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s&m, transgender, good, houston, transgendered, meeting, talking, tonight, thought, called, pep, transsexual, halloween, guess, hear, scene, consensual, folks, people, safe

SPEAKERS

Sarah DePalma, Jimmy Carper, Lori Rice, Speaker 1, [Introduction]

[I] [Introduction] 00:07

The following program contains language or images of a brain or a sensitive nature, which may be considered objectionable by some listener discretion is advised. Oh yes, you've tuned into After Hours a continuing tradition on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of After Hours is ready to bring you news, interviews and music geared for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people. Hear at After Hours, we may be diverse, but we have one thing in common. We are all out of the closet and urge everyone to come out of their closets. That means standing up for yourself, taking responsibility for your own life and being proud of who you are. Realistically, we know not everyone can do that because of a job or frame of mind. That's okay. We're here for you too. So sit back, relax, and enjoy this week's edition of After Hours.

[J] Jimmy Carper 02:04

Hello, Houston and welcome to After Hours queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station. I'm Jimmy Carper. And with me tonight,

[S] Sarah DePalma 02:15

Sara DePalma.

[J] Jimmy Carper 02:16

Tada. I know don't get confused.

[S] Sarah DePalma 02:19

I know you're used to hearing me on the second weekend of the month. And I'll be back in my regular slot in November. That's right. But we made a switch.

J Jimmy Carper 02:26

We made a switch because Jim Griffith had to be out of town this week. And when he wanted to avoid marathon, I admitted, I blame you. I don't blame you.

S Sarah DePalma 02:36

I have been we've been with the show. Now two years, I had not missed one single marathon. In fact, there was one one time I actually caught it was a two week marathon and I ended up doing both weekend and I was ready to miss a marathon.

J Jimmy Carper 02:49

Let me tell you this was the best marathon ever After Hours has just the best folks because we never had to beg and plead. I went on about every 20 minutes and for a minute or so you know, we said okay, this is the programming you like just call in. And they did it. And we went over our goal. I'm so happy with our listeners. And they have made us they have made After Hours. The most listened to midnight show at KPFT. And we also bring in the most money.

S Sarah DePalma 03:20

And you know the results of that money shows as is my first time being at the station now in a little over a month. They have put up new walls. They're doing some sheetrock, folks, you have no idea how happy we are that the roof no longer leaks? Yes. So for those of you who have contributed money, and you say to yourselves, well, what does that money go to? It goes to real basic things like walls, doors, roofs, really, literally. So the money is not getting wasted and thank you, we really appreciate it. We have very interesting show tonight. In fact-.

J Jimmy Carper 03:52

It's a it's a it's a very interesting show, because we're right in the middle of the time change. So you've got four hours of after hours tonight, instead of the regular three. So Sarah thought she was going to be cut down in half, but instead just cut down by a third.

S Sarah DePalma 04:11

By a third. That's right. And on our show in the past, we have talked about transgendered issues, and we're going to talk about some of that tonight. But we're also we're going to talk about a couple of transgender issues that we have danced around and we never really had much of an opportunity to do anything with them. But since this is a show that normally has some leather folks on it, yes, I thought this would be a good time to do a show about transgenders first of all and Halloween. Oh yeah. Because there are a lot of folks who are transgendered who will be going out for the first time ever.

J Jimmy Carper 04:43

That's right, because this is this is the safe time.

S Sarah DePalma 04:46

This is their safe time.

J Jimmy Carper 04:47

If you're if this is your first time this is the safe time.

S Sarah DePalma 04:50

That's right. But there are some things, some guidelines and things you need to know. So we'll talk about that. We're also be talking tonight about something it is the most taboo subject in the transgender world, oh, that is sexuality. I have never, ever heard the subject is discussed ever about sexuality, sexuality and transgenders. It was it's as if within the transgender community. transgendered sexuality doesn't exist.

J Jimmy Carper 05:20

Is that part of you know, remember those 18 things you never say to a transsexual by Rookie Welch, reactions and one of them was, Do you have an orgasm?

S Sarah DePalma 05:28

Do you have an orgasm? That's right. When especially for transsexuals who are transition, it's as if they it's as if, like, it doesn't exist. Well, very interesting. There are an awful lot of transgender people that are attracted to s&m. They're attracted to B&D, especially to fetish wear. There are the numbers of transgenders that are involved in s&m and and that sort of that world is amazingly high. Wow. And so since this is a show that normally we have the leather people on anyway.

J Jimmy Carper 06:01

Stacy and John will be coming in later.

S Sarah DePalma 06:03

I thought maybe this would be a good show to talk about that. Wow. And Halloween and

Halloween. And we have a guest here with this from people exchanging power. And we will be talking about what the PAP is. And we'll be talking about the role that this has-.

J Jimmy Carper 06:19

It's been around for quite a while has been Yeah, it's it's been. It's different in the past. I think.

S Sarah DePalma 06:25

Laurie, my life partner is here tonight. And we're going to talk about our relationship and because we are in a dominant submissive relationship, and I'm gonna let the audience try and guess which one they think might have been might be the dominant. But along the way, I can see that PAP literally, started in Lori's house. Oh, really? Quite, quite true. Yeah. So PAP originally began in Lori's house, she was roommate with another person named Robert Dante. And PAP started in their home. In fact, that's where Laurie and I met.

