**Why Cleveland Why**

Deshaun Watson is considered by some to be one of the best young quarterbacks in the NFL today. However, his character and conduct have come into question due to the civil lawsuits brought against him by twenty-three massage therapists alleging sexual assault and sexual misconduct.

Watson has repeatedly denied the allegations, but the truth of the matter is that the Cleveland Browns were the ones to sign Watson and made him the NFL’s highest-paid quarterback while also giving him a guaranteed contract worth $230 million dollars over six years.

Why the Cleveland Browns decided to do this is simple. They need a quarterback. The Browns have been one of the mediocre teams in the NFL since they were brought back in as an expansion team in 1999. They also have been having a quarterback carousel since then because they have used an NFL record 19 different starting quarterbacks since their reintroduction.

Having a long-term quarterback is crucial to sustainability for an NFL team but why the Browns decided to make this move is met with controversy. Yes, Deshaun Watson is an exceptional quarterback with star talent, but his actions off the field have deemed him to be a “predator” who needs help. His pattern of behavior has led to some uncomfortable press conferences for members of the Browns organization and coaches.

However, this is essentially a slap in the face for female fans of the NFL and women in general. How could the NFL simply allow Deshaun Watson to step back onto the field with all the allegations against him? It is simply the NFL is driven by money and ratings and a long history of letting players with past issues like this step back on the field.

The NFL did suspend Deshaun Watson for half of the season. He will not be eligible to return until Week 13 against the Houston Texans and he must also show that he has been getting treatment for his behavior.

Watson was able to settle with all the women involved in the civil lawsuits. However, the biggest hurdle for Watson remains and that is the court of public opinion because through all his star talent and exceptional skills there are still some who will question why he is still in the NFL.