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SPEAKERS

Jimmy Carper, Gigi, Michelle

J

Jimmy Carper 00:01

And you wanted to GiGi, you wanted to talk about Well, wait a minute. First of all you're listening to after hours interviewing tradition right here on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station, Bryan, and you wanted to continue along the lines.

G

Gigi 00:18

Oh, I wanted to talk a little bit about finance. Some things coming up with finance shortly

J

Jimmy Carper 00:23

BiNet is

M

Michelle 00:25

bisexual network of Houston. Yes.

G

Gigi 00:29

One thing I would like to say is that BiNet is about to go through a name change. We haven't decided on the new change that new name. But we are kind of revamping and we're gonna look at making more social activities, as well as the support group meetings. And we're going to break up the support group words, you know, we really do the support group once or twice a month. And then once a month, we'll be going out to a bar, someplace social to have fun. And then once a month we'll be doing a restaurant or other activities and maybe or whatever comes

up. So we're gonna kind of break up the format for a while. We also have some events coming up soon. The second Sunday of August. We're gonna get a group. bisexuals fam to the clothing optional beach on Bolivar. Oh, I think it's gonna be quite a day of fun in the sun.

M

Michelle 01:43

And the, the Saturday, August 19, which I believe is the third Saturday of the month. Yeah, we're gonna have there's gonna be a big party in Houston for bisexuals going to be like bisexuals by friendly people. It's going to be lots of people from the BI nets in San Antonio and Austin and Houston and college station and just about everywhere in Texas. And I think I'll be from Oklahoma, I'm going to come down. So say we're hoping to have this really big turnout and have lots of people this is a purely social thing. Yeah, that's probably a social thing. Just to meet everybody from all these other cities.

J

Jimmy Carper 02:19

What what do you get out of meeting other bisexuals?

G

Gigi 02:23

I'm learning a little bit of how other bandits kind of burn and operate and also meeting other bisexuals. I mean, it's not like there's a large number of us here in Houston that are out and identified. And to me and bring together bisexuals is it's it's like, you know, the community is so small here, the identified community that it's just a charge to know that there's other others of us out there that kind of have the same belief system are similar belief system. And I don't know it's just really a positive charge. I know that when I go to conferences, and you know, it's like, packed with hundreds of bisexuals, it's like, wow, it's kind of reaffirming.

J

Jimmy Carper 03:17

Okay. You say that the bisexual group in Houston is kind of small and it's just really kind of forming or, or you're just you're just developing while we've been in bisexual community. Yeah, well, the

G

Gigi 03:29

group's been going for about two years. The core groups really been kind of solid lay form for the last year, but it's still small, you know, there's 12 to 20 of us.

J

Jimmy Carper 03:42

Okay, Michelle. You were recently in Austin and San Antonio, I believe

M

Michelle 03:48

I was recently in San Antonio.

J

Jimmy Carper 03:49

Okay, visiting some buy groups there.

M

Michelle 03:52

Yeah, buying it, BiNet Houston is going to San Antonio abidance. San Antonio is just coming into existence and, and they just had their first meeting and how many people were there? Just followed as far as just an organizational meeting. Oh, okay. They're they're starting to like put out flyers and announce things and

J

Jimmy Carper 04:11

did not hear that. You went to some function and there were like, a lot of people. Yes, in San Antonio. Oh, that

G

Gigi 04:21

was it.

M

Michelle 04:23

There weren't a lot of people. Okay,

G

Gigi 04:29

okay. The other thing I wanted to mention was, Newsweek just did an article on bisexuality. What, what,

J

Jimmy Carper 04:37

two weeks ago? Yes, I saw I saw it on the plane. I didn't get a chance to read it. Somebody else had it across the aisle. Yeah.