J Jimmy Carper 06:56

Well, because I remember a group from PAP who used to meet at Charlie's years ago.

S Sarah DePalma 07:01

That's right. That's right. And we were part of that group that Oh, no kidding. Yeah. Oh, yeah. We were part of the we literally were part of the original 1010 or 12 people who started PAP Oh, in fact, I was at the very first party and actually, that's where I met Laurie for the first time. She'll probably tell the story but I was with another dominant at the time. And when we arrived she thought the dominant was the transsexual oh I'm not hope not giving secrets away Laurie. Okay, she says well, not yet. So we have a very interesting show tonight and I also I in the last few days, I had been a people exchanging power had a little seminar on sensual play within S&M and which Laurie and I work to the CO speakers and we expect we probably have a lot of folks who were there listening in to us tonight for the first time. So welcome to After Hours. And on Friday night I was at a little get together for submissives only it was run by a person she probably doesn't want her name used on the year but very interesting they're probably 30 submissives there are many most nearly all of them brand new or very new to s&m asking very interesting, very intelligent questions. So so this is going to be a different kind of show than we normally do on After Hours. But I thought you know, we normally have this as a shot a slot a show with a normal handle other folks on in any way. Yeah, we're close to Halloween. Let's it we're gonna let's talk about hey, we're famous for talking about taboos in this show. So here's another one.

J Jimmy Carper 08:41

It is what we do right now. I'm doing my best to make the taboo ordinary.

S

Sarah DePalma 08:48

Well, we'll be talking about all that sort of stuff tonight so that yes music kick.

J

Jimmy Carper 08:53

Oh I do I do. I've been playing this for a couple of weeks. It's by a artist named KK II with a little slash over the eighth and it's a remake of an old Melanie to wow I'm old enough to remember melon you and you will remember this tune as soon as I play it he sounds amazingly like her it's called lay down. Okay lay down, do you remeber that?

S

Sarah DePalma 09:24

I'm giving away my age not only to I remember it, but I knew the words to the song. Oh, that's horrible. It's it sounded as if he actually took the as the soundtrack or Melanie put his own voice over it was amazingly close. Yeah, good stuff. Giving away my own age here I guess but the I was one of the people who actually was at Woodstock. And I knew I was getting older when people started asking me Oh, which one who would always answer the real one real. So they knew what. Oh me, we've already had our first phone call for people asking for information about people exchanging power tonight. Good. And I promise you that we will get that information out to you tonight, and we will definitely be talking about that. First I want to talk a little bit about transgenders in Halloween. Okay. Let me start a little, since this may be a somewhat new audience, and they may not be familiar with what a transgender is. Perhaps you don't listen to us on the second weekend of the month true. Let me take a couple of minutes to explain what transgenders are.

J

Jimmy Carper 09:44

I'm glad you thought of that. Because you know, we've been doing this now for two years. And I just automatically think anyone who listens to after hours knows about transgenders.

S

Sarah DePalma 10:43

Well, this is a different audience, they may not have heard, well, they may not have heard me before or heard the show or even be, they may not know that we're on usually the second weekend of the month. So a transgender person very simply as a person who is living cross across the gender boundaries, I can't explain it much easier than that. And within within the term transgender, there are a whole host of groups, there are people who are cross dressers. These are people who cross dress on a part time basis for a whole host of reason. There are transsexuals who were talking about the type of transsexual who perhaps might be directed toward sex change surgery. There are people like myself who are transsexuals who have chosen not to have the surgery. So there's a whole host of people within there also included within my list-.

J

Jimmy Carper 11:34

When you say you've opted not to have it but but you are legally female.

 Sarah DePalma 11:39

Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah. Legally female work as a female live as a female. To take hormones. Yeah.

 Jimmy Carper 11:45

I was license change.

 Sarah DePalma 11:47

The only thing I have decided not to do is I've decided not to have the sex reassignment surgery. Right. And some night will turn. That's almost the whole show. Oh, you know why I came to the conclusion.

 Jimmy Carper 11:58

I know it because you did that midstream on me.

 Sarah DePalma 12:01

Well, yeah. And it's been it's been kind of a roundabout, but I finally have decided, yeah, that's not going to do you know what-.

 Jimmy Carper 12:07

We'll go into that?

 Sarah DePalma 12:08

Yeah, that's, that's a whole different show. But I wanted people to get a sense of what transgendered or what transgender people are. Now, one of the things that we have often talked about on the show is that there is a whole host of people that I hear from, occasionally, people who are very closeted cross dressers, there are people who for the most part, are crossed their dressing in their own bedrooms. And that's, that's, they may go as far as their own living room. But they never leave the house, right? Except on Halloween. because Halloween is the one time you can walk cross dressed and no one thinks anything about it, right. You don't have to pass you don't have you don't have to look the part of the female. You don't have to have your voice be just perfect or your makeup just be you can go and do it during the Halloween time. And it's a safe way. And for many people, it's their first step on the process of finally, getting out the door on a more regular basis. Now, having said that, let me

say something to those of you who are trans, who are thinking about doing this. Good for you. That's the first thing. Yes. The second thing though, is do not get yourself drunk. Do not tangle with law.

