

Who is Sam Pepper?

by Brielle Gentile

If you're lucky enough, you may not know who Sam Pepper is. Sam Pepper is an ex-Big Brother star who started a YouTube channel. On September 20, 2014, Sam posted a video of a fake hand distracting women from his real hand that was trying to pinch their bottoms. When his video went up, people were outraged, and most of his subscribers thought he went too far. Though, some of his committed fans blew it off because these incidents have happened before. Sam Pepper has a history of sexually harassing women in and outside of YouTube, and should be arrested.

The YouTube community finally had enough when he posted the bottom pinching video. After he "pranked" the women, they told him they didn't like it. He simply laughed at their reaction, as if he didn't just assault them. This video was later taken down due to violating YouTube's Terms of Service. Tyler Oakley, fellow YouTuber, tweeted, "...sexually harassing women is vile to begin with, but normalizing it and calling it a prank? So harmful." To add to his terrible actions, Sam has also once lassoed women as a prank. In that video, he got beaten up because the people with one of the women had more common sense than him. That was his most viewed video.

When people were reacting to the bottom pinching video, a few girls made statements saying they'd been assaulted or raped by him. A girl named Dottie Martin,

who was 15 at the time, was asked on a date with Sam, who was 25. She was a minor. They went on a movie date, and during the movie, she was violated. There was also a girl who was asked to go to his apartment. When she got there, she was raped. She keeps herself anonymous because she doesn't want to risk not making it in the industry. Laci Green said, "1 in 6 young women (real life ones, just like the ones in your video) are sexually assaulted, and sadly, videos like these will only further increase those numbers."

Two days later, he posted a "big reveal" video. In this video, he said that the bottom punching video was a set up. He claimed that every "stranger" was asked for consent. He said the whole thing was a social experiment and that men get raped, too. That may be true but he was just trying to distract the audience from the actual problem. After watching the video, some people believed he was telling the truth about having consent. If he had their consent and believes rape is bad, why would he rape someone? Obviously, someone who cares about consent would never do that.

Sam Pepper has been forgotten by the YouTube community and almost every social media platform. He has lost many friends and fans. Studies show that an estimated rate of assault and rape of female college students, from age 18-24, is 6.1 per 1,000 students. We don't want this number to grow due to people like Sam Pepper. Because of his actions, he will not be invited back to YouTube events and has lost most of his supporters.

Works Cited

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