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Wed, Mar 22, 2023 2:08PM 27:04

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

pflag, people, gay, parents, women, children, lesbian, talk, disney, love, boycott, family, find, country, flyer, sleeping beauty, support, congressman, reservations, grown

SPEAKERS

Gail, Pat, Jimmy Carper, Jewel Gray



00:01

And he once again reinforced the fact that here our parents advocate in an advocacy role for gay and lesbian rights, in the end, a bill that carried so much weight on Capitol Hill, that people could see that gay children have parents, just like they are very normal. gay children are very normal, just like everyone else. We all have commonalities that are far exceed differences.



Gail 00:39

Everybody in our country knows some people who are gay, and they may not acknowledge them. But once we start doing that, then it gives permission for other people to say, Yes, I value my gay friends,



00:54

we we talk to the congressman in Washington. And we asked him how old his children were. He said just a little bit. He's two and four. And we said, Oh, okay. So you don't know yet. You don't know yet. What your sexual about your children's sexual orientation will be. And when you do find out, just remember that we could have been here.



01:22

Well, I told my congressman, that we're not going away, that we as parents are not going away that we're going to be there watching to see what they do.



01:33

And one of the news commentator, a camera people came up to me and said, so you think coming up here for two or three days, and lobbying is going to make any difference? Man, you

have seen the lighting of the torch. And it will never go up. I was, I had no words, to say to him how confident I was that his question had a big hand. And it was allowed, yes, the word is there, the parents are there. And they will never allow this to go on. And I think that country will back them.

G

Gail 02:17

One of the most exciting times for me if the whole trip was all of us, families from across the country standing on the steps of the Capitol looking around at each other and realizing our numbers and our energy. And they only looked at that sea of reporters. And they looked at us like they didn't know what to make of us.

Ω

02:35

It was tears to my eyes, it was just such an emotional experience really was very powerful, to see the joy and fellowship there among your parents, for one common cause and go for our children

P

Pat 02:50

today at standing all the steps of capital. So it really was the fulfillment of the dream. And it made us realize, if you have a good idea and a dream, and you act on it, and you encourage other people to join you, things happen.

Ω

03:06

I think how we perceive ourselves and our children and present that to the public, very much affects how the public responds to us. And when we, when it's obvious that we embrace and affirm our children celebrate our children, and they take their cue from us,

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03:28

I don't have to be on guard all the time. And be careful who I tell that I hadn't gay children, two or three strange children, you know, they're all the same to me. They're all our children,

P

Pat 03:42

I feel much more able to accept somebody that doesn't necessarily look like me, or doesn't have the same interests that I do. And I'm much more open to diversity now. And, and I think that's a real blessing. I mean, people on

Ω

03:56

the bus with us who had no gay or lesbian family members, and they said, We're on here because we know your stories. But also because this is America we live in. Everyone here deserves the same rights. So they saw it as not just an issue for gay and lesbian families, which it's not. It's about America and how we live and it's about equality for all of us.

 Gail 04:26

Every time there's discrimination in our country, then we're all diminished by that.

 Pat 04:32

You never know when you throw your pebble into the water, the ripples start to spread who's going to be affected? And so we we threw a lot of pebbles and planted a lot of seeds and you know, hopefully some things happen that we don't even know about that were positive,

 04:47

amazing. The boldness grew not only on the bus but going into places where there little timid about this to trying, it takes a lot of courage to do this until you realize you're just doing something that's right and fair.

 05:13

It was repeating an opportunity for us to step out and say some things and be some places. And let people see that we publicly with heads held high. Say, these are our children. And we're here to tell you, we love them. We will do what we can to change your minds about these people. And to see them in the way we see them. Don't you think we eventually came to view this trip as the beginning that, that one of the things that I felt so strongly as I sat there and spoke with the people in our congressman's office was, I wanted them to understand that this was the beginning, and we will be back. And this is not the last you will hear if parents or friends,

 06:09

I will be going again. And the reason I'll be going is because until my child has the right to life, which is to live his life, the way it was intended to be. And the liberty to be free in his community from harm. Which he does not now and the pursuit of happiness in the way that is natural for him, then I'm gonna keep on going

 06:48

if India could get past him people wouldn't get fired because they love someone it was sure we'd be another day for celebration.

J Jewel Gray 07:25

That something

J Jimmy Carper 07:26

that is incredible. Isn't

J Jewel Gray 07:27

those parents and and the support that I just wish my parents, you know, my parents are, you know, backwater part of North Carolina and, and more involved in the straight side of their family. You know, yeah, I really wish that there was a PFLAG that they could participate in there would be I don't know if they would. But if they saw that, I think they would feel better.