J Jimmy Carper 13:20

Oh, definitely. Okay, we've done shows on tangle with laws.

S Sarah DePalma 13:24

Yes, that's exactly what we did share with Ray Hill and Dee McKellar and we talked about what happens. It what how what to do. If you are transgendered, and you end up in jail. My advice to you is go out. Have a good time. Stay away from law be good. Yeah. Okay. Now, if you get in trouble, chances are I'll hear from you anyway. But if you get in trouble, do not give the officers a bad time. No, they understand it's Halloween, too. Okay, just for heaven's sakes, do not go out. And how can you put this, do not put yourself get out and get yourself in a situation where you're later going to have to go home, explain to your wife why she had come get you at a jail there you go, and that's happened. And it's happened every Halloween, that married guys ended up into that in those situations, and then the wife has to come bail them out. It is not a happy situation. I encourage people who are cross dressers to take the risks and to come out to some of the gay bars for example, some of the drag bars, Dozens is a great place. Dozens is a very safe place. It's a good example of that. But I would encourage you think about what you're doing. You know, it is not illegal to cross dress, especially around Halloween. But officers are not likely to treat you any better because you're cross dress if you've had a few drinks, either, right? So word to the wise, just that it was mentioned.

J Jimmy Carper 14:54

It's It's smart. Yeah, if you're doing it for the first time, you know, have to drink some other night you know, just go out Have a good time and order Cokes?

S Sarah DePalma 15:02

Yeah. In fact, I think I've told the story in the air once before, I'm not sure. The very first time. That was the second time I ever cross dressed in Houston. And it was at the I was at the tea party. At these events you held every July here. It's a huge event in Houston for those who don't know. And I actually had borrowed a wedding dress from a friend. And I went with Bill O'Rourke.

J Jimmy Carper 15:27

Oh, yeah. Bill O'Rourke. Yes. Bill from the the-.

S Sarah DePalma 15:31



Sarah DePalma 15:51

From the Imperial Court, among other things. Bill went in his leather outfit, and I went in a wedding dress. Well, during the course of the day, we got separated. And thank goodness, I don't drink. It's now about 1030 at night and I'm driving home at that time, I lived in the heights, and I was driving home from Bacchus and that time Bacchus was over in Lovett Boulevard. Oh, yes. And so I knew this police officer was was behind me. And I figured so what I'm not doing anything. If you're familiar with the height series, and you know when the what your go back on Montrose, and it becomes Studemont and I was out there by center streets dark. Yep. It's out there. It's kind of industrial area. That's when this officer decided it was time to pull me over. And he pulls me over, he says, he says, because the old hit the light over my license plate is out. has me get out and has started doing a DWI test in the middle of the street, in heels, and a wedding gown. And the whole time he's saying to me, yeah, just my kind of guy yes, sir. And and other police officers are driving by and looking at the freak in the street doing the DWI test. And the whole time I'm getting mattered. Oh, I'll bet and matter.



Jimmy Carper 16:40

You don't take kindly to stuff like that.



Sarah DePalma 16:43

No, I don't. So he finally decided I wasn't drunk. Surprise, surprise. But he has been getting a backseat and he's gonna write me a ticket anyway. And in the course of writing the ticket, I said, By the way, be short your badge numbers on the ticket. He said why? And it's because I'm going to be seeing you in court. He said why? And that's it. Because, among other things, I'm on the board of directors in the American Civil Liberties Union, which was true at the time and said, I'm gonna be meeting you in court count on it. Well, as luck would have it, he did show up at the court. I was just hoping he would. We got the court and the he's sitting there and he's telling the judge the whole time. Well, you know, I found this guy in Montrose, wink, wink, wink. And in finally, the judge got discussed and said, officer, I don't care if you found her on the top of the roof. Why was this person stopped? So he explained the story. And so we'll judge let me tell you a little story. And I explained the whole thing from start to finish. And she turned to him. She said, officer, this is not the first time I've had a complaint and you better damn, well better be the last. Woohoo. Now not many people were gonna be willing to do that. Well, that's true. So I'm telling him he counted on that. And there's no telling how many other times he had done it before. Sure. But I had already called Ray Hill and said, Ray, if I have to go to jail, give me your number. And come get me. No, I mean, I was. Oh, yeah. So the point I'm trying to make is even though it's Halloween, or even though it may be a sanctioned event, things can happen. Think about what you're doing. Don't panic. But think about what you're doing. And you'll be okay. Right. So, okay, enough of that. I'm just passing that along. If you're out there on Halloween for the first time, enjoy yourself. That's the that's the biggest thing.



Jimmy Carper 18:25

And I might want to remind you that you're listening to after hours on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station.

 Sarah DePalma 18:34

Okay, I think we should probably go to a piece of music here and a little bit and when we come back, let's start talking about we'll start talking about a leather stuff. And I didn't want to surprise him because I wasn't sure if he had anything queued up or not.

