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SPEAKERS

Michelle Meyers, Jimmy Carper, Sarah DePalma

S

Sarah DePalma 00:01

transgender community and the police department. Yes, to make sure that if when transgendered people were arrested, that they were treated properly, that officers were trained in using the proper terminology. When working with transgendered people, that's something that they were given proper protection in the jail. That's something that the McKellar worked on. Very strongly. Yeah, exactly. And I was a little surprised tonight that when I was talking about working in local issues, that that issue sort of was like, Well, yes. But jobs is it? And I And when I heard I heard them saying tonight Now at least I think what I heard, was there a saying, yes, use those issues. And while you're there talking to Mitch, there, make sure you talk to them about jobs. And I'm a little confused by that. Because one, in the 70s, the mayor mirror the heat, the there was a movement for the Equal Rights Amendment from women. And it failed. It failed nationally. Yes. One of the reasons it failed. Many people said later was because they were not willing to do the nuts and bolts work it took to make it succeed. They were not willing to go to the legislature and get their hands dirty in the politics. They were not willing to go and talk to the police departments about how it would be implemented. They were not a they were not willing to go in, do the preparation work. They basically said, here's this is gonna be law, you have to take it. Well, politicians didn't like him. They're crammed down.

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01:36

Right, right. But don't you think the point being is, let's get jobs first. Because without jobs, it doesn't matter how we're treated.

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Sarah DePalma 01:48

Yes, and no, Jimmy. And here's, I guess this is where I'm confused. I'm gonna need more educating from my from this from my community, I guess. When I get phone calls, in when I get letters, that's usually not about jobs. It's about other issues. It's about people who have been arrested and felt they were mistreated. It's about people who felt they were abused on the

Metro bus system by passengers. And no one's no one's stopped it. Okay. It was it's about very basic nuts and bolts kind of stuff. on city council, people will tell you that they get elected really, and whether they get potholes filled, and whether the garbage is picked



02:32

up on time, because, you know, that's the need of the people.



Sarah DePalma 02:36

Well, that's right. And I agree that jobs are important. But I'm, I'm I'm trying to figure out how we go about going to Harris County, for example, and talking to Harris County about treatment in hospitals, and bringing up jobs. Harris County has nothing to do with the jobs that we can talk to them about job treatment for harris county employees. Certainly. Yeah. And that's



03:05

a start. Yeah. What just like the mayor's proclamation, that's the start. And I think something like that will set the tone for other businesses.



Sarah DePalma 03:14

Yeah. Now, if that's what the if that's what I heard, if that's what they've got in mind. That makes sense to me. But I don't see how we can walk away from these nuts and bolts issues.



Michelle Meyers 03:25

I agree with you, Sarah. I've gotten calls. I've gotten calls at two or three in the morning about people who don't have a place to stay that night. And they're trying to get some, you know, trying to get a place for transgender calls about people who have been beaten up and stuff like that. I feel very strongly that organizations like tat has to go out and do outreach into the community to go and talk with the youth and try to help the youth. We don't have finances. But we have expertise. And we need to talk with the youth. And we need to talk with those people who are really indigent. We have a couple people in tax who are in the welfare system, and who don't have any real resources. We don't help them in terms of resources, except a little bit, but we do help them and and how to work through the system and how to stay out of some parts of the system.



04:36

How about the education aspect? Because Katrina rose wrote an excellent article in the triangle this week. And it focused on education is key to self sufficiency.

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Michelle Meyers 04:49

That's absolutely right. And so the transgender community does have to do outreach to the youth who needs education and to the indigent, who can't get the education and the help. And we've got to do that. And in order to do that, yes, we have to have jobs so that they can have jobs. Sure, sure. But we can't let them be stay behind. We've got to help them now. But one



05:15

of one of one of her points was that, okay, if you're a transgender teenager, maybe you have to just hold on for a while until you get your education before you can transition. Because if you do it without a good firm education, then you have no future. While it's sort of like it sort of like AIDS patients, the indigent AIDS patients die a lot faster than those who have insurance or those who have private doctors or those who have money. Yes, I mean, it's a fact of life.