J Jimmy Carper 07:52

Well, I'm, well, you have a good relationship with your parents. Yes. Mom kicked me out when I was 17. And they have never looked back. And

J Jewel Gray 08:05

I've just never understood that. Never. How can you do that to a child, I don't care who they are. What I mean? That's like, throwing, that's like giving your retarded child away. You know, you know, you, you throw your dice you get what you get and you love it.

J Jimmy Carper 08:19

Well, it didn't work for them. And but it did change my outlook on on what's more important in my life and good close friends. And I do have people family of choice. I do. Yeah, I think I do have people that I think of his parents and, and they would do this. But it does just ranch your heart. I don't know.

J Jewel Gray 08:44

And these women, these women, not just the women, but I was really moved by the parent, the father in here and how they describe the dads. Yeah. The how they described how he was real supportive and part of this children's lives and, and you know that he had difficulty with this, you know, the okay to have difficulty, the honesty, the growing process, and it's not something that you may never get, right. But he loves his child, he supports his child. And that's what's important is that they're not incongruent. You can have difficulty with this and still love and support your child,

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Jimmy Carper 09:16

just like any other. Any other thing you may not really like about your child. Yeah, you know, you may want your child to grow up and be a doctor and they're more happier being a plumber. Yes, whatever. And you're not thrilled about it, but you still love your job.

J

Jewel Gray 09:35

That's right. And, you know, to me, it's there is no difference in that, you know, there's no difference in that analogy and you know, being and I was real I was moved by these parents and their determination and their courage in their country and talking to their badass Yes, yeah, they provide I was really, I was really impressed with the and

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Jimmy Carper 09:56

the thing of, of how, how it kind of lost them. turn into something bigger on the trip. And people who were who who didn't think they could talk to anybody. We're just

J

Jewel Gray 10:07

I was moved by the people who said that they were surprised when they found out they were being labeled activist. Yes. You know, that he had realized they hadn't realized that they were activists. Yeah, that was that was really cool. And you know, the a lot of the women in here were and if you're listening, please take this in the vein, it was met our older women. And I was even more impressed with the older older women who are the ones that were in their late 50s and early 60s who were doing this, you know, their child has grown grown, you know, adult and probably living on their own for many, many years. And they were involved in this group. I swear, there was one lady in there was like, 67 years old, 65, something like that. And, you know, dumping that's what it is, you know, it's like, the old days it was Bible thumping. These people are, you know, that you've dumping going around the country and talking to strangers. And, and we're not deterred by negative responses. And absolutely, and and still tried to, you know, educate if someone and that's the other thing that was important about this is that as much as being a lobbying effort that they were trying to educate, so that they did many things on this trip. And the big. Oh, I like that. Oh, my goodness. Are they doing this again? He pulled out the vampire lesbians of Sodom. At but I do want to, you know, to take a minute and tell the people at PFLAG how proud I am. That there's an organization that is of the statue of, of PFLAG. Yes, it was just very warm being there. Very, very. Just, you know, they're just, I have no words. It was very emotional watching this with them. And their pride in this film. And, you know, they were charging for this film. Oh, yeah. They charged for this film. It wasn't free. And it was very, very minimal charge. It was no, no big thing. But if you're interested, it's cheap enough that you could it's cheaper than two drinks at a bar. So if you're interested, you can pick this up from somebody PFLAG. And what they were also doing that more than a blank tape, right. And what they were doing. Also that night were I mean, that afternoon was promoting the black tie dinner, because they're going to be your big recipient of that. And so I wanted to also tell people that the big big black tie dinner that supports several organizations in this community, they're taking advanced reservations for now. They did say that it's rather expensive, but that

so is doing the things that we have to have done. Northwell. That's right, you know, and that they are taking the reservations for it. Now. I don't have the information on it. Because it was so far in advance. I didn't have anything on it. But it's an annual Black Tie dinner that that monies go to several other organizations.

J Jimmy Carper 13:01

There's nothing on it in the PFLAG flyer,

J Jewel Gray 13:04

I can't remember when it was supposed to be we don't I don't have anything. I didn't see anything in the paperwork. But PFLAG is not just for parents, is for friends and parents. So Right. And there were a lot of young people there. I don't want to give the wrong impression that these were all parents and older people. There were a lot of young people there.

J Jimmy Carper 13:23

I have to say that you're listening to KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station. But you're right jewel, and there have been there have been people in my situation that got kicked out of their house. And they felt that, you know, 1718 Maybe even younger felt all of a sudden they're alone. They have they don't have the support, and and gay people find support at PFLAG.

J Jewel Gray 13:54

Well, you know, that was something else. I noticed. I knew some people there and I recognized that there was kind of these informal foster family. Yes, you know, and I saw that there too. were several people that I knew whose parents live in other cities had. were literally part of another family. And that was that was something I like to it was really something if you have a chance go to PFLAG if you have an opportunity support PFLAG

J Jimmy Carper 14:21

something else that PFLAG has done and they've taken the stand about the the boycott of Disney. Oh, yes, they have they were talking about the Ohio Young who writes for OutSmart

J Jewel Gray 14:35

is another one of those leaders in our community. So heroes, he really is

J Jimmy Carper 14:40

and what a sweetheart and I love his writing. He did a profile on Dana steel and we were talking

about that in the outsmart it just it was Dana steel being the radio came alive for me through his writing.