G

Gigi 04:44

Well, Newsweek came quite a while back and interviewed us at buying in Houston, and they interviewed by nets all over the country. Unfortunately, none of our quotes made that better

isn't an excellent article. And what did they cover? I haven't read the whole thing yet. I just got a copy. But I have kind of skim through it. And the cover has two men and a woman. One couple they interviewed is very much like me and j, the guy cross dresses and the girl cross dresses. And it's like, Jane and I are like that. You get into women's clothing and be real fam. And she'll be wrong Burch and get men's clothes. And it's like, we have a lot of fun playing with our sexual identities and our sexual roles and switching around. And, and it's it's a lot of fun. But the couple that they interviewed, one of the couples they interviewed are, are very similar to me and J regard. I found that intriguing. Like, oh, I'd like to meet them.

J Jimmy Carper 06:01

I wonder if it's because you've accepted your bisexuality that, that now you're, you know, you you question the gender roles and what what it means? I think that you can cross the line freely. Yeah.

G Gigi 06:17

I think it's also partly that, you know, both i and j. Identify very much as androgynous. You know, we have we've recognized both male and female in our nature of this. And it's like, it's fine to let that other side out here and there. It's like, really cool. Like tonight, I've got my nails, pink shirt, and I. But it's like, to me, it's, it's letting that you know, I have to go to work and be real birch male macho image where as much as I can. Which isn't very much.

M Michelle 07:04

I just cannot picture GTP Macho. See, and tie.

J Jimmy Carper 07:09

You have the trappings?

G Gigi 07:12

Yeah, that's like, you know, I love bad. I mean, I was, I was like, when I grew up, I was kind of steered in that direction early on, and I wanted to be a happy, healthy, you know, employee around the house. And

J Jimmy Carper 07:27

we're all steered in that direction. Yeah. You know, guys are steered one way women are steer scared another. Yeah. And a lot of us rebel. Yeah, in one form or another.

G Gigi 07:40

Well, this is more than just rebellion. It's also play time. You know, it's just fun to play and jump into that role you always wanted to be in or at least I always want to be in, you know, it's just fun to play house and be fam and do my nails and a big girl talk. And the whole works, you

J Jimmy Carper 08:06

know, because I've been jumping in your Bronco.

G Gigi 08:09

Yeah, well, now it's a blazer, motorcycle. Blazer, whatever it is. I forget what I got. It's a big red thing. Yeah, it's a big red. Ooh, it's okay. Then I get on my motorcycle, and leather outfits. So I like to play with it. It's a lot of fun.

J Jimmy Carper 08:32

So I get the impression that BiNet Houston anyway, is pretty much of a social support support group. Yeah. And there's not much going on in the political arena.

G Gigi 08:48

Not a whole lot right now. We did just do the gay pride parade, float in the parade. And that's pretty much of a political statement. Yeah. It's getting our exposure in the community and standing out in the community. And there's

J Jimmy Carper 09:10

the thing that I see though, that's the thing that struck me this week is that in the in the community, that queer community, there's been a lot of discussion about transgenders, whether they belong in the queer community or not. Yes. And the transgender community is very political. It's Time Texas with Sara De Palma. And Phyllis Randolph Frey has been out there politically for 20 years. And actually, Houston is a pretty neat place to be if you're a transgendered person. However, there's there's all this backlash from the gay and lesbian community about transgenders yet. The BiNet or bisexual community is not very political at all, yet gets included. With the gay and lesbian community automatically, um, not

G Gigi 10:04

necessarily.

J Jimmy Carper 10:06

I mean, you hear gay, lesbian, bisexual. I mean, rather than gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered,

 Gigi 10:12

that's true to some degree. But there's, we get some quite a bit of flack from the gay community too. I mean, we get a lot of support that, you know,

 Jimmy Carper 10:22

what I'm saying, saying here, here's the transgender community who's looking for support and not getting it. Yeah, bisexual community that hasn't really reached out politically, and yet is included in a lot of areas. But I

 Gigi 10:35

think also the numbers we have makes a difference. You know, we are still a very small group here in Houston. And just kind of getting on our feet, so to speak.

 Jimmy Carper 10:48

Okay, I've heard it said that. The game was being community, maybe calm, comprises 10 to 15% of the population. And I've also heard it said that the potential for the bisexual community is at least twice that.