M

Michelle Meyers 05:52

Yeah. And I think the local organizations can help in that regard. Yeah, as far as the transgendered are concerned,

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Sarah DePalma 06:01

well, yeah, I was concerned tonight in hearing, what was that? What was some of this? Yeah, I understand the issue of jobs. I've always understood that. What my concern was, though, is that politically speaking, you have to crawl before you can walk. And I don't think this community has shown it knows how to crawl yet. Well. And I'm a little concerned about us going in. And I agree that we need to be doing outreach at a corporate level, but I'm not sure that's the business of a political organization.



06:33

What are the steps? I mean, how do you crawl first, I mean,

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Sarah DePalma 06:37

well, okay. In fact, I can outline those because I've had I've known for a long time. And in talking to other leaders around the country, this pretty much consensus now on what it takes. The first step is, you have to go to these political meetings, these dinners that they have, here in Houston, the League of Women Voters, has quite a few of these, we have to show up at those, we have to be willing to walk up to these people and say to them, political people, political people are talking about state representatives, we have to be willing to walk up to them and say, Hi, my name is so and so. I'm here on behalf of it's time, Texas. It's a transgendered political organization. And if while you're there, you want to talk to them about jobs, that's fine. But you also have to know going in, they're going to tell you no. Because they're not number one, they don't know enough about us, you have to come out of the closet,

you have to come out your that I agree jobs are important. And believe me, the reason you have transgendered sex workers is because they don't have jobs. I understand all that. Right. I also understand that if you don't do these basic kinds of things, you'll never get to the job issue. It will never happen. Here's another



07:54

okay, how,



Michelle Meyers 07:57

what are some of the other steps?



Sarah DePalma 07:58

Okay, another another good example would be another one of the steps very, honestly, is that we need to start showing up at some of the political caucuses. I'm not talking about the Gay Lesbian Political Caucus. I'm talking about the Democratic Party caucuses, the Republican Party caucuses, and we need to start introducing ourselves. This is a real, real, real basic level, to show that you are a voting contingent and you're willing to do the work, you're willing to play the game. If you want their votes, they have to know who you are. They have to know you're willing to play the political rules. Now, I know this is boring, and it's not glamorous. And people will say to me, well, but that has nothing to do with jobs. Yes, it has everything to do with jobs. If you want these people to fight on your behalf, when it comes down to it, then you have to have gotten their support first. That's political nuts and bolts. That's the that's the that's the grease of politics.



09:00

In the game, lesbian community, it has been that way. We still have youth on the street. Yes. But I think less than we could have, because we're more political.



Sarah DePalma 09:14

And you have we have organization we have who can help them



09:18

we have groups like hatch, yes. Who there are future. And these are the people who are getting the education and will have the jobs and are out there in the forefront



Sarah DePalma 09:30

at the city council level. We made a start with the knees. But a nice is only one city council.



09:37

Absolutely. And she can't she doesn't cannot possibly represent the entire queer community now.



Sarah DePalma 09:41

Now that means we need to start introducing ourselves to people like Rob Todd. Is on is on is distasteful is that may be Boy, that's an understatement. We still have to do it. Now. None of this stuff is glamorous. It's all real boring. The nuts and bolts, you know, get down into the mud kind of politics. But you'll but what we hear from the HRC as a political criticism, and they're absolutely right, is that the transgender community hasn't shown it's willing to do any of that. And unfortunately, as much as I hate to say the HRC has a point there, right? Yes, they're absolutely right. Now, does that mean we shouldn't go to Austin and fight for jobs? Of course we should. Should we go knowing that we're gonna get shot down that or count on it? Texas is a right to work state. My concern is that my experience in the transgender community is that has the attention span of a gnat. Okay. By that what I mean is, if they don't start to see immediate victories, they get discouraged and leave or Well, that doesn't work that way. And I think we can't do that as whatever we we think about Dale carpenter.



10:54

He is in there in the Republican party saying we're here and we're not going away. Even though there are large contingents of the Republican Party that do not want him not only not to be there, but not even to live.



Sarah DePalma 11:09

I think Dale has tremendous guts for what he's doing right now, a



11:11

nice said, has said that 2025 years ago, it was the same way with the Democratic Party. Yes, it was that learn from our mistakes or learn from history. That's what it takes. You have to be in there. Hi, here I am. And I'm part of you.



Sarah DePalma 11:31

Yeah, there was a lot of discussion about how we need to do outreach to corporations. I agree with that. But I don't think that's the role of its time, Texas, which is a political organization, okay.



