

A Foreigner Came into Puerto Rico Accusing Bad Bunny of Exploitation

Janet Pacheco

Department of English, Anoka Ramsey Community College

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Professor Chris McCarthy

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Logan Paul, a youtuber, is accusing Bad Bunny, a born and raised Puerto Rican rapper/singer, of basically taking advantage of the people of his country. “In an October 5 interview with news YouTuber Philip DeFranco, Paul said it was ‘hypocritical’ of Ocasio to make a documentary critical of foreign investment in Puerto Rico, erroneously claiming that Ocasio ‘takes advantage’ of the same tax law as him” (Leighton, 2022). This is important to me because as a person with Latin American parents, our countries are always trying to be taken away from us by the United States and that just doesn’t sit right with me because that’s where our cultures are built in our homeland. Logan Paul is trying to accuse Bad Bunny of exploiting Puerto Rico when he himself is a vulture living in Puerto Rico exploiting the island and not paying taxes.

At first, it was odd to know that Logan Paul was actively donating to serval organizations in Puerto Rico and is also helping the people of Puerto Rico in many different avenues and he genuinely seems like he wants to collaborate with the people of Puerto Rico on how he can be a better contributor to the community, but here’s where he lost me. Logan Paul goes on to say that he “loves Bad Bunny” and how much of an “amazing entertainer” Bad Bunny is but instead of stopping there he went on to say he can’t “support” Bad Bunny because of his “hypocritical nature of his exploitation” (Leighton, 2022). Logan Paul gets to be in Puerto Rico without paying taxes all under a program that presumes that foreigners will bring their business to Puerto Rico, but he doesn’t really do anything to make sure that happens. If the act that saves him money in taxes goes away, he would leave the island in a second and forget all about the people and the island he has now claimed as his own. To summarized it up, Logan Paul is living in Puerto Rico to get a tax break on his income, and he does it by donating to organizations. Bad Bunny had no comment to say back because he doesn’t need beef with a Youtuber. The tax break that Bad

Bunny gets and Logan Paul alludes to is not the same. Bad Bunny benefits from a different exception because he exports his products (in this case, music) out of the island and keeps the money in Puerto Rico with his company (Marcus, 2022).

Logan Paul is doing this because he wants attention from the media, and he's not viewed as a good influencer now a days. This is not the first time he has called out an influencer like Bad Bunny; he has even called out his own brother Jake Paul. In addition, Logan Paul challenged the famous Mexican professional boxer Canelo Alvarez to a boxing match. After Logan won a match with Mayweather, he thought he could get a fight with Canelo, but he felt a "lack of respect" and claimed "it's more about money than the love of the sport" (TMZ, 2020). Of course, Logan did not respond well to that. "To say we're disrespecting the sport, I feel disrespected especially as it's coming from a guy who quite literally disrespected and spit on the ethics of the sport. Yeah, it upsets me" and "Just 'cause we're attempting to do something and put on a great show and putting in the work, doesn't mean you have to s**t on us. Like, what the f**k, bro?" (TMZ, 2020). Very aggressive words for someone to also have claimed to "admire" the professional boxer. So, as you can see, Logan Paul always talks down on other influencers he claims he admires when he doesn't get what he wants. These are just the two out of many examples.

Furthermore, Logan Paul says, "So I see this music video that has stuck me in the middle of it, surrounded by context that makes me look like a vulture in Puerto Rico and, again, while I love Bad Bunny, I can not personally support the exploitative hypocritical nature of his exploitation" (Breisch, 2022). In the song "Apagon" Bad Bunny raps that a part of the tax program is making donations. Logan Paul is not making donations because he believes it's

necessary. Logan Paul calling Bad Bunny a hypocrite for allegedly using the same tax program in Puerto Rico that he publicly protested quickly backfired on Logan. Bad Bunny didn't even bother to listen to Logan Paul, he just continued with his career. Logan Paul said, "I think he's a generational talent, but I do find it hypocritical because he, Bad Bunny, is a Puerto Rican, living in Puerto Rico" (Breisch, 2022) How are you going to admire somebody then go on to criticize him by saying he is exploiting his own country? Meanwhile, Logan Paul moved to PR to evade and get away from California's high taxes.

Unlike Logan Paul moving to Puerto Rico to just get a tax break, Bad Bunny has marched, protested and used his own platform to help protect the natives. "Torres [a citizen of PR] loves that the Puerto Rican trap-reggaeton superstar used his platform to put a spotlight on the island's very deteriorated electrical system — as Puerto Ricans continue to struggle without power, potable water and heavy damage following Hurricane Fiona" (Brown, 2022). Bad Bunny cannot use the tax program Logan Paul claims he uses because that is strictly for foreigners that move to Puerto Rico, a "tax break that foreign residents can qualify for, exempting them from paying taxes on cryptocurrency, stocks, and real estate. The break was initially introduced as a way to boost the island's economy" (Loreto, 2022).

Even though I'm not from Puerto Rico but I do have a Latin American family and I can say Bad Bunny has had a lot of impact on the Latino community. Bad Bunny has fought for recognition of Puerto Rico and advocated his PR community, as well as the LGBTQ community and Latinos at large. Logan Paul can go ahead and talk all the nonsense on Bad Bunny, but that will not change the way others view Bad Bunny because of how much he has given to the world in his music and to his supporters. If you look more into Logan Paul, you're just going to see a

timeline of a lot of messed up things he has done, especially his family and I still don't know why he's not canceled. On the other hand, you look up Bad Bunny you'll see all the amazing things he has done. "Whether it be music, [sneaker collaborations](#) or even apparel team-ups with [Cheetos](#), pretty much everything that [Bad Bunny](#) touches turns to gold. His impact — especially on the Latinx community — has been felt on a global scale, so much in fact that San Diego State University announced that a course on the Puerto Rican icon will be offered to students starting in 2023" (Elliot, 2022). When Bad Bunny came out with his music video "El APAGON," which means "Black Out," the lyrics say:

Puerto Rico está bien cabrón, ey Está bien cabrón De Carolina salió el reggaetón Y los hijo' de puta de Bayamón (tú sabe) Ey, ey" and then goes on to say "La capital del perreo Ahora todos quieren ser latino', no, ey Pero les falta sazón Batería y reggaetón, ey, ey Cuida'o con mi corillo Que somo' un montón, ey, ey Les falta sazón Batería y reggaetón, ey, ey Cuida'o con mi corillo (cuida'o) Que somo' un montón Welcome to the calentón.

This talks about the issues Puerto Rico is facing, such as a displacement of Puerto Ricans by US Americans who get to move their tax free like Logan Paul. As well as the electricity crisis in Puerto Rico and the fight to keep the beaches public. It's a music video that turns into a documentary. I would recommend everyone watch the video because it gives information that we should all know about Puerto Rico. I personally feel like Bad Bunny won't respond to Logan Pual's claims because that's what Logan wants, attention, and he won't be giving it to him any time soon.

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