 Gigi 11:08

But the numbers are coming out. Now, what's the deal? I think a lot of bisexuals are in the closet, partly due to being in a marriage or relationship with someone straight. And that's a big challenge to come out.

 Jimmy Carper 11:25

When you when you can hide behind the straight privilege.

 Gigi 11:30

Part partly that but also partly the relationship. You know, if you're trying to come out and you've got a spouse that doesn't even know that and even then that's kind of a double whammy. It's not easy to come out. First, you have to come out to yourself, then you have to come out to that lover. If you even dare and Ilana, I think a lot of bisexuals get caught in this

trap where it's easier to just go out and get what I need to get. And not let down now. Yeah. Okay. Because that can have some pretty significant consequences, especially if they have children. Yes. But you were wanting to say something? Oh, I was just sending the patch off.

M

Michelle 12:27

I was just gonna say, my personal feeling is that the I guess, I guess the reason that bisexuals tend to be at least included in gay and lesbian political movements is that the political issues that bisexuals and gay and lesbians face, at least to me are identical. I mean, they're the it's the same issue. It's the issue of having acceptance of your same sex relationships having. It's just that, you know, that's like half of our relationships and all of all of the gay and lesbian relationships, whereas the transgender issues not so clear cut, because it could be argued that the transgender people are fighting for different issues in the game, I mean, that we're all fighting for our human rights. But that the transgender issue is a could it could be argued that it's a separate issue, because it's fighting for gender identity instead of a sexual orientation type issue. I personally, I feel like we're all in this boat together, and that we should we should stand together, we're all going to be attacked apart.

J

Jimmy Carper 13:31

True. Okay. I think I think I have to take issue with you there. Because a person who changes sex lives the part or has the sex change or opts not to have such change. That doesn't change. They may change gender, they may change sex, but they don't necessarily change sexual orientation. So if a male changes to a female then has a relationship, he's going to be she. She's going to be drawn to women. So you're creating a lesbian relationship?

M

Michelle 14:15

Yeah. Yeah. I mean, I definitely would agree with that. It's, the thing I was trying to say is that that person would, would have two separate issues. The issue of her lesbian relationship not being accepted by society would be a sexual orientation issue, while the issue of her gender change not being accepted would be a gender identity issue.

J

Jimmy Carper 14:40

Okay. Okay, so we're talking about the gender thing, and we've also been talking about how as a bisexual, we can we can play with these gender roles. So isn't there crossover here?

G

Gigi 14:55

I think there is some crossover. The other sense I get to is Uh, I think in the gay community, it's perceived that if the transgenders come in it's gonna weakened their political power.

T

Jimmy Carper 15:00

 JIMMY CARPER 15:09

Well, I think that some political groups,

 G

Gigi 15:14

yeah, because prejudice and strike community. You know, it's kind of like this kind of, isn't that

 J

Jimmy Carper 15:21

the same thinking of the shirt and tie? white, gay man who thinks, Well, you know, if I present myself to society, in a shirt and tie mode, I can get my rights and then work on rights for everybody else. But yeah, that

 G

Gigi 15:43

that argument never played. I'm just saying, that may be a way to explain why. There is some resistance in the gay community against transgender.

 M

Michelle 15:57

Yeah, I mean, personally, personally, I feel we should all be working together and we all should be fighting for the same goals. And that just can't we really, can't we all just get along as one big happy family. Now,

 G

Gigi 16:10

I think we need to look at the queer community instead of gay community.

 J

Jimmy Carper 16:18

As a matter of fact, has gone from a gay and lesbian show to a queer show. Okay, Michelle, I'm not going to step on.

 M

Michelle 16:28

This despite that, I do feel that we should all be working together, I do feel that that the issue of sexual orientation and gender identity issues are separate issues and they do have while there is some overlap, there also is some goals that are only you know, that, like some goals, which are exclusive to the transgender community and some goals, which are, you know, exclusive to the sexual orientation type issues. Okay,

 M

Michelle 16:52

J Jimmy Carper 16:53

what did we do with gay trans transsexuals?