11:42

And it takes different organizations to do different things.



11:46

I think that's what that's what Michelle was talking about with tats. I think tats is the ideal situation for that now that we don't have another organization like tats and state. Oh, okay. There's nothing like that exists in Dallas. Nothing like that exists in Fort Worth. Nothing like it exists in Austin, not even San Antonio.



Michelle Meyers 12:05

No, no. And in turn, so one thing where people right now an organization called one Oh,



Sarah DePalma 12:11

so one thing I think It's Time Texas could do is serve as a facilitator that we could we could go to Austin, or we could go to add the Dallas, try to help get some of the people organize there. And then bring in groups like tats to say, here's what we learned in Houston and let them bring their expertise and knowledge and corporate strategies and that kind of stuff in behind. But if you don't have people to talk to, I don't care how smart you are.



Michelle Meyers 12:43

I think you're right. And I would be really, I'd be willing to work on that with you. I think Katz's is a fantastic organization. It's been a life saving organization.



12:57

These organizations blossom by themselves, it takes a Phyllis fry, or Michelle Myers, or or a Sarah dipalma to start them and get them going. And then other people hop on board and follow. Well, that's right. So you need people like you in these other cities.



Sarah DePalma 13:17

Well, and that's the way that's where I think It's Time Texas has to be able to do it. Because it's something that's something tats really can't do. Taxes is handful just handling local stuff. And that's not to put it down. On the contrary, I just got through arguing the local stuff is more important than anything else we do salutely You know, city council is going to pass things that will be a far greater importance to any transgendered person than virtually anything Congress does. Okay, so I saw, but that's where it's time, Texas has to be able to do the organizing. Now, having said that, that means then we have to be able to show the people in Dallas, how to do

the nuts and bolts that we did in Houston. If we never do it, we have no right to go show him how to do anything. This is this is not easy stuff. And I understand why people say jobs. Jobs are the key. If you don't have jobs, you can't do anything. I agree. But you have to build up to being able to do that. That means you have to build a platform before you build anything on it. And we're not at the stage of having a platform yet. This is real. This is this is not easy stuff. And I've talked to transgendered leaders all over the country. Whether they were Ricky Wilkins or Jessica, Jessica Xavier, or Karen, Karen, or the field people in San Francisco, Susan Stryker, whatever, there's unanimous agreement that we have to build it. We have to build from the bottom up, not from the top down.



14:46

I need to remind you you're listening to after hours on KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station,



Michelle Meyers 14:53

and cake Pete ft is a member of the Pacifica Network.



Sarah DePalma 14:58

Thank you. Yeah, no Oh, yes, we should go. I agree that we need to go talk to corporations. I just don't think that's It's Time Texas plays. There are other things that we should be doing. For example, I have a couple times a month I get calls from transgenders who get poured, get transported by the ambulance service. Now, you know, in generally, the reports are not very good. Now, I've been talking to the ambulance service. And I am discovering that there are always two sides to every story. Sure. But at least the ambulance service is allowing me to go in and do some in service training. We are not close to getting there in Harris County. However, people who end up in transgenders who end up in Harris County for treatment, they put their life on their hands, because they may or they get real spotty kind of treatment. Yeah, okay. Go in and talk to Harris county may not have anything to do with jobs. On the other hand, you may be the person that gets transported. Yeah. Wouldn't you like to know, if you go you're gonna get decent treatment?



16:01

Yes. You know,



Sarah DePalma 16:03

I was a little surprised that there was not more interest in in that kind of an issue. I guess it's maybe sort of thing when people say, well, it won't happen to me. But it does. It does happen. It does happen.



16:15

You know. It's fate. You know, probably any one of us is going to have to go in an ambulance sometime. I've been in one several times.



Sarah DePalma 16:28

Yeah. I mean, I would like to, I would love to see us set up some sort of a liaison with the emergency services. The really tough nut to crack here is not Houston. Government, its County, government. Yes. If you really want it, if you really are itching for a fight, and you really want to crack the nut here, then Then Harris County, the place you start, you start with the county balls, and you start with the hospital district. And you start with the commissioner's court, who I promise you has never seen the transexuals since Phyllis Freidel walked in one day and made a presentation 20 years ago. That's where we need to begin. If you want to get jobs, you have to be willing to go to these places that you know, you are not welcome. And you have to be willing to go in there and say them, because private businesses take their cue from that. If we could go into the tough



17:25

thing to ask someone to do the darn.



