**One Team, One Fight Outline**

**INFORMATION:** The understanding of the team concept, and why it’s so important to your desire to be part of something greater than yourself

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**NO HISTORY SEGMENT**

**I. Introduction**

A. Attention (First, I want to apologize for the absence. A few things happened that required my attention more than this. The bigger reasons are what we all see happening. The world has gone mad. That’s where my mind has been the last few weeks. I was watching the world destroy itself on national television. It rocked me it a lot of ways. I’ve always been emotionally attached to the idea that is America. I think that’s why I love history. I like the romanticized idea of what it was like, but I also long for the time when we were working towards a better version of ourselves. I’m terrified for what our future holds and I see the division in the world rearing it’s ugly head in our ranks. And that’s why I need to talk about this.).

B. Motivation (We all need to understand what it is to be a team, and furthermore a family to be able to accomplish our mission [define])

C. Overview (I’m not going to discuss politics or where I fall on whatever “issues” as defined by the media. What I want to focus on is the importance of us remaining the unit we are. The family we are. The one that in the midst of it happening you don’t realize. The one that if you ask ANY VETERAN they will try to explain that they miss it without even necessarily being able to quantify it. I want to talk about the bonds we forge. And the critical importance of them).

**II. Body**

A. Main Point 1 (The Tension)

1. Sub-point (Excuses) – There’s a lot of hate in the world. There’s racial tension, there’s terrorism, there’s division based on political party affiliation – all these things are excuses. Be honest with yourself. They’re excuses for being angry. They’re excuses for an individual to be hateful. All individuals have different individual frames of reference. We have varying experiences that form that frame of reference.

2. Sub-point (Groups) – All individuals have different individual frames of reference. We have varying experiences that form that frame of reference. So why the hell do we make broad sweeping generalizations? Why do we arbitrarily group people together and say “they did this”? Think about that. I get grouped. You get grouped. I never joined this group. I never consented to being part of this group with the beliefs or feelings that you decide to impose on me. And based on what? Assumptions? You don’t know me!

3. Sub-point (Assumptions) – Here’s where we get in trouble. People assume. We do, everyone does, I do. I catch myself doing it more frequently that I would like. The key is being aware you’re doing it, catching yourself, and correcting it. Most of us don’t even know who the hell WE ARE, so on what planet are you equipped to assume things about me? Or anyone? Even trivial things! You here it all the time! Oh, well I saw this and that on YouTube so they must be the devil. WHO ARE YOU? THESE AREN’T THINGS YOU GET TO DO!

B. Main Point 2 (Think)

1. Sub-point (Think) – Engage your brain. Why are you mad? Why do you think what you think, good or bad. Analyze it. Learn to understand it. Question it. And be open to it changing. You have to allow your brain to think. Seems simple, but we jump on board with what other people think. And if an intelligent people challenged what you say you think but really are just agreeing with, you won’t be able to explain why. Because it’s not YOUR thought! You were told to think that. If you can’t intelligently explain why you feel a certain way about a certain thing, you need to re-evaluate why you feel that way.

2. Sub-point (Question) – Really question EVERYTHING. That’s how you learn. Question why? How? Do research. Then question that! Have conversations with people of varying experience. Racial tension in our country baffles me, but I questions it constantly. I talk to people all the time. Because no matter how much I learn or read or hear, I’ll never fully understand it because I haven’t experienced both sides. I’m a white man. I’m not a white woman. I’m not a black man. I’m not a black woman. I’m not Hispanic, or Asian, or Indian. How could I possibly understand? How could I make broad, sweeping generalizations and assumptions about something I’ve never experienced? But you can question it and make an attempt to understand as much as possible. Be informed.

3. Sub-point (Discuss) – Find other smart people and talk to them. Seek out people with experiences that you don’t have and have a conversation. Understand the world is bigger than your frame of reference. And we, as Sailors and military members, we’re in a unique position to experience different cultures. To encounter people not just from all over the country and world when we visit ports, but ON BOARD THE SHIP. We serve together. Talk to those people. Learn what made them, them. It will blow up your world view and make you a more intelligent human being.

C. Main Point 2 (Why am I talking about all of this?)

1. Sub-point (Family) – The reason I bring this all up is to confront the division but also to remind us of who we are. You’ve heard someone say Navy family. Maybe you use it to describe your group of friends…my students call it their “squad”, apparently that’s a thing. Why do we do that? Because it’s true, that’s why. I mentioned earlier how veteran’s miss being in the military. And that’s not entirely accurate. They don’t miss being in, they specifically miss the camaraderie, the family. So why is this important? I bring it up because my frame of reference was being raised in a predominantly white neighborhood. So the Navy was some of my first really exposure to people of differently races and cultures. But we all share the common context of the experience we’re sharing. We’re all “suffering” together. We’re all Sailors. That experience is what forges the Navy family that you miss when you move on. We all suffer through the same trials as we learn to navigate the challenges of service and before you know it, that family is just that. And it’s everyone. It’s all races, cultures, religions, sexual orientations. Everyone. One team, one fight.

**III. Conclusion**

A. Summary (We talked about…)

1. The tension and a bit about why the tension is there…

2. To think, question and discuss…

3. Navy family…

B. Re-motivation (Junior Sailors should understand why the Navy family is critical to our success is all we do).

C. Closing – The more and more the world gets away from sanity, the more important is for us to understand the importance of our family unit. And that’s what it is. We complain, we disagree, but when someone attacks our family unit we come together. Our community takes care of it’s own. Tragedy strikes, we come together and take care of our family. Our family consists of a diverse group of individuals with different beliefs and experiences but we are the same. We’re Sailors. Don’t ever let the ignorance happening around you to interfere with that. We can never allow division in our units on this level. This is the most important thing binding together our teams and furthering mission accomplishment. Unity through our shared experience. We are one team, fighting one fight. Don’t ever let anyone take that away from you.

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