14:59

What is it que que something talk radio. I can't remember it. Yeah, it's a new one to talk radio and she's one of the women there and she was she's not gay, but she's very, very supportive. Right.



J Jimmy Carper 15:12

Right. But Kyle has a letter in the latest PFLAG flyer about the stand that PFLAG takes and I'd like to read it. A moral decline of the nation's largest Protestant denomination has reached an all time low. The annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention did not focus on caring about people. There was no strong uprising to end the bitter destruction of racism. There was no demand to offer hope and opportunity for the homeless. There were no cries to protect the environment, or make health care affordable for all people. Instead, the Baptist chose to boycott the Disney company for allowing gay people to visit its theme parks and for offering health benefits to the life partners of gay employees. According to Baptists, Jesus commanded His followers to heal the sick. That is, unless the sick are the loved ones of gay employees. Boycotting Disney in the name of Christ as an insult to Christians everywhere, singling out gay people as the root of America's problems, fosters an atmosphere which breeds hatred and leads to violence toward gays. The Church's position turns parents against gay children ripping apart families by spreading misinformation and lies about gay and lesbian people. While the Baptist are directing their energy and resources at attacking the lives of millions of Americans, in 41, states productive employees can be fired simply because they are gay. Recent hate crime statistics show that hate hate crimes against gays and lesbians are on the rise. Over a third of teen suicides are gay and lesbian youth who can't take another day of being told they are less than human. The Baptists are silent on all these issues. And the stench of hypocrisy is in the air with Jesus, boycott Mickey Mouse, I think Jesus would have been more likely to boycott the Southern Baptist Church. Thank you, Kyle.



J Jewel Gray 17:34

You know what they're doing about this hardcore. I love that word hardcore. They spoke about this at the meeting where they are buying as many Disney products as they can, oh, as part of their community, I do something and donating them to needy and underprivileged children so that they're buying all these Disney products like oh, I don't know. A movie movies and toys, stuffed toys and things like that. And then they're going to donate these to needy children. So they want Disney to know that this boycott is laughable. And, and that, you know, when we find someone who's willing to stand their ground because Disney has said, this is done. Forget it. They they I love the way he put this. I don't know who it was. Yeah, it was Eisner said this is done. It's over. We're not backing down. So there that's pretty much what he said. It was kind of in your face kind of thing. And I thought all right, yeah, good for you. And that what by they're doing this and other PFLAG organizations that they will compensate for any minor damage that the Baptist may do. So I think that's a good idea. And if you want to participate in that you can find somebody at PFLAG who will take your donation of Disney toy or movie or

anything and they will funnel that to the right organization for the homeless or underprivileged children. So I don't remember they did elect or pick somebody who to volunteer that day at the VA. But you can find that if you call PFLAG and they have a number. They do. They have a number and it's a tape so leave your name and number and they'll get back to you almost immediately. Let's see I have a number. In the yellow. It's in the Yellow Pages. I have a helpline number. There is a number in the paper and in the Yellow Pages and in the white pages under P flag. Okay, so if you can't find it, here, this cool. The Help number what is it really to me?

J Jimmy Carper 19:43

It's 713-867-9020

J Jewel Gray 19:49

That's not the number of calls or okay, I don't remember what the number was I called but it was the one in the phonebook so it's available and you know who else will have it? The game must be that's for I think a A lesbian switchboard you can always try

J Jimmy Carper 20:02

930 to 11. That's right.

J Jewel Gray 20:04

Okay, moving on to something else. Vampire lesbians of Sodom Sleeping Beauty. Yeah, some completely different Sleeping Beauty or coma, kind of like they had Sleeping Beauty or coma to one act plays by Charles Who's that? Bush? Bush fch preview July 10 1997 oil that's like, Duh, but it's still going on. And let's see goes through August, the second Friday and Saturday evenings at 9pm. And for reservations you can this is something that's been done several times before hasn't Well, it's

J Jimmy Carper 20:48

been a long time since the vampire saw them. lesbian vampire.

J Jewel Gray 20:54

Why does vampire lesbians have sought

J Jimmy Carper 20:56

Thank you has been done in Houston? It's a campy

J Jewel Gray 21:01

Cassidy is I've heard a lot of stuff. You know, Diane went to this one time. Remember Diane? Yeah. Hey, remember Diane, everybody. She and Diane if you're out there listening, give me a call. I thought you just fell off the face of the earth.

J Jimmy Carper 21:13

I saw her at the parade.