Sarah DePalma 17:27

Right it is. And I didn't start this discussion by saying any of this was easy, or glamorous. This is really tough slogging, there's no fun in it. But there's, but if win, if you win a victory, it's a hell of a victory. It feels wonderful. If you want to get two jobs, you have to be able to have the platform first. One of the problems that we've seen this trend in this community, and I think Michelle will back me up on this is that all the work falls on two or three people. And when they burn out, there's nobody there to take their place?



Jimmy Carper 18:02

Well, because just what you said, the average person is not willing to do this. I'm not willing to do it in the in the gay and lesbian community. It's not fun stuff. And it's not something I'm comfortable with, or something I'm even very good app.



Sarah DePalma 18:20

That's right. But on the other hand, if we're always in the situation of having somebody burnout, and then it's a year before someone else says take six steps in to pick it up. You never make any progress. Yeah. And that's absolutely right. We have to I'm convinced that before we can go do anything for jobs, we have to build a base in our community, a base of more than two or three people I'm talking about, who are trained and willing to share the load.



18:47

Okay, so that means that you need to train other people to do what you're doing and that sharing part of the glory also hell yes.



Sarah DePalma 18:57

Hey, I'm willing to give somebody else that credit. If we get a victory. I don't care. I've never listen, I wouldn't resign from as president of its time, America if I was in here for glory.



19:09

Well, you see, I've, I've looked at gay and lesbian politics for a long time. And I've seen people come and go, because they, it was their ego that put them there.



Sarah DePalma 19:18

And I'm not interested in ego. And if they do that, and if anybody thinks they can come in and do this for ego, they're out of their gourd. Well, right. You know, on the other hand, to be there for the long haul. On the other hand, it is marvelous to talk to a legislator and watch his eyes light up when he realizes what he's got. And they will sit and talk to us for an hour. Because no one has ever done it before. Right? No one has ever done it. Jobs are key. I agree. And I keep saying that. But But But first, you gotta have more than two people willing to go do it. That means you got to train people. You have to educate them. And the way you do that is by showing them the nuts and bolts of how works. That's, that's the key to our success.



20:04

It sounds to me more like the chicken and the egg thing. Because if you don't have a job, you're not gonna You can't do this. You don't have the resources, you don't have the time you don't have the energy or anything to do this. If you're if you're not employed.



Sarah DePalma 20:18

That's right. So you should say you need to do what you can do.



Michelle Meyers 20:22

And I think Sarah is right that there's there are several organizations in the area. And the political stuff is for its time, Texas, the caring for the individual who is trying to keep their job within the workplace and is trying to transition in a positive manner in the workplace is the job of an organization like tax. Sure. Now what we need to do is marry those two together. In terms

of okay, here's how we're going to approach this. And here's the lessons we learned from this, and how can we take that and make more organizations across across Texas that have more people who will be willing and very interested in going and working the political agenda

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Sarah DePalma 21:14

couldn't have said that any better? That's marvelous. That's exactly right. Michelle, thank you. I couldn't have said that better in 10 years. That was excellent. Yeah. And that's exactly right. Now, then, that means we have to be willing to have somebody who's going to be a liaison. Turns out we do. I've been talking to Murray Gallagher about this. Exactly. Oh, all right. Marie. Marie is not at all intimidated by police. Oh, not not afraid of uniforms. No, Maria will be ideal. Yes. You know, if I was going to, if I had had to go out and recruit somebody, it couldn't find anybody. anyone better than this?

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Michelle Meyers 21:46

Yeah, I agree.

S

Sarah DePalma 21:47

I agree. You know, she's the she's the person for the job. No question. She

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Michelle Meyers 21:51

has a personal passion about doing it. Yeah. And that's what we need. We need passion in what we do.

