

09-25-17

Roger Goodell, Commissioner
NFL Players Association
1133 20th St NW
Washington, DC 20036

Re: "Take a knee."

Dear Mr. Goodell,

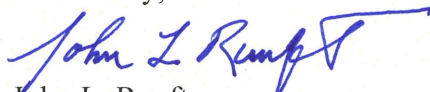
I write as one of the vast, uncounted NFL fans to say only that henceforward I will be boycotting all matters associated with the NFL and now, likely, professional sports in general. Sports is a game that is now being "gamed" by the players with the apparent full support of the NFL, and soon, I suspect, other leagues, despite their own rules. The specific rule pertaining to the national anthem is found on pages A62-63 of the NFL league rulebook, which states: "*The National Anthem must be played prior to every NFL game, and all players must be on the sideline for the National Anthem. During the National Anthem, players on the field and bench area should stand at attention, face the flag, hold helmets in their left hand, and refrain from talking.*"

As with any other employment situation, these players have the right to exercise their First Amendment Rights on their own time, and, indeed should do so; but not on NFL time. The fans attend to see games of sport played, not to have their supporting largess gamed.

As a result, the truly heroic striving of great athletes dims. I suddenly find myself asking why in the hell should I be spending an unseemly amount of my time and money to cheer these spoiled, overpaid, arrogant "game players" as they break their own rules and disrespect the American Flag for which real heroes, Army, Air Force, Marines, Navy, SEALS, Coastguard, Cops, Firefighters & EMS are toiling every day, with much less pay, to serve their country and communities in real uniforms and in real harm's way.

In its craven, money-driven cowering before these gamers of the sport, the NFL has allowed an inviolate line to be crossed. I now only hope that enough people of like sentiment will also thusly act so as to result in the deprivation of the NFL's requisite, sustainable lucre.

Sincerely,


John L. Runft

Cc. Others via U.S. Mail and e-mail

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