 Jimmy Carper 18:46

Oh, I do.

 Sarah DePalma 18:47

Oh, good. Okay.

 Jimmy Carper 18:48

I do in fact, that was the one I was telling you about. Oh, it's a live version of Melissa Etheridge song called and bring me some water and she does it as a duet with Joan Osborne.

 Sarah DePalma 19:03

Ooh, I'm ready for them.

 Jimmy Carper 19:05

Sexy or what? Oh, baby, if that doesn't get your heart going, you're dead.

 Sarah DePalma 19:16

We're just bopping to the studio.

 Jimmy Carper 19:19

So good.

 Sarah DePalma 19:20

I'm telling you. What if that does if she sounds so much like Janis Joplin on that is just eerie.

 Jimmy Carper 19:26

.....

Melissa Etheridge and Joan Osborne live version bring me some water and you're hearing it on After Hours queer radio with attitude. KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station. You've got Jimmy Carper and Sarah DePalma. And we got people in the studio, honey.

S

Sarah DePalma 19:43

Why don't we go ahead and turn their mics on.

J

Jimmy Carper 19:45

I think that's a good idea.

S

Sarah DePalma 19:46

Okay, folks, if you can hear me in there. Why don't you each introduce yourselves so that the audience knows who you are and what you sound like.

L

Lori Rice 19:55

Good evening, my name is Lori also known as my lady. Say And I live in a D&S relationship on a 24/7. Yeah.

S

Sarah DePalma 20:07

24/7 means 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Okay, and-.

S

Speaker 1 20:12

And my name is Steven. I am a good friend of Lori and Sarah. And they've asked me to join them tonight and talk a little bit about the local leather community.

S

Sarah DePalma 20:22

I want to open up the microphones because we're going to start talking about what s&m is, what it isn't. And explain perhaps some of the differences. And I wanted to include everybody in that discussion, rather than just being my opinion. Let's start with a little bit about some what D and what s&m. The s&m world is like, first of all, s&m is not what you see on television talk shows I don't suppose much is. But in truth s s&m is sort of a shorthand for a whole list of behaviors that basically I would classify under the term eroticism, because that's really what we're talking about here. We're talking about eroticism. And within the world of S&M, there are there's a whole alphabet soup, for example, there's something called D&S. Discipline is the

submission. And there's another. This is there's another soup. There's a whole a whole list of things. There's a bondage and domination. But I guess they would all sort of fall under the umbrella called s&m? Anybody disagree with that?

S

Speaker 1 21:31

There's a there's a jumble of terms for it. You're right. I'm not sure I feel comfortable with any of them. That s&m That comes probably the closest.

L

Lori Rice 21:40

The umbrella term, I think.

S

Sarah DePalma 21:41

Yeah. So first of all, for the audience, I just want you to understand that when we're talking about s&m, we're not talking about any individual behavior, but rather we're thinking we're going to use that as an umbrella term to cover a whole list of things. Okay, now within that within the s&m world, one of the things that I have noticed as a transgendered person is the number of transgendered people that are involved in s&m. And it is a very high proportion. It's very surprising. Many of them are cross dressers for the most part. And by that, I mean, many of them are there part time cross dressers, they may dress they may only cross dress to come to s&m events. Some of them may go across dress part time, and they come to an s&m event, for no other reason, then it's a safe place. But there's a huge number of transgender people who come to s&m, and part of what we'll talk about tonight is why I think they do that. But I wanted to start out by talking a little bit about what a safe place is. One of the things that we'll be talking about, and we might as well start with is talking about there's an organization here in the city, called People Exchanging Power. And let me start out by explaining to the audience right from the beginning, People Exchanging Power is not a dating service. It is not a place for people to come and have sex is it is not a place where you're going to come and find someone to go home with and have roll in the hay. And what People Exchanging Power is, is an organization which helped tries to educate people how to be involved in s&m in its many aspects in a safe, sane, and most importantly, consensual way. And we're gonna keep stressing consensual tonight, because I've heard a lot of people say over the years oh, well, s&m is brutal. Now. Now. Now. Now, let me just correct that from start. We're talking about consensual behaviors, period.

S

Speaker 1 23:54

Okay, in fact, the contrary is more often true. There are more people that are actively involved in anti abuse type activities in the s&m scene than probably any other segment of society. I think it's because we're so often accused of that.

S

Sarah DePalma 24:07

I think that's true because there is a dominatrix & mistress in Dallas the mistress with who

I think that's true, because there is a dominantatrix a mistress in Dallas, the mistress Ruth who has since passed away. But she was one of the one of the finest dominants I ever knew. And mistress Ruth, I would commonly contact Dallas police. And say, you know, we've I've got somebody here that I am certain has been in abusive relationship. Someone needs to come and talk to her. Someone needs to come help her. And I know for a fact of several women who ended up in shelters because mistress Ruth cared about these people and said that this is not s&m is not about this kind of thing, and we won't tolerate it. So you're absolutely right. I think we are. We're very tuned to what it is in we know we usually know abuse when we see it. At least I think so. Like to hopes sp. Could you talk a little bit about about People Exchanging Power? Tell folks a little bit about it?