S

Sarah DePalma 21:59

Yeah, exactly. Right. Exactly. Right. Absolutely. One of the things that I would like to see us do, and that in this is, is I would like to see us start showing up at some of the political at some of the political or things like City Hall, not necessarily even to speak, just to show up and go and speak to some of the people afterwards. If for no other reason to go introduce yourself and say, Hi, my name is so and so. I'm your constituent. I wanted to you know, you have transgendered people in your constituents in Rob Todd would fall off his chair. I'm telling you, Jo Roach would have heart failure, you know, in Hollywood, and yet, that's what it takes to arbitrate and my political. My state rep States Senator, his name was Buster Brown. Buster Brown is the biggest homophobic planet in Africa, walked into his office twice now. And now it's gotten to the point when I walk in the Secretary's run. But I guarantee you, Buster brown knows he's got a transgendered person in his district who's watching what he does, right?

M

Michelle Meyers 23:03

Well, I have a business card and one of the I have four things on the business card. One of

them is touch president. Yeah. And when I introduce myself, I don't say tat because most people would have no idea what that is, right? So I say, oh, that's the Texas Association for transsexual and support. The Gulf Coast transgender community. Que patrol, why do people know that one? And then when I ever I talk about after hours, I always say, queer radio with



23:37

good for you, for you, girl.



Sarah DePalma 23:39

And one of the things that one of the things that came out, too, is that we need to start finding ways to build bridges between us and the gay lesbian community. Absolutely. Now, Michelle has made a pretty good start at that. Yes. And Michelle, you are the best person to be talking right now with the Gay Lesbian Political Caucus, because I have no tolerance for them. Very, I mean, I'm just being honest, I would well, I was actually you're a better person for it than I am.



Michelle Meyers 24:08

Yeah. At the last meeting of HDL, PC, Houston, gay and lesbian Political Caucus. The word transgender was used either seven or eight times and always in a friendly manner.



Sarah DePalma 24:23

Well, seven, Clarence Bagby is the president because he knows a little bit more about us.



Michelle Meyers 24:27

I think clowns only use the word once or twice. This is other people. So I felt really good. Good.



Sarah DePalma 24:34

Well, maybe some progress is being made there. At the state level, that's going to be a little tougher, because we still have Ms. Garcia sitting over there. Yes, Diane Hardy Garcia. Having said that, I'm going to extend an olive branch to her and see if she'll take it. I really am. I know this is out of character, but I'm going to try it. I am going to offer to work with her on child custody issues. In on the same sex marriage issue. You are two areas to which transgender people have a hell of a lot more expertise than the gay community does. And then in hello and in in,



25:09

I've been saying, How long have we been saying this three years longer? You've been on the

show? And I'll

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Sarah DePalma 25:14

be very curious to see if she doesn't take it. She takes it. If he does, that's fine. If she doesn't, I promise you. I'm going to every gay lesbian newspaper in the state. And I'm going to tell them she didn't. I promise you, we are going to break through with the LG RL. One way or another.



25:33

Your we want to find out if she's a carry, or

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Sarah DePalma 25:38

I want to know whether she exactly right. You exact That's exactly it. I'm gonna flush her out. She's either a carry LaBelle, or he's Elizabeth Burch. And I want to know what she is, once and for all, I want an answer. And we'll say, I'm hoping that she's going to show me she can be a diplomat. And if that's the case, that would be better for all of us.



25:57

I should think she would know how to be a diplomat? Well, especially

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Sarah DePalma 26:01

since I'm not asking anything from her. I'm not asking the LTR rel to do anything other than I'm going to be going to her and saying, here's our offer of help. Do you want it? If he doesn't, then we'll go to the state legislator was legislature without her and she can explain why she wasn't talking to Yeah, obvious. Yeah. Why?



26:21

I know. I know. It just drives me crazy. You know, well, just drives me crazy.

S

Sarah DePalma 26:26

You know, Jimmy, I started to talk about this earlier and we had set aside sidetrack. This is the hot issue right now throughout the country. As more and more fringe gendered people are becoming politically active. More and more, they are butting heads with gay and lesbian groups around the country. There is a huge argument going on in North Carolina right now, between gay and lesbian groups and transgender groups came to them and said, Listen, we're willing to offer you help in the North Carolina train gay lesbian group said go away. And to which the transgender said no, we'll see you in the legislature. In Maryland, the Free State, the Free State

Justice Coalition, actually said no to Martine Rothblatt. Wow. I mean, how tough do you have to be Martine Rothblatt and Jessica Xavier, went and spoke on behalf of transgender inclusion and hate crimes legislation. In turn, they turned them down. It's now Jessica Xavier, same fine will testify against you in the legislature.