M Michelle 16:57

I mean, I'm not saying that we should divide up, have like, two separate. All I'm saying is that there there are, I mean, this person, a gay transsexual person would have gay and lesbian type issues and also have transgender type issues. And some of those issues would be the same like society would, you know, because society's prejudice and jobs, and those be the same kind of issue. But, like the issue of having her relationship accepted, and the issue of like being able to get all the medical treatment she needs or that the acceptance for a gender change, at least at least I feel they're two separate issues.

G Gigi 17:36

And I think she brings up an important point, you know, there's also a difference between cross dressing and transsexuality.

J Jimmy Carper 17:49

Yes. Oh, yes. That's a whole continuum, ya know, from, from straight men who are into lingerie over to a person who wants to change their sex. There's a whole continuum of people. We're talking

G Gigi 18:05

about here. Yeah. And we're looking at I have to agree with Michelle on this since two is that, you know, sexual identity and sexual orientation are two separate distinct.

J Jimmy Carper 18:21

Oh, there are definitely areas,

G Gigi 18:23

you know, we're not liking it. And I think that's where maybe there's some prejudice that comes up in the gay community. like it does with anything that I mean, yeah,

J Jimmy Carper 18:34

I don't get it either. Either. Being part of being a gay man, to me, a big plus, is that I can play with gender. And I can I can look at my, my feminine side and not be ashamed of it.

G Gigi 18:51

But the I think one thing that's really cool about binary is that you know, we have people that come in from such a diverse set of people I mean, everything from transgendered to mean, Gigi. We have people that look straight is downtown. And everything in between, you know, there's some leather people in there there's just a wide diverse set of people summer into monogamy summer into polyamory summer into who knows what s&m the end, the whole nine yards. Like, what I like is that everybody's accepted. You know, it's like they're accepted in the group. Without everybody feeling like they have to become that.

J Jimmy Carper 19:55

Oh, absolutely. You're accepted

G Gigi 19:57

for who you are without it being too Read to another person,

M Michelle 20:02

there's, there's not really any pressure to, I mean, because we do have like the some people who are just like you mentioned, you know, this shirt and tie kind of man or. And then we have like on the other end of the spectrum Gigi everywhere and it's like, even you know that we all respect each other's differences and we, you know, we respect each other's right to, to be like to be whoever you want to be. And we have like masculine men, feminine men, masculine women, feminine women,

J Jimmy Carper 20:31

none of like celebrating the diversity.

G Gigi 20:34

And that's what it's evolved to over the time is that, you know, we really have learned to recognize and celebrate differences in the group. And we've learned from each other. You know, we've learned that, you know, there isn't a right way or a right path. You know, in human nature, there are different needs for different folks, just like the phone call

J Jimmy Carper 21:02

we had from Leslie earlier in the show. And for Leslie, it seemed very important that her sexual relationship with her partner be very sacred, and she was against the polyamorous thing. For for Leslie, that's what she needs. Yeah, that's what's right for her,

G Gigi 21:31

then, you know, but I think in by now, what happens is that, you know, we can have someone like, lastly, come in. And they're just as accepted as I am. Exactly, you know, and they're just as legitimate as a human being. Yes, yes. And I think that's one of the things that's been lacking in the gay community, is that we owe Helen, the girl to get along

J Jimmy Carper 21:59

with anything for more than a minute.

G Gigi 22:03

Well, but I think that's something that could really be

J Jimmy Carper 22:08

a big power. If we could learn to respect each other. We don't have to agree with each other.

G Gigi 22:14

Yeah. I mean, we have disagreements in binary. And I'm not saying that every things goes in pure harmony. But we respect each other. And we accept each other differences without trying to say, oh, no, you have to change to something else.

