overall, with 67 percent support from white voters. But Judge Kavanaugh gets only 40 percent support from Hispanic voters and almost no support from black voters,” said Peter A. Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll.

**Taking a Knee**

Texas likely voters disapprove 54 – 42 percent of National Football League players kneeling in protest during the National Anthem.

But voters say 63 – 34 percent that NFL players have the right to protest in this fashion.

The only listed party, gender, education, age or racial groups who say NFL players do not have a right to kneel in protest are Republicans, who say no 59 – 38 percent, and white voters with no college degree, who say no 53 – 43 percent.

There is a small gender gap on whether men and women voters approve of players kneeling in protest. And the gender gap virtually disappears as both men and women support almost 2-1 the players’ right to protest.

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“Texans are opposed to the practice of some National Football League players kneeling during the National Anthem before NFL games,” Brown said. “Although they don't like it, Texas likely voters overwhelmingly say it is the players’ right to do so.”

From September 11 – 17, Quinnipiac University surveyed 807 Texas likely voters with a margin of error of +/- 4.1 percentage points, including the design effect. Live interviewers call landlines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts nationwide public opinion surveys, and statewide polls in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio, Virginia, Iowa, Colorado and Texas as a public service and for research.

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12. As you may know, President Trump has nominated Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court. Do you think the U.S. Senate should confirm Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court, or not?

LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No
Yes/Confirm	54%	92%	12%	43%	60%	48%	59%	76%
No	39	3	77	50	33	44	34	19
DK/NA	7	5	11	6	6	8	6	5

  

AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Yes/Confirm	40%	46%	58%	59%	74%	60%	67%	3%	40%
No	42	46	37	38	20	34	27	87	47
DK/NA	18	8	4	3	6	6	6	10	14

14. As you may know, some NFL players are choosing to kneel during the national anthem as a form of protest. Do you approve or disapprove of this form of protest?

LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No
Approve	42%	5%	85%	51%	39%	45%	37%	18%
Disapprove	54	91	12	43	55	52	58	78
DK/NA	4	4	3	5	6	2	5	4

  

AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Approve	61%	53%	36%	35%	25%	31%	28%	96%	55%
Disapprove	35	42	62	60	69	67	68	4	38
DK/NA	4	5	2	5	6	3	4	-	7

15. Regardless of whether or not you approve of the protests, do you think NFL players have the right to protest in this way or not?

LIKELY VOTERS.....							WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No
Yes/Right to protest	63%	38%	92%	70%	63%	64%	64%	43%
No	34	59	6	28	35	33	33	53
DK/NA	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	4

  

AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Yes/Right to protest	84%	71%	63%	52%	53%	55%	54%	94%	77%
No	12	27	35	44	44	41	43	4	20
DK/NA	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	2