 **Speaker 1 25:04**

Okay, it as you said, it's, we like to think of it as a social and support group. It is very definitely pansexual. It's open to anybody that has an interest in bondage and discipline, s&m fetishes, cross dressing. A lot of people in the scene enjoy the fetish wear dressing aspect of it. All those people are welcome. In fact, it's it's kind of controlled anarchy, there's no, there's no president, a lot of times, a lot of us will say we're president, there's probably 50 presidents. There are no dues there's, there's really no formal organization. And we kind of like it that way, it keeps the group from bearing the stamp of any one individual. That way it more closely reflects the desires of all the people in it. And because of that, I like it a lot. It's a very special group to me. And there really is no formal membership, there are no dues to pay. It's a nonprofit organization. Like you said, one of our principle charters is to educate people, primarily on how to play safely. There are a number of pitfalls sometimes not intuitively obvious, that can cause injury when you play with us. So we'd like to educate people on how to do it safely. We occasionally hold well, we've been holding a number of seminars lately, for just that purpose to instruct and teach people how to play. We also hold other events on occasion we have we hold them back twice a year we hold what we call the s&m ball here at a local nightclub. And that's usually quite an event and I would say probably on a better quarterly basis we have dungeon parties.

 **Sarah DePalma 26:55**

Which sounds very sinister but really is not.

 **Speaker 1 26:58**

No it's it's really a place where people can come socialize wear thier wild outfits and if they want to engage in a in an s&m scene under certain restrictions, they're welcome to do so. Not required to do that. But they're certainly welcome to the scene some pretty pretty exciting scenes heavily.

 **Lori Rice 27:19**

Might have left or just as many people who dress up in the fetishes or even just come into a dark scene. Rather than go and get up in the leather in bondage. Nothing goes just about as long as it's safe. consensual.

S

Speaker 1 27:31

We have a little saying that s&m also means stand and model.

S

Sarah DePalma 27:36

Well, we prefer it didn't but sometimes it does. You're right. Yeah, one of the things that I always try, I want people to understand about about s&m s&m is not necessarily getting someone up and beating them until they bleed. That is not what we're about. If you want to do that, you can pretty much do that out of sight from us. And don't we don't want to know what people exchanging power is about is about education, and about safe, sane and consensual. In within those three guidelines. There is a whole realm of possibilities. And that's an important thing for people to understand.

S

Speaker 1 28:22

I think it covers the full spectrum of somebody who's interested in tying someone to the bedpost with silk scarves to someone who enjoys using a bull whip and everything in between. It's all s&m.

S

Sarah DePalma 28:36

It's right.

L

Lori Rice 28:36

Some of my favorite scenes have been just totally creative and didn't involve leather or chains at all. They involved ice cream.

S

Sarah DePalma 28:44

Yes, I remember.

L

Lori Rice 28:46

Hot and cold chains and oboe and nice warmed up body

S

Speaker 1 28:50

Most s&m occurs between the ears.

 Sarah DePalma 28:53

That's right. And that's what I wanted to point out is that we are talking about eroticism here. Why don't we take on some of the questions that that seem to come up a lot. Okay, the first one that I hear all the time in, you know, you see this on the internet too, is you hear from people say, Well, how do I find a partner to play with? How do I find a dominant? That's the first one whether you're male or female? How do I find one?

 Speaker 1 29:19

I wish I knew.

 Sarah DePalma 29:21

Okay, hey, Lorie, you want to take a shot at?

 Lori Rice 29:24

I was fortunate I met both of my bottoms. At PEP actually, a bottom is someone who is kind enough to allow me to play with them. And that's what I say when I say how I say, usually Sarah,

 Sarah DePalma 29:40

The bottom actually, in this terminology, think we're talking about a submissive because we're not talking about we're not we're just gonna make it clear that when we're not talking about intercourse here we're talking about behavior that is basically between the ears and other parts of the body but not necessarily intercourse. Not necessarily not necessarily That's right. Could be that but-.

 Speaker 1 30:02

I think we use the terms dominant and top and bottom and submissive pretty much interchangeably. There are probably some subtle distinctions between the two some people make but a terminology really gets in the way of this sometimes.

 Lori Rice 30:15

It's a psychosexual thing that does mean there has to be genitalia intercourse involved.

 Speaker 1 30:20

So how did you meet your bottom?

L Lori Rice 30:22

Which one? The current one, I shared a house with Robert Dante, he was the originator of PEP in Houston. And he received a call one day saying that MS was going to come over to the house with her transsexual, but he had to go out for minutes when I let them in and put her to work on one of the payment details. And when they showed up, they're both standing there at the door. And I didn't know which was which I had them both in and that the missus take the lead and introducing me and asking me to save could do. But just as I'm sitting at the door, I had no idea who was whom.

S Sarah DePalma 31:04

So we actually met at PEP. And it was very interesting. Actually, what happened, Stephen is that the dominant that I had been with the time I didn't with her for quite some time. And it so happened she had gone to town for a weekend, I think. And she lent me to Laurie and never got me back. But that's the truth though. She lent me Laurie and after I went from playing with Laurie as it you know, I don't think I want to go back to this other one.

