Logan Paul Posts Footage of a Hanging Man

By: Tessa Moats

Two weeks ago the internet went crazy after seeing Logan Paul’s new vlog of Suicide Forest, also known as Aokigahara, located in Japan by the Fuji Mountains. Vlogger Logan Paul and other vlogger friends recorded his journey to the edge of the Fuji Mountains where many people have allegedly committed suicide. According to Logan Paul and his other Youtuber friends, the reason for their journey to Suicide Forest was because of rumors that the forest is haunted. Paul and his friends were aware that people have taken their lives there, but weren't expecting to see an actual dead body upon their visit. In his video he and his friends were making comments and laughing at a person who committed suicide by hanging himself in a tree.

He thought that by posting this video he would be raising awareness for suicide and mental illnesses, but because of his comments and laughter around the body it made people think he was laughing about suicide. People started to comment and post about his video all over the web. Many comments were made on Twitter, @SophieT said, “@LoganPaul You're and [sic] idiot. You’re not raising awareness. You’re mocking. I can't believe how self-praising your ‘apology’ is. You don't deserve the success (views) you have. I pray to God you never have to experience anything like that man did.”

In response to all the comments, Logan Paul made an apology video and also tweeted on January 1 about how sorry he was. @LoganPaul responses was, “I'm sorry. This is a first for me. I’ve never faced criticism like this before, because I've never made a mistake like this before. I’m surrounded by good people and believe I make good decisions, but I’m still a human being. I can be wrong… I did it
because I thought I could make a positive ripple on the internet, not cause a monsoon of negativity. That's never the intention. I intended to raise awareness for suicide and suicide prevention and while I do this sh*t every day… One may understand that it's easy to get caught up in the moment without fully weighing the possible ramifications… for the first time in my life I’m regretful to say I handled that power incorrectly. It won't happen again.¨ Because of the inappropriate footage on his vlog, YouTube took down the video to prevent young viewers from watching it. He made a apology video that was a little over a minute long. Shortly after his apology video Youtube wanted him to take a break from Youtube, but he will be back later on in January.

Suicide is a mental illness. It can be caused by depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, personality disorder, and substance abuse. In 2015 suicide was the second cause of death for young ages from 15 to 24. Suicidal thoughts can be treated with counseling and being around loved ones. Signs of suicidal thoughts are self harm, substance abuse, anxiety, buying firearm, health problems, and isolation. If you have suicidal thoughts and or a loved one please receive help or call 1-800273-8255. It's never too late to get help.