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1a -

In my view, nothing in Colin Kaepernick's explanation of his protest clearly shows that he intended to disrespect the national anthem. His stated purpose was to bring attention to racial injustice and oppression, not to insult the country or its symbols. By kneeling, he chose a peaceful form of protest meant to raise awareness rather than cause harm. This suggests that his actions were more about promoting social change than showing disrespect, even if some people interpreted them differently.

1b -

The Wall Street Journal article argues that players who kneel during the anthem are helping President Trump use patriotism for political gain by creating division among Americans. However, Jonathan Capehart counters this by emphasizing that the protests are about addressing real social issues, not about disrespecting the country. He argues that focusing on the anthem distracts from the important message about racial inequality and justice. I find Capehart's view more compelling because it centers on the purpose of the protest and encourages people to think about the issues being raised rather than only reacting to the form of protest.