27:24

That is incredible to me



Sarah DePalma 27:26

in their house.



27:29

That's that's saying, Okay, we want hate crimes, but not against you.



Sarah DePalma 27:35

What there's what they're telling Jessica is, well, we might get it passed with it's just us. But if we include you, we can't so toughed it out. And if anybody knows Jessica, trust me, Jessica is not going to tough it out. Not if she can call on people like Martine Rothblatt and Kate Bornstein go legislature. And that's exactly what she's going to do. Now, I don't want to get to that point here, you know, but it's but it's occurring all around the country, there are pockets of cooperation. And it's usually where the rubber has really hit the road where they've actually got the right far right, leaning down their backs. Oregon is a good example. Oregon is going to face an all out state amendment fight over gay lesbian issues and child custody. Yes, that's going to be the big issue nationally this year. So because child custody is a big issue, the gay and lesbian community in the transgender community are learning to work together, because they have to. In Oregon, and in Colorado, where you have more conservative polygynous religious groups than anywhere else in the country. They are learning to work with transgender groups because they have to, right. So when it really comes down to it, when trans when the gays and lesbians feel threatened, then they're willing to take the transgender people as allies. But when they're not feeling threatened, they seem to be able to do without us. And that's a sad commentary.



28:59

It is a sad commentary.



Sarah DePalma 29:01

That's it's that should never have to happen.

M**Michelle Meyers 29:03**

I just wanted to mention to you though, that HVLP she is working to coach Takota brown on hate crimes, and to get brown to live up to his promise before he was elected, that he would see what he could do to unify the reporting. The reporting in Houston is abominable. Oh, yes, absolutely. And so, I talked to Clarence about this. I've told Clarence, I'm going to work on that with him. Along with Gary Norman from the Montrose Counseling Center. In addition, I mean, I have this special thing about hate crimes, you know, being on cue patrol and all that. In addition, in the end of June, just around Pride Week, there's a whole group of what they call an I don't understand What this means progressive social workers. It's the Bertha Captain Reynolds society is holding their annual national meeting at the University of Houston, on different issues, and basically they say, let's discuss let's act. And they talk about social issues. And one of the panels is going to be on hate crimes. On the panel chair, Gary Norman is going to be with us. And we're going to try to get somebody from the city, who will hopefully by that time, is helping in the hate crimes. I submitted two proposals, they asked me to collapse them. One was just hate crimes, and one was on the transgender. So they asked me to clap some. So it's going to be hate crimes, including those against the transgender. We're going to discuss this with social workers from all over the country. How do you deal with it? How do you how do you deal with it? How do you over here, deal with it? And try to learn some of the things that have been successful? And some of the things that haven't been successful? Shall we can apply them here in Houston?

S**Sarah DePalma 31:03**

We'll see. I think that's really necessary. One other area that I think we need to do, and this is another tough one, is we need to do would be willing to do is the gay and lesbian community data and start talking to the educators in Houston. We need to start talking to the school boards.

**31:17**

Yes. Now, that's tough. Oh,

**31:21**

boy, is that that's a hard one.

**31:23**

That's a real hard one. But it's something that we really need to do. Those are the people who are the future corporate leaders. Yeah. You're talking about jobs. Okay. And once again, there's a case where we were talking earlier about gay teachers. And we're talking about the cloud how closeted gay teachers are. Believe me transgender teachers are twice as close Oh, yeah. You want in there's a case where we're if we It really makes it for transgendered



31:49

person can ever be a teacher?



Michelle Meyers 31:52

Yes, they can. They are. Yes, they



Sarah DePalma 31:54

can. They are. There are? No, there are many in Houston.



Michelle Meyers 31:58

No, wow. I know. Awesome.



Sarah DePalma 31:59

Yeah. Yeah. But they're Ultra closeted about, and I certainly don't blame them. Absolutely. They're there. Yeah, yeah, I certainly do not blame them for being closeted. Were I in their shoes, I would do exactly as they're



32:13

doing. That would be a tough profession.