S Speaker 1 31:35

Well, I I like to think of myself as more of a seducer than a chaser. And I think it's probably because to, at least to me, well, to back up a moment to do this properly, in my opinion, way I like to do it. You have to get to know someone quite well, there has to be a considerable amount of trust developed between two people. Someone that would just meet me and come put themselves totally in my hands and let me tie them up and do all my terrible things. I think that's kind of foolish, they should get to know me and develop some trust first. And because of that, this whole thing does not lend itself well to one night stands. So meeting and connecting with the right people takes maybe a little bit longer than it does and other situations. So I think people would be well advised to be patient when they're pursuing this, particularly for the first time, we've had some kind of troubling stories that come to us occasionally about people who rush into this much to their regret. So.

S Sarah DePalma 32:37

If you're a submissive, the last thing that you want to do is allow yourself to be tied up by someone that you hardly know. I mean, you know, once they got you, honey, they can do anything to you, including slow cut your throat, it just isn't smart. So yeah, absolutely. Patience is is absolutely the key.

S Speaker 1 32:56

And of course, I'm I'm quite biased being a member of PEP. But I would say that and when I can't say that every member of PEP is just an absolutely wonderful person, quite a few of them,

I think really are. It's not a bad place to start. If you're brand new, to take a look at the scene and get to know people. At the very least the people that stay around PEP are not axe murderers, we, we think maybe they should start their own club or something. But we can't guarantee that behavior of everybody and PEP but at least we can tell that they're they're basically safe people, at least we strive to do that. There really is for a city the size, there's really it's really strange that there's such such a dearth of stores and nightclubs that cater to this kind of thing. So PEP, and maybe one or two other groups locally, the NLA. Or it comes to mind or Fist Fist really about the only way to connect to the scene here in Houston. Hopefully that'll that'll change as the as the scene as these groups grow and get more membership. But for right now, it's really not the only game in town.

J

Jimmy Carper 34:07

But what a great way to connect, you know, because if you're just coming out in the scene, it might seem a little scary, no matter if you read it all and have the books and and think you know what I mean? It's nice to have people to say, okay, you know, this is safe, and you're in a safe environment.

S

Speaker 1 34:25

It really is. And and one of the things that just completely blew me away about about this particular about this group, is that it's really rare in life where you can find an organization where you can go really be who you really are, and not be judged. And in fact, you might even be appreciated. And that's that's pretty, it sounds simple, but it's a pretty rare thing to run across these days.

J

Jimmy Carper 34:47

Yes, I know. And I think about some major gay and lesbian organizations where you can't be yourself and I think, why not? Why not? And then I look at transgenders and s&m and bisexual people who are themselves in their organizations and I get jealous.

L

Lori Rice 35:05

You mentioned Chases even. Now I don't think the Chases dom chases go around trying to collect all the subs they can and the dom happens. So to try and pay with all the damage they can and say, Oh gee, see what I did, I saved all these people did all this stuff. And then we left her anonymous lifestyle because word gets around and people get tired of it. And so I hit it right on the button when she said Be safe. There's a lot of dom's and subs who advertise on on BBS stations. And if you're going to meet someone, please leave word of who you're meeting and where, and do it in a public place where it's safe, and there are a lot of people around.

S

Speaker 1 35:45

Absolutely, that's that's, that's very good advice.

S

Sarah DePalma 35:47

So and to answer the first question, I guess about how you find the top, I think your first answer is, don't be a cushy bottom. That sounds really stupid. But it's the truth, if you're going to come to a PEP meeting, and we have, I guess you could call them a munch kind of, it's a once a month dinner. If you come to one of these dinners for the first time, and they're held in various locations, as they seem to switch a little bit. If you're if you're a person who's looking for a top, it is not good etiquette, to go up to a person in the middle of dinner and say, hi, I'm a bottom and instead go over introduce yourself as a person and get to know them, ask other people. And so I would say that what Stephen said is right, come to one of these one of these dinners or one of these munches come two or three of them, get to know people find out who does what, because there's a wide range of things that people are into. There are some types who will be into some things and not others. There are some who, who will simply not do some things at all, and it might be that exact thing that you want. So you know-.

S

Speaker 1 37:00

It's not a bad place to come find out what it is you really want. A lot of times, it's like walking into a candy shop. And it takes a little while to assimilate it all and figure out what it is that really, really excites you. It's also good place to come to that.

J

Jimmy Carper 37:13

I'll bet that it more than anything else for a newcomer,

S

Speaker 1 37:18

Very, very difficult thing to learn how to, like we talked about a minute ago, let go and be yourself. It's something that doesn't come naturally to most people. And I think being in a nurturing environment like this makes it easier for people to finally learn how to do that.

