. . . because now I have to sort out these two voices SCREAMING in my head. There’s the Trump voice of course, yelling one thing and there’s the NFL, NBA coaches and players sitting in the other.

“Caught In The Middle With You”

That’s sort of the way I feel at the moment. Trouble is - - I can see the value in both sides. That apparent conflict is what bugs me. I don’t think there should be a conflict. I believe the screaming is about the same thing at different levels of the same issue. (Underlying contradiction)

Story, Song and Symbol

Remember that phrase? Lord help me for saying this but, it seems as though, Trump has a firm grasp on this ground. He doesn’t know that and will therefore squander the significance of his stance.

On the other hand, the coaches and players are at the practical end of the stick. They know, through painful experience, what the consequences look like when the Story, Song and Symbol dynamic of this country are violated, twisted and spun out of their original meaning.

Stratigariely speaking, how do you attack this contradiction. (Don’t you find yourself longing for W again?) I believe Trump is not the way forward. To attack that part of the problem would be like marching into an endless orange swamp. We might have a shot at recovering the meaning of these symbols in a couple of years – maybe.

The coaches and players have found a vehicle for their protest – that of sports in general and football in particular. The problem is - - they are a one trick pony. They have to have a Story which they have, partially. The Story however, is much broader than they realize. But, they have a handle on a good part of it. Song – unfortunately their tactic is only good during the National Anthem. Symbol – and the tactic is only applied at the unfurling of the flag.

How can the players expand their voice beyond sports and how can we take this beginning and recapture the Story, Song and Symbol in capital letters? Got any proposals?