



## Survey says Americans oppose NFL players being fired over protests

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September 25, 2017

In a recent survey conducted by the Cato Institute, 61% of Americans oppose NFL players being "fired" for not standing for the national anthem to make a political statement.

Cato's study was part of Free Speech and Tolerance Survey in collaboration with YouGov.

"Americans don't want to strip people of their livelihoods and ruin their careers over refusing to stand for the national anthem," Emily Ekins, research fellow and director of polling at the Cato Institute wrote about the study. "Even if they don't agree with the content of the speech, that doesn't mean they support punishing people who do."

Only 38% agree with President Trump, who, as part of remarks to a group of supporters in Alabama, said "Wouldn't you love to see one of these NFL owners when somebody disrespects our flag to say get that son of a bitch off the field right now, out, he's fired, he's fired."

Breaking the numbers down by party, there is a stark difference in the results. Republicans are 65%-34% in favor of firing players over protests while Democrats are 80%-19% opposed. Independents are 64%-35% opposed.

All age groups, except for 65+ are opposed, with 18-29 being the most against, 71%-28%.

Whites are 55%-43% opposed, blacks are 88%-12% opposed and Hispanics are 60%-38% opposed.