S

Sarah DePalma 37:31

The difference between fantasy and reality in s&m is huge. I have seen people I can I can think of specific instances of people who have had these fantasies all their lives, and say, Boy, this is what I want, this is what I want. And the first time it actually happens to them, they absolutely freak out. Because what they thought it was going to be like, and what reality turned out to be was just not the same as we were talking about earlier about a friend named Ken. And we joke about what we call them Kenny-isms. And one of one of the Ken's saying is some fantasy is better left unfulfilled. It's the truth. And it's another good reason to come to a meeting in Ask around first. It was very interesting. We had an E meeting for submissives. Only the other night, they wouldn't let me in. That's right, then none of the tops were allowed. And I got up and started talking about something called a bottoms Bill of Rights. And it was very interesting, several people stopping it. Would it mean if you're a bottom, you can't you don't have any

rights? Wrong. You negotiate things before you start. If you're smart, and you make sure you have a safe word. And yes, you do have Bill of Rights course so does the top. That's why it's called exchanging power, not people beating up on power, right? There's a big difference there.



Speaker 1 38:57

Good for you. If we have in the jargon, again, we have. We talk a lot about respecting your partner's limits. Perhaps you might want to go a little farther than your partner, but you just can't do that you have to respect their limits. It's a two way street. And surprisingly enough, it's a lot of times when we talk about this, we're talking about the submissives limits like they don't want to be spanked in this way or they don't want to be tied up in this way. But and I think it surprises some people sometimes when they find out that dominance also have their limits, but sometimes there are submissives that want to go much farther than the top is willing to go. So this is where we get into the consensuality issue. If you don't respect those, it's not consensual, and it's abusive.



Sarah DePalma 39:44

Let me talk a little bit about my own history how I got involved in s&m, and maybe maybe that I started out in s&m in Europe. Oh, I started out listening when I was living in Germany and the Germans. Let me back up for a second. Europeans believe in something called protocol. Now you don't see you don't see as much of it in the United States. But in Europe, they had very, very strict protocol. by that. I mean, they had a sort of rules that you followed all the time. A top-bottom was never allowed to look atop in the eye ever. You walked with your face your head down, you walked behind your top, you did not speak unless you were spoken to. If you were a full time submissive or full time, slave, and we can talk about that difference in a little bit. That was exactly what it said. I mean, I knew I knew some some slaves who slept on the floor the whole time. They were not allowed to sleep in beds. They turned their entire paychecks over to this. There's their dominance, who took care of everything for them. You don't see that much in this country.



Speaker 1 40:56

I think you do see it more in the gay and lesbian leather scene.



Sarah DePalma 40:59

I think that's right. Yeah. That's right. It's does still exist. So but I came from a real old fashioned sort of s&m that you just don't see much over here. So when I came back to the United States, I thought, well, wow, this is great, because I had a great dominant over there, and I really learned a lot. This is gonna be great. So I came back home to Connecticut and thought, Well, I'm gonna go find me another dom, yeah, right. Three, four or five years later, I'm still looking, you know, and I'm thinking what's going on here. And that was the first time that I found that about the Eulenspiegel society in New York City. And so my first experience in this country was to go to the Eulenspiegel society in New York, which has, I don't know how many 1000 members, I mean, it's just just incredible. And they put on seminars virtually every

day of the week, and every topic you can ever think of. So I ended up getting quite an education there. And then I lived in California for a while and served with a mistress out there and a mistress cat who's fairly well known. She's written a couple of books, but it was another experience. It was my first time encountering an American professional dominant. And being in a professional situation, seeing how that's done, how that's handled. And then it moved to Houston, which is one of the most deprived. I mean, it was like slipping into a time warp. You know, I moved to Houston, and I was like, oh, my God, you know, there must be an s&m community and I looked for years. And it wasn't until until PEP started, that I actually was able to I don't know if when he I guess in the gay community, there was one I've heard the talk about something called the brotherhood of pain. So I guess there was within the gay community, there had been one. And of course, the NLA had been, but the NLA was not really open to to transgender people or transsexuals. And so I was really looking for something and people in Houston really want to take advantage of an organization like whether it's PAC or whether it's FIST, because there aren't many organizations like them in this part of the country for sure. There's one in Austin called A Group With No Name, which is excellent. That's right. They're very good, creative. They really are. They're first of all, they're a nice group of people. They're they're great, folks. But you're right. They are very creative. And they know how to paint they know how to have fun.

 **Speaker 1 43:11**

There's the nether whether Rosen, Dallas.

 **Sarah DePalma 43:15**

Yeah, that's a fairly small thing. Then there's a setup actually in somebody's garage, I think.

 **Speaker 1 43:20**

Yeah. But at least there's some activity. I think probably, as far as clubs are concerned, Texas is doing pretty well along that line.

 **Sarah DePalma 43:28**

It's getting better. And of course, the internet has helped that a lot. Oh, yes. In fact, you wanted to talk about I want to talk about the PEP webpage for a bit.

 **Speaker 1 43:35**

Well, I'm the webmaster for the Houston PEP webpage. I couldn't pass up a title like that. We have really had it on headed online, I guess about three months or so. And anybody would like to visit it. We have a little bit of information about the group. Some we have a calendar of all our upcoming events. And I guess I can give you the I guess I'll give you the address for it is

HTTP colon slash slash. S, a n d m. Up, I messed up, I'm sorry, it's www.nirsoft.com/tildy. That's the top leftmost character on the keyboard. s a n d m, that's s MDM slash. And that will take you to our homepage. Our email address is s a n d m@neusoft.com. That's n e o s o f t.

