# Lorde sparks backlash after praising Pamela Anderson and Tommy Lee’s stolen sex tape



Lorde has ignited significant controversy after revealing that she watched the notorious stolen sex tape of Pamela Anderson and Tommy Lee. In an interview with Rolling Stone, the 28-year-old singer candidly shared that following a psychedelic therapy session, she felt compelled to look up the infamous video. Describing her experience, she remarked, “I found it to be so beautiful,” viewing the tape as a depiction of the couple’s profound affection for each other. However, she recognised the inherent complexity of her actions, admitting, “Maybe it’s f\*\*ked up that I watched it.”

Candid and reflective, Lorde characterised the footage as portraying two individuals lacking the constraints adulthood often imposes—“They were jumping off this big boat… like children. They were so free.” Yet, her seemingly innocuous interpretation has drawn widespread backlash, with many asserting that her perspective glosses over the deeper issues of consent and the violation of privacy that characterised the tape’s origins.

The sex tape was stolen in 1995 by Rand Gauthier, an electrician who had previously worked on the couple’s home. After a dispute over payment, Gauthier accessed a safe containing the tape and subsequently distributed it without Anderson and Lee’s consent. This act ignited a media frenzy that had devastating consequences for Anderson, impacting both her personal well-being and professional trajectory. Anderson has publicly stated she has never watched the tape, considering it a flagrant invasion of her privacy and a source of profound distress.

Social media reaction to Lorde's comments has been vigorous, with many critics emphasising the lack of respect shown towards Anderson, who has openly described the emotional toll that the incident wrought on her life. One user on X poignantly noted the tape was “STOLEN” and vehemently condemned Lorde's remarks as trivialising the immense psychological trauma inflicted on Anderson, particularly in the context of her abusive relationship with Lee, which saw him serve jail time for spousal assault in 1998. Another Twitter user added, “Lorde makes it so hard to defend her,” reflecting the complex blend of admiration and disappointment fans often experience with celebrity figures who make controversial statements.

The conversation surrounding the stolen tape has been particularly pertinent in light of the 2021 Hulu miniseries "Pam & Tommy," which aimed to address the privacy violation at the heart of the scandal while also exploring the societal implications of voyeurism and exploitation. Many, including Anderson herself, have lamented that the series veers towards sensationalism, reigniting trauma rather than fostering a respectful discourse about the experiences of those involved. Anderson categorically refused to participate in the show, labelling it a “salt on the wound” and expressing a profound disinterest in revisiting her past.

The devastating impact of the tape on Anderson’s life is starkly manifest in her own battle with depression and anxiety—common among victims of non-consensual pornography. Observers note that the incident has had ripple effects on privacy laws in the digital age, exposing the fragility of personal security online and the often irreversible damage caused by the dissemination of intimate content.

As the backlash against Lorde continues to unfold, her comments underscore the ongoing struggle to navigate the complex intersection of celebrity culture, personal trauma, and societal values regarding consent and privacy. Lorde, with her forthcoming album "Virgin" set to release soon, now finds herself at a crossroads of artistic expression and the ethical considerations of her public persona. In navigating this contentious territory, it remains to be seen how the dialogue around her actions will evolve in the broader context of empathy and accountability in celebrity discourse.

