

The need for financial resources

Posted by
alisawhite123 - 2020/06/22 15:53

Fighting is the most difficult sport on Earth, and it takes enormous courage to walk up those steps. It takes even more to do it on national television at the highest level of the sport and when you've accepted the bout on less than a week's notice.

Anyone who would ridicule a kid like that, you, UFC president Dana White said. I want to see some of the people who are criticizing him get in there and try to do what he could.

Quitting is especially difficult in the fight game, even in MMA where it is acceptable to tap out. But taps are accepted in the heat of the battle, when one is caught in an inescapable submission or when blows are raining down upon you and it seems impossible to get away.

It's viewed much differently, though, when the decision is made when, at least for a moment, the threat is gone and you're on the stool in the safety of the corner. Then, it's not so much perceived as honorable to quit.

But that shouldn't be the standard. The fighters are told by the referee to protect themselves at all times, and that includes between rounds when perhaps they realize they don't have it or they'll never have it or they're hurting when it isn't so obvious to us on the outside.

Rohkopf protected himself and gave himself a chance to come back and fight another day. Or, if he doesn't want to fight any more, he at least gave himself a chance to enjoy his kids, to pursue a different career, to look forward to whatever life has in store for him.

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