

What To Charlotte Happened Dujardin?

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The Video In Question

1 The Lead

Charlotte Dujardin has recently had a large impact towards her future career and reputation, as a video by an anonymous client of hers, of her supposedly **whipping a horse more than 2 dozen times in under a minute**, was found to be leaked in July 2020. This video contained visual representation of how Charlotte Dujardin may be (according to many viewers) an “animal abuser” or a “trainer with bad values” or just in general undeserving of horsemanship.

Many questions were raised in relation to this video, creating different arguments between how Charlotte may or may not be doing the right thing. This idea has spiralled through many politics and the news, exposing Charlotte and her potential horse riding issues, and how her horse riding career is potentially ruined, and her privileges of horse riding, as she was banned from the 2024 Paris Olympics.



[This image is a [screenshoted image](#) of the **original video** of Charlotte Dujardin whipping her horse. This video was the video that had ended up potentially ruining her reputation and her riding career.]



2 Supporting Information

Charlotte Dujardin, throughout her time as an equestrian has not ever had problematic occurrences quite as politically involved as this largely opinionated topic. Different viewpoints, opinions and arguments from numerous other equestrians have been demonstrated from the broad range of the internet. An equestrian and **reporter Herm Gailey** states in a report that the actions presented by Charlotte were “abusive, improper, and worthy of censure”, and shortly after states that “it is very troubling that it would be viewed as amusing” commenting on how 2 people behind the frame of the video were laughing at the mistreatment of the horse, creating a viewpoint of how “this was not an isolated incident.” Meaning there were more people included within this action.

Herm Gailey later then suggests that there was an opposing side towards this occurrence also, sparking confusion among politics. Many people had believed ideas on how much pain and abuse there was inflicted on the horse, but there were more confronting beliefs sourced from Herm Gailey’s view. He states “in terms of physical pain and damage, this whole episode was negligible”, then states “there is very little pain involved and virtually no chance of physical damage”. Following these statements, Gailey then suggests he proves this argument by professionally demonstrating the occurrence on himself, using a whip, highlighting the individual idea that whips don’t cause any physical damage beside “a slight sting” meaning that the whip was generally only used for discipline, but can usually be perceived as a harder impact on a horse, but generally creates no damage besides a small punishment to a horse which may or may not be misbehaving.

Shortly after this, there were many more anonymous reviews and comments found of Gailey’s report, stating ideas of how he was “wearing thick jeans and no bare skin showing” arguing that he wouldn’t be able to feel much of the whip he was using, because he was wearing long pants, covering up his skin, and protecting him from any possible damage. Another comment was found stating “horses have extreme sensitivity and can feel the smallest of things such as the tiniest fly and fly spray. So of course they are going to be sensitive with a whip that is being used on their bare skin, with lots of force.” This comment completely contradicted Gailey’s point, and created much more argument over the topic.



3 Additional Information

Charlotte Dujardin, soon after the video was released, admitted herself of the occurrence that her actions were an “error of judgement” demonstrating how she knew it was wrong, made a poor decision, and felt ashamed. This gave many more viewers, reporters, and equestrians more of an idea of how Charlotte may not have meant anything she did, and may feel genuinely feel remorseful.

By this evidence, it can be said that Charlotte didn’t recognise and give much attention to her incorrect actions and the risks that came with them at the time of the occurrence. After her interview with the PA News Agency, the reported conclusion of Charlotte was that “she expressed deep regret and shame for her actions, emphasising they were out of character and did not reflect her usual training methods.

Prior to this, a Dutch lawyer, Stephen Wensing filed the official complaint against Charlotte, resulting in her withdraw from the Paris 2024 Olympics.



This topic can be seen as sensitive to many, through the current argument and how different opinions can create and lead to much more argument and problematic circumstances and consequences, meaning it is a struggle for many to talk about. This is because it **can cause negative outlooks** on certain opinions and people even if these people have extremely high experience with situations involving horse riding and horsemanship. But overall, they have discussed how this whole event can be created and **manipulated by public perspectives**. Many equestrians will have different opinions on the video, and comparable ways of how they can interpret whether it may be an “error of judgement” in Charlotte’s words, or much more or less than that.