S

Sarah DePalma 44:36

And how are they get a hold of you otherwise? Do we have a phone number or a box number they can contact.

S

Speaker 1 44:39

I don't believe we currently have a Pio box number. There is a voicemail number but I don't have it with me. Perhaps I could tell about the next general meeting that might be. We have a general meeting on the first Saturday of every month at seven o'clock PM. That means the next one will be on November 2. And we're currently meeting at the La Hacienda restaurant that's on the I have the address here. It's 7525 South Main that's near the intersection of South Main and Braiswood. We've kind of outgrown La Hacienda. They've been very nice to us out there. It's a bit crowded at the moment. But it's nice to see all those people turnout. I guess we're turning out on the order of about 120 130 people per meeting now. Wow, we all remember, we all remember, we all remember-.

S

Sarah DePalma 45:30

Meeting at Charlie's-.

S

Speaker 1 45:31

Meeting at Charlie's whether there were four or five pathetic folks there.

L

Lori Rice 45:36

Monster House.

S

Sarah DePalma 45:38

And I remember meeting in the living room. I think we had one meeting it was you me Robert Dante and one other person maybe?

S

Speaker 1 45:45

That's not a meeting that's a party.

S

Sarah DePalma 45:48

That's right. Well, one thing I would say that is if you're going to come to that meeting, please keep in mind, this is a public place. It is a public restaurant, and sometimes you are going to be children there.

S

Speaker 1 45:59

There's not a party. Right? So dress appropriately, please. Yeah. It's okay to wear fetish wear. But kind of the rule of thumb is don't wear anything. You wouldn't want an eight year old kid to see you.

S

Sarah DePalma 46:09

And because it's possible they will.

S

Speaker 1 46:10

Absolutely. And like we said, we'll talk about this a little bit more. I have a couple of real nice rumors to start later. But we do have parties on a fairly regular basis where you can come dressed just as wild as you want to.

S

Sarah DePalma 46:23

Cool. We are this is KPFT in Houston, in KEOS College Station,

J

Jimmy Carper 46:30

That's 90.1 FM and 89.1 fm respectively.

S

Sarah DePalma 46:36

Do you have his music with you.

J

Jimmy Carper 46:38

I do I do. How about some Lou Reed?

S

Sarah DePalma 46:42

Oh, I haven't heard him in a long time.

J

Jimmy Carper 46:45

Well, my favorite album by him is called New York. And he does a little thing called Halloween parade. It's a fav. So how about it. Lou Reed and you're hearing him on After Hours. Queer radio with attitude. I'm Jimmy Carper. And Sara DePalam is with me tonight.

S

Sarah DePalma 47:13

Do you have any Velvet Underground Music on your tape?

J

Jimmy Carper 47:16

No, no.

S

Sarah DePalma 47:18

New stuff.

J

Jimmy Carper 47:19

Yeah, I didn't. Well, it's not all that new. It's early 90s.

S

Sarah DePalma 47:24

He's very interesting guy. I mean, yeah. He was in the early days in the early days of the New York rock and roll scene when you had the Velvet Underground and all that punk was really getting started. So punk. As a matter of fact, really in there.

J

Jimmy Carper 47:38

There's a there's a queer punk group that named itself after one of the Velvet Underground songs.

S

Sarah DePalma 47:47

Really?

J

Jimmy Carper 47:48

Black Angels Death Song.

S

Sarah DePalma 47:50

What a name for group. Okay. Appropriate for Halloween, I'd say. I want to talk a little bit about that. We mentioned this earlier, and this is a good time to talk about it because we've introduced people to the idea of what s&m is a little bit. There is a huge proportion of transgendered people involved in S&M and in bondage and domination and many other things and wanted to talk about that a little bit. It's something that you will never hear a transgendered person told her therapist ever. Never it will. It actually could be a disqualifier for surgery. So it's something that never ever gets told to therapists.

J

Jimmy Carper 48:30

So we're talking really closet stuff.

S

Sarah DePalma 48:32

We're talking really closet stuff here. Yeah. Now it's very interesting to me. People come into s&m transgenders in particular, aka and come into s&m. And in two, generally in two different ways. They may come into it, because is because they're being quote, forced into the crossdressing. It's it's a mental game, they will get hooked up with a female dominance or you're often and they'll play it and they'll say to the dominant. Well, I you know, one of the things that I like doing is I like being forced crossdressed. It's a kind of a fetish. And it relieves the guilt. Because after all, they didn't really do it. They got forced into it. So humiliation aspect. It's a humiliation aspect. And it's a head game. Sure. And within the transgender world, there's a whole genre of books and magazines on this exact thing. In fact, there's a publishing company dedicated to this and that's all they write. Panty, panty husbands. I mean, those are actual I'm not kidding. These are actual titles. I mean, that's what they called like, Panty husbands, and she made him do it. And there's a whole genre of it. And it's, you find this in a lot of magazines, but it's never discussed. I've been I don't know how many transgendered meetings of all kinds in the course of our life you never hear sexuality among transgender people discussed even once