

**FOR RELEASE: SEPTEMBER 13, 2018**

**U.S. VOTERS SAY 2-1 NFL PLAYERS HAVE RIGHT TO KNEEL,  
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY NATIONAL POLL FINDS;  
'JUST DO IT,' VOTERS TELL NIKE**

National Football League players have the right to protest by taking a knee during the National Anthem, American voters say 67 – 30 percent in a Quinnipiac University National Poll released today.

Men, 67 – 30 percent, and women, 67 – 31 percent, are almost identical in their support for the right to protest, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University National Poll finds. Black, white and Hispanic voters all support the right to take a knee.

Republican voters do not support the right to protest 60 – 39 percent, the only listed party, gender, education, age or racial group opposed to this right.

American voters are divided 47 – 47 percent on whether they approve of NFL players kneeling in protest during the National Anthem. Men disapprove 50 – 43 percent, as women approve 51 – 43 percent. White voters disapprove 53 – 41 percent, while black voters approve of taking a knee 77 – 14 percent. Hispanic voters are divided 48 – 48 percent.

Independent voters also are divided as 46 percent approve of taking a knee and 47 percent disapprove. Republicans disapprove 89 – 7 percent and Democrats approve 79 – 14 percent.

American voters approve 49 – 37 percent of Nike's decision to include Colin Kaepernick in its "Just Do It" ad campaign. There is a wide age gap as voters 18 to 34 years old approve 67 – 21 percent, while voters over 65 years old disapprove by a narrow 46 – 39 percent.

"Take a knee. It's your right, American voters tell NFL players. But many voters who agree with the right to protest, disagree with the actual protests," said Tim Malloy, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll.

"But as for putting Colin Kaepernick's name alongside the Nike swoosh, voters say, 'Just do it.'"

**-more-**

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From September 6 – 9, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,038 voters nationwide, with a margin of error of +/- 3.7 percentage points, including 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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25. 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?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Approve	47%	7%	79%	46%	43%	51%	48%	35%
Disapprove	47	89	14	47	50	43	47	60
DK/NA	6	4	6	7	6	6	5	6

  

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Approve	65%	47%	44%	36%	37%	45%	41%	77%	48%
Disapprove	30	49	50	58	56	50	53	14	48
DK/NA	5	4	5	7	7	4	5	9	3

TREND: 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?

	App	Dis	DK/NA
Sep 13, 2018	47	47	6
Nov 22, 2017	42	52	7

26. 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?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes/Right to protest	67%	39%	88%	68%	67%	67%	70%	53%
No	30	60	11	28	30	31	29	43
DK/NA	3	2	1	4	3	2	1	3

  

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Yes/Right to protest	84%	66%	67%	57%	63%	61%	62%	90%	71%
No	15	31	31	41	35	37	36	6	27
DK/NA	1	3	2	2	3	2	2	4	2

TREND: 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?

	Yes	No	DK/NA
Sep 13, 2018	67	30	3
Nov 22, 2017	67	31	2

27. As you may know, Nike recently decided to feature Colin Kaepernick in their 30th anniversary "Just Do It" advertising campaign. Do you approve or disapprove of this decision?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG				
							Yes	No			
Approve	49%	13%	78%	50%	49%	50%	49%	39%			
Disapprove	37	73	11	34	38	36	39	49			
DK/NA	14	14	11	16	12	15	11	12			
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Approve	67%	50%	48%	39%	42%	46%	44%	80%	51%		
Disapprove	21	39	39	46	46	42	44	8	34		
DK/NA	12	11	13	15	11	12	12	12	16		