Michelle Meyers 32:16

And they actually transition without some of them transition from male to female. Within a ISD



Sarah DePalma 32:26

Wow. I know one that works for the Houston Community College System. And they gave her a time deadline. If she didn't transition by x and such a date, they should they would simply fire her. Wow. I mean, she was she had get it done in a year,



Michelle Meyers 32:40

she had 12 months when when the when the standards of care, say 12 to 18. They said, while you've got 12, you go 12, where you're going. And fortunately, she was able to start with a live test before the beginning of the 12 months. So she had fifth 14 or 15 months in there. And she

had the money to do it. And she had the money to do it, which are different makes a big difference. That was several years ago. Today, it's more difficult because you have to schedule surgery, like seven to nine months in advance. Because it's getting so booked up. No kidding. Yes. So that would make it very difficult. You have to have a really good plan.



33:18

No kidding.



Sarah DePalma 33:21

Yeah. And there's another area where we need to, we need to find the courage to go do this. And this is an area that that there's talked about in San Francisco. Now in Houston, Texas, I can't really see how we could make a difference. I'll accept that. And here's a big F. I do think that we could start doing some in service training with teachers and perhaps administrators. And that would be a place to begin. Sure. It would be a place to begin. These are all things there. I call them the nuts and bolts of politics. But these are this is you know, to use. Ross Perot's phrase here with this is where the rubber meets the road. These are all the building blocks that you use toward building job security issues. Because then when you are ready to do job security issues, like Michelle was talking about, we can go to touts and say, Listen, we've talked to this group and this group and this group, and we've gotten this accomplished and that accomplished and this accomplished. Now, here's all this ammunition you've got to take to employers. Second. True. Yeah. And and that's the kind that that's the process that I'm talking about.



34:34

But you there's also the fight to maintain it all.



Sarah DePalma 34:37

Oh, absolutely. Absolutely. One of the people said and they were up to one of the people in the panel said and you're quite right. Well put that but the government changes every two years. Yeah, it's an ongoing job. And that's why people burn out. But it still has to be done.



Michelle Meyers 34:54

Yeah, yeah. The maintenance I think will become a bigger issue later on. But right now, it's not an issue to get there, you're gonna get there. And it's hard and it's difficult. Yeah.



Sarah DePalma 35:09

So I want the future that I see for us. And for its time, Texas really, is that we we will least get started on the political issues, the nuts and bolts kind of stuff. And yes, we're always going to

keep in mind the job issue. But I've I foresee what It's Time Texas was going to be doing is working on the nuts and bolts kind of stuff. And then turning the social cut issues or like or like Job, the sensitivity training over organization like tats, or whatever they are in other cities. And it's going to be the job of its time, Texas, I think, to help build other organizations like tats, and other organizations in other cities, so that we so that we can turn it over to them. And that's the job that I see for us. It will be very interesting to see how this all develops. This is a long haul yesterday, we've certainly learned a lot from the gay lesbian community. And the question in my mind is, does the transgender community have the stomach to do this kind of work? That's what we're gonna find out.



36:12

I guess so. Yeah.



Sarah DePalma 36:15

So I guess the music you want to play here?



36:18

I've got some outgoing music that I want to play and it's just for Big Daddy J to go into his show because he does this blues show. This is Veronica Klaus from her album. All I want it's called Blind hearts and knowing glances. You've been listening to after hours queer radio with attitude. Heard every Saturday night at midnight? Right here on KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station, Pacifica?



Sarah DePalma 36:54

Is that now the new requirement that we're supposed to be seeing? Well,



Michelle Meyers 36:57

it's part of the Pacifica network. I think Arlen wants to show a stronger identity with Pacific Pacific. Yeah, fine. By me. I agree with that. I think it's important because there are some fantastic stuff comes out of the network. Absolutely. Amy Goodman, Democracy Now.



37:17

And there's no reason why fantastic stuff can't come from Houston.



Michelle Meyers 37:21

And syndicated and actually it does.



Sarah DePalma 37:23

That's right. That's right. Thank you. We in this program as we always do with the show. Yes. When decorum becomes repression, the only dignity free people have is to speak out. By the way, somebody actually called me when they want to know what decorum meant. That's when you behaving so sweetly that you could overlook, you know, that's his cell. That's what means Okay, anyway, good night.



37:51

See you next week.



37:56

Welcome to the radar special that I'm your host Big Daddy J. And that you're listening to KPFT 90.1 ustun que que EOS the 89.1 College Station bringing you 100,000 watts of the blues.