J Jewel Gray 21:16

I was packing.

J Jimmy Carper 21:18

Anyway. Yeah. Anyway, Charles Busch is famous for writing takeoffs on famous, famous stories. And

J Jewel Gray 21:28

well, that must be where Sleeping Beauty comes from, or coma.

J Jimmy Carper 21:33

Of course, having a gender change, doing the drag thing for

J Jewel Gray 21:38

reservations. And actually, this is less than one drink. For less than one. tall drink. Yes. For reservations or more information, you can call someone at 713-862-1626. But a portion of the proceeds from this production will be donated to Stephens house yes or no not or an intermediate care facility for people living with HIV or AIDS. Yes, that is really cool.

J Jimmy Carper 22:06

Dos Chico's productions and it's credit theater downtown and the 300 block of Main Street 14 main

J Jewel Gray 22:14

There you go. Home of easy credit. That's what it says. Between Preston and Congress at the home of easy credit. Cool. Then go in there. That is cool. And we have one more. One other announcement that I think is pretty important. I'm glad you pointed this out to me. You use the third annual third annual yay, use and women's festival Saturday September the 28th 1997 1pm. To Midnight in the Garden in the heights at 2926. Fagan Fagan used to be some little off shoot now it's going to be quite late. I know it and that's right off of wall drive. Memorial. And it's just past the curb and to your left. Zach raising, raising he's Raizy from Dublin, Ireland is going to be the one she's making like it's to women are really crazy. Because right. I wonder where they pick that. I don't know. Multimedia art show curated by Linda Kellner community marketplace refreshments and plenty of free parking so if you have a an interest this will be a great place to spend an afternoon you can get tickets at Inklings Crossroads Lobos and Lucci is garden now



23:30

guys, this is a woman's purse. That's right. Sorry, sorry, as much as I would love to see his racy and therapy sisters. Diana Jones from Boston



23:41

Jamie Anderson cowboys nightmare Yeah, talking about them the earlier cowboys nightmare. And we're like you know, it says it's open to all it hasn't been in the past indoor outdoor rain or shine no pets no coolers. Maybe it means no pets made that part. leaves the guys out no pets. I'm only teasing I'm only teasing god i love you guys. I love you guys a



Jimmy Carper 24:04

lot needs their own place to talk and do women



Jewel Gray 24:07

well you know they do not let you go to the thing over and Austin no they stop you at the driveway if you're over 12 years old they do not let the women in the men in their overwhelm only and if you're like 13 They won't stretch it



Jimmy Carper 24:19

you know I have to agree with it though I'm there's plenty only thing yeah and there's there's no reason not to have women



Jewel Gray 24:27

only don't the guys go up to the what is it the nudist colony up there every now and then have big old swinging up their back swinging anyway. You can you can save \$2 A ticket if you

purchase them in advance. And you can find these flyers I'm sure at these places. Yeah, Crossroads Lobos and Lucci is

J Jimmy Carper 24:47

actually I picked up this flyer at my favorite coffee shop to PS two right there on Alabama.

J Jewel Gray 24:55

Cool. This is a thena art project and it's a nonprofit organization. supporting the artistic endeavors of women when which we need a lot of support with we do because you know especially with the big attack on the in NEA the big attack, and you know who's the president NEA? Jane Alexander? Yes. Don't you just love that woman is just so involved. I love that woman. I swear she's gay. She has to be anybody that was gotta be gay. Anyway,

J Jimmy Carper 25:24

anyway, September 20, mark your calendars. Right Be there or be square one lady M till midnight. That's a whole day of a whole lot of fun.

J Jewel Gray 25:32

You know, sounds like some I could get it. And speaking of Tracy, Tracy, I want to hear this.

J Jimmy Carper 25:36

Oh, this is my favorite song. They have an album out called permanent happiness. It's been a couple of months. I bought the import. But you can get the local one now for a whole lot cheaper. And it's they've got a song on there that they've got a couple of songs on there. I really liked but one in particular, that's really cool for the for the queer community. Because it talks about being yourself. Now you're listening to after hours on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station. So I'm going to play this song and then I think I'm going to open it up for the last hour and do music. If you would like to dedicate songs or you'd like to make a request. Give us a call at 526573852 6k PFT Roy will talk to you and take those records.

J Jewel Gray 26:32

Will Roy talk to you? Oh, yeah. And that'll be it for me. So we'll see you. third weekend of next month. You bet and that will be we'll be celebrating our 10th anniversary. Well, we sure Well,

J Jimmy Carper 26:44

no, that's August of next month.

J

Jewel Gray 26:47

And that's August of next month.

J

Jimmy Carper 26:50

That's August. Anniversaries in September but

J

Jewel Gray 26:53

we will be Smith starting to celebrate. We will yes yes we will. We will be starting to celebrate.

J

Jimmy Carper 27:01

So now I bring you right