focused professional development, advocacy and organizational guidance to accelerate
worst. This football furor is cloaked in a shroud of "good business practice," but really, it is
slapped back down by sanctions and restrictions at best, bodily harm or even death, at

"Get that son of a bitch o

should fire them for peacefully protesting racism and police brutality.

What then was President Trump's response to kneeling football players? He said owners
white man who barreled through a crowd.

a woman — a counter-protestor — was killed, run over by the speeding car of an angry

statue of Robert E. Lee, of Confederacy fame. Epithets were spewed, violence ensued and

erson's University of Virginia — in defense of a

August, a parade of hundreds of neo-Nazis and far-right sympathizers descended on the
white supremacists marching through the streets of Charlottesville, Virginia this summer. In

collective, willful misunderstanding of why the players are protesting in the first place.

Kaepernick and his colleagues' actions are not aggressive acts. Instead, they are of quiet

―

the true colors of football coaches, owners and fans.

Brown Children

POLITICS

any player in his organization who "disrespects the flag" during the national anthem. This,

has long been a calling card of slave owners, bigots and white supremacists of all stripes.

Never mind that the Colin Kaepernick-spawned demonstrations have nothing to do with

even the Washington team (mascot name withheld out of respect for Native Americans).

In just two decades we will be a nation of so-called "minorities," black, brown, Asian, multi-

disrespect for the flag but rather disrespect for black and brown lives, the dog-whistling

performances of children of color to those of white students. And then there are the

overlooked for white children. Academic disparities also hold true when comparing the

color profiling. As early as preschool, black children, in several studies, have been found to

and brown citizens for punitive stop and frisks — often because of nothing more than skin

who was run over by a bigot's car, was killed.

the Plessy v. Ferguson constitutional law that kept black children from being educated in

cially registered its distaste for racism by overturning

the same fights.

racism in this country is alive and well. The mind boggles at how long we've been fighting

Despite the voices who have suggested we have entered a post-racial America, clearly

should exclaim. "For a week, (that owner would) be the most popular person in this country.

Jones is doing with his threats is sadly familiar. Controlling the movements of vlack bodies

Hurricanes can turn life-sustaining water into a life-threatening weapon.

When Colin Kaepernick kneels during the national anthem, he is taking a knee for black

at the center of huge national controversies. When Colin Kaepernick kneels during the

national anthem, he is showing solidarity for those injured on the field and those

locked arms and bent knees show solidarity for those injured on the field and those

And that's something that should bring us all to our knees.

The national racism stoked by the words of our current president and administration has to

percentage of which will only grow as the country browns.

As a man of color, the bias and unfair treatment rankles. But as an educator, I worry more

about the e

ects that a national climate of racism has on black and brown children whose

students, the performance of students of color is radically different. A recent study showed

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the company of white children in the public schools. Y et, even after the violent clash

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