Through research, It is believed by a large portion of individuals commenting on the matter found that the majority of the ideas and opinions that had spiraled out of control in relation to the video were found to be spoken by people who **didn’t have any true experience with horses**, or people who didn’t even know much of horses, but decided to make a judgement just out of what they could see, and not actually have any idea of what may or may not be happening in the video. This means that there was a chance that Charlotte Dujardin was really just telling her horse off because the horse was not doing what she had been telling it to, stated by the interviewed person “the horse needed correction and she provided that”, and also stated “as soon as the horse responded correct, she stopped” (and to that the horse might have known better and was more capable than what it was demonstrating.) But the average horse person and general public are not seeing this. But what **can** be seen is she is applying “positive punishment” to make sure the horse would not repeat the incorrect behaviour.

This evidently explained how much of a controversial topic it is, and how it could have been made a much worse argument just because of how other people had expressed it and referred to it by providing their own bias towards the idea. But as research suggested it has been believed that people were intentionally influenced so that she could be removed from the Olympics because she was a likely chance of gold for 2024. But by this her career is “**100% ruined and 100% not justifiable**” for it to be this way.

{But as this article may suggest sides or bias in my own perspective as the writer, I must say that personally I have no interest in being part of the argument and I am NOT in a “for” or “against” situation. I purely believe that as an equestrian, horses deserve respect and care, and because I was not present in this situation, I am unable to make an honest and justified judgement whether what happened was truly okay or not. I chose to write this article to highlight the changing and challenging contradictory within arguments between different inputs and opinions.}

(Some extra information this person provided): The person who filmed the original video was found less than a few weeks after doing almost **exactly the same thing**. Helping provide more understanding that it may just be how people can just make specific topics much worse than they may actually seem and forcing perspectives into others, automatically providing people with possibly incorrect or biased opinions because of influence around them, or that too many people do these things and it shouldn’t be aimed specifically at one person who has a big career and a large amount of reputation, that may have been intentionally ruined it, which could make it much worse for her and her life.

5 Background Information

Charlotte Dujardin was born on July 13 1985 in Enfield near London, and brought up in Leighton, Buzzard, Bedfordshire, and from the age of only two, she began riding, and loving horses. She started her equestrian life, by returning her elder sister, Emma Dujardin's, horses to the arena and back to the trailer during competitions, and at only age 3, she came second place at her first Pony Club show jumping competition. Their mother, Jane Dujardin, helped support their shared love for horses by buying and selling different ponies for them. This helped grow Charlotte's love for horses, and helped her continue her journey of riding, and provided support for her equestrian career. At age 13, Charlotte began trying another discipline, dressage, instead of jumping, highlighting the beginning of her dressage career, reputation and experience.

Charlotte bought her first grand prix dressage horse Fernandez in 2007, competing only on him until 2011, when she sold him to another equestrian Cathrine Rasmussen, who was based in Denmark. Charlotte's trainer Carl Hester, shortly after she had sold Fernandez, introduced her to his horse Valegro. Charlotte quickly learned and bonded with the gelding, and went on to compete with him gradually increasing in reputation, popularity, skill, and overall levels in competition.

Charlotte reached Olympic level at age 27, and competed on Valegro in the London 2012 summer Olympics, competing in the individual competitions and the team competitions. Charlotte and Valegro won gold for both the individual freestyle, and the team competitions, creating her reputational title of "the dominant dressage rider of her era". She created a worldwide famous title for having the highest achieved score of a horse and rider in a dressage freestyle round, with a 94.3%.

Finally, after numerous wins, many successes, and multiple Olympics, at age 39, Charlotte gave birth to her first daughter, on the 6th of March 2023, settling down with her family, but still keeping on with her riding training.



6 Other Facts about Charlotte

-Charlotte Dujardin, over the course of her career currently has won a total of six Olympic medals, and three gold Olympic medals.

-Charlotte is an author as well as a mother and an equestrian, having her book of "The girl on the dancing horse", about her horse Valegro, and how they beat a world record, and her general biography. This book became a Sunday Times Best Seller

-When Charlotte was at a young age she began her riding career, and soon had many achievements and successes, winning HOYS (Horse of the year show) four times, and Hickstead three times.

-Charlotte holds world records for 3 grand prix dressage tests, and its most well known for her freestyle dressage on Valegro.



[These two images are of **Charlotte Dujardin**, and her world famous horse **Valegro**. Valegro has unfortunately passed away as of December 2025.