

# SURJ Kaepernick Conversation Guide

*When folks don't agree with or don't understand why Kaepernick is taking bold action for racial justice, don't stay silent. Break white silence and call people in.*

| What they are saying                                                                           | Responses                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
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| "I agree with what Kap is saying, but I don't agree with his tactics."                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Kaepernick has joined millions of people of color around the country to bring attention to police violence against communities of color. This is a really exciting moment for white people to join in lifting up a message of racial justice.</li><li>- "When I heard him say the words, 'they are getting away with murder,' it was really clear to me why Colin Kaepernick was taking this kind of action."</li></ul> |
| "Kaepernick is a rich famous football player. He shouldn't be political."                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- There's a long history of athletes speaking out on racial justice issues including Muhammad Ali and Jackie Robinson. Athletes are using their resources to bring attention to important community issues.</li><li>- Race is a big factor in football. We know that large numbers of players are people of color, a majority of NFL staff, head coaches, and owners are white.</li></ul>                                 |
| "Kaepernick's football career is over. He's just trying to get attention."                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- There's no way to know what brings people to speak out on these issues, but we do know that the issue of police violence against communities of color is real and significant.</li><li>- "I understand that you aren't a fan of Kaepernick. Can we talk about the points he made?"</li></ul>                                                                                                                            |
| "Black athletes are speaking out against Kaepernick."                                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- No one voice speaks for the entire Black experience.</li><li>- Kaepernick is joining millions of Black activists around the country to lift these issues up.</li><li>- "This is a discussion in communities of color, particularly Black communities. I want to talk about white folks and where we fall into the issues of police violence and racism."</li></ul>                                                      |
| "Sitting down during the National Anthem is disrespectful to veterans and harmful to America." | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Colin Kaepernick has shared that he is not standing because the US flag, pledge, and anthem symbolize things like police brutality and racism.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

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|  | <p>His actions are not related to veterans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- In fact, he said that he sees the treatment of veterans in the US as part of the problem he's protesting.</li><li>- Many veterans are also speaking out in agreement with Kaepernick.</li><li>- "I understand you don't agree with</li></ul> |
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