### Reference Map

1. Paragraph 1: [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14716693/lorde-criticized-pamela-anderson-tommy-lee-sex-tape.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14716693/lorde-criticized-pamela-anderson-tommy-lee-sex-tape.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
2. Paragraph 2: [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14716693/lorde-criticized-pamela-anderson-tommy-lee-sex-tape.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[4]](https://apnews.com/article/entertainment-music-arts-and-entertainment-pamela-anderson-jay-leno-8dac973287f4d8fe8b32808288e16ffb), [[7]](https://www.foxnews.com/entertainment/pamela-anderson-says-stolen-sex-tape-ruined-relationship-ex-tommy-lee-hell-began)
3. Paragraph 3: [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14716693/lorde-criticized-pamela-anderson-tommy-lee-sex-tape.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14716693/lorde-criticized-pamela-anderson-tommy-lee-sex-tape.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[6]](https://ew.com/tv/courtney-love-slams-pamela-anderson-series-sex-tape-focus/), [[7]](https://www.foxnews.com/entertainment/pamela-anderson-says-stolen-sex-tape-ruined-relationship-ex-tommy-lee-hell-began)
4. Paragraph 4: [[3]](https://time.com/6144164/pam-and-tommy-true-story/), [[4]](https://apnews.com/article/entertainment-music-arts-and-entertainment-pamela-anderson-jay-leno-8dac973287f4d8fe8b32808288e16ffb), [[5]](https://www.washingtonpost.com/history/2022/01/30/pamela-anderson-tommy-lee-sex-tape-internet/)
5. Paragraph 5: [[5]](https://www.washingtonpost.com/history/2022/01/30/pamela-anderson-tommy-lee-sex-tape-internet/)
6. Paragraph 6: [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14716693/lorde-criticized-pamela-anderson-tommy-lee-sex-tape.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[3]](https://time.com/6144164/pam-and-tommy-true-story/), [[6]](https://ew.com/tv/courtney-love-slams-pamela-anderson-series-sex-tape-focus/)
7. Paragraph 7: [[4]](https://apnews.com/article/entertainment-music-arts-and-entertainment-pamela-anderson-jay-leno-8dac973287f4d8fe8b32808288e16ffb), [[5]](https://www.washingtonpost.com/history/2022/01/30/pamela-anderson-tommy-lee-sex-tape-internet/), [[6]](https://ew.com/tv/courtney-love-slams-pamela-anderson-series-sex-tape-focus/)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14716693/lorde-criticized-pamela-anderson-tommy-lee-sex-tape.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14716693/lorde-criticized-pamela-anderson-tommy-lee-sex-tape.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Lorde, the 28-year-old singer, admitted to watching Pamela Anderson and Tommy Lee's stolen sex tape after a psychedelic therapy session. She found it 'beautiful' and saw it as a depiction of two people deeply in love. This revelation sparked backlash online, with critics highlighting the tape's non-consensual release and the harm it caused to Anderson. The incident has been a source of distress for Anderson, who has publicly stated she has never watched the tape and considers it a violation of her privacy.
3. <https://time.com/6144164/pam-and-tommy-true-story/> - The Hulu miniseries 'Pam & Tommy' delves into the 1995 incident where Pamela Anderson and Tommy Lee's private sex tape was stolen and leaked online. The tape, filmed during their honeymoon, was taken by Rand Gauthier, a former contractor who had disputes with the couple. The series aims to provide a fresh perspective on the scandal, reflecting on the invasion of privacy and its impact on Anderson's career and personal life.
4. <https://apnews.com/article/entertainment-music-arts-and-entertainment-pamela-anderson-jay-leno-8dac973287f4d8fe8b32808288e16ffb> - The Hulu series 'Pam & Tommy' portrays the aftermath of Pamela Anderson and Tommy Lee's stolen sex tape, highlighting the invasion of privacy and its effects on Anderson's life. In a recreated 'Tonight Show' interview, Anderson, portrayed by Lily James, expresses the devastation caused by the tape's release. The series aims to shed light on the broader implications of the scandal and the treatment of women in the media.
5. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/history/2022/01/30/pamela-anderson-tommy-lee-sex-tape-internet/> - The 1995 incident where Pamela Anderson and Tommy Lee's private sex tape was stolen and leaked online had a profound impact on the internet and privacy laws. The tape, taken by a former employee, was distributed widely without the couple's consent, leading to significant media attention and legal battles. The event highlighted the vulnerabilities of personal privacy in the digital age and the challenges of controlling intimate content once it's online.
6. <https://ew.com/tv/courtney-love-slams-pamela-anderson-series-sex-tape-focus/> - Courtney Love criticized the Hulu series 'Pam & Tommy' for focusing on the release of Pamela Anderson and Tommy Lee's sex tape, which she believes 'destroyed' Anderson's life. Love recounted how the tape's release led to widespread viewing and mockery, causing significant distress to Anderson. She expressed outrage over the exploitation of Anderson's personal trauma for entertainment purposes.
7. <https://www.foxnews.com/entertainment/pamela-anderson-says-stolen-sex-tape-ruined-relationship-ex-tommy-lee-hell-began> - Pamela Anderson stated that the stolen sex tape with Tommy Lee 'ruined' their relationship and was unforgivable. The tape, stolen in 1996 by a former employee, was leaked online without their consent, leading to a media frenzy. Anderson has maintained that she has never seen the tape and considers it a violation of her privacy.