M Michelle 22:33

That's one thing that that I guess saddened me more than anything else. When I heard about the whole controversy with the transgender community and the the Human Rights Campaign fun. Yeah. Yeah. Like, we should all be on the same side, you know, I mean, I can see, you know, maybe you don't have to necessarily agree with each other. But I mean, to actually work against each other. It's just, you know, it's just like, I can just see like, like, you know, Jesse Helms sitting there in the corner and watching the fight between these two groups. Well, there's it, there's one for us, there's one for us, there's another one for us. I mean, it's just like, you know, it's sad.

G Gigi 23:11

And I think especially right now, with what's going on, I mean, there's so much getting cut right now, you know, by the Republicans that we've got to work together, we've got to work together. Now more than ever. You know, I think even before too long, even some of the aides funding is going to be good. I'm

J Jimmy Carper 23:34

not too thrilled about that. Yeah.

G Gigi 23:38

You know, if we don't start looking at working together, and being more inclusive, we're gonna lose what little power and gains we've gotten. That's right. And it's cutting right and left. I mean, there's institutions that have been around for years and years and years that are about to go. And it's not looking good. I think what's happening is that a lot of Republicans are looking at numbers in dollars, and they're failing to see the human element and what programs do in people's lives. They just totally lost sight of that. And it's like, if we don't get it together, and, and come back and show that human need that's out there. We're gonna see clinics closing down. We're going to be seeing all kinds of support services closing down.

J Jimmy Carper 24:37

Okay, let's talk a little bit about BiNet. Yeah, let's, let's give it a plug. Because we haven't even talked about where you meet. Oh,

G Gigi 24:46

yes. We made that MCC our 99th indicator. Yeah.

J Jimmy Carper 24:54

That's off of Washington Avenue. Silver. Yeah. It's

M Michelle 24:58

it's kind of an obscure location but it's one block off of Washington one block off wash.

G Gigi 25:06

And Wednesday nights seven to nine.

J Jimmy Carper 25:10

How did you end up meeting at MCC on? How did this come out?

G Gigi 25:18

Basically, that's part of the history of binary here that I'm not real familiar with. So,

M Michelle 25:27

in fact, no one really is. What hasn't. We had? There was a there was a bisexual group that used to actually meet at Gigi's house. And, and I'd went to that, and there's about, you know, a few people in that group and it kind of it kind of died off after a while. And then we found out that there was this, there was the MTCR, I guess, started this little group that was, so then they just kind of starting I guess, so

J Jimmy Carper 25:57

like somebody at the church started. Yeah. So

M Michelle 26:00

what was it was like someone before that, oh, started it. Like this. There was this guy who started the group and then like, left and two weeks after that. Oh, and then we found out about, I guess, Garrett found out about the screen or

G Gigi 26:13

what happened? I went to San Diego for a conference. Okay. Bisexual. Yeah. And my name got on to bind that USA, along with my Pio box number. And somehow they got the other BiNet at MCCR's phone number. And the contact person's name with my Pio box. Oh, I need to find out about this. What happened here? And so I kind of combined the great that I had started with a group that was at MCCR. So it's kind of a one of those strange coincidences.

J Jimmy Carper 26:58

And what kind of group do you get?

G Gigi 27:05

Numbers? Oh, it's ranges?

M Michelle 27:10

About 1520 people.

G

Gigi 27:11

Yeah, 1520 people a week, the last couple of meetings, it's kind of dropped for the summer. Okay. You know, people are out on vacation. They're involved in other stuff, I guess playing in Galveston or whatever. You

J

Jimmy Carper 27:27

meet every week? Yeah. Okay. So, you know, I'm involved in different groups, and lots of times you meet once a month, so meeting every week might be a little bit kind of, yeah. Well,

G

Gigi 27:41

that's partly why we're changing the format. It's gonna be changing in September 1, September 1, that we're gonna go to the new format, where we will be meeting Adam, CCR, twice a man. And then the other two

J

Jimmy Carper 27:59

other place, weeks will be

G

Gigi 28:01

at another place. Yeah. So it's

J

Jimmy Carper 28:05

helped you get more people to your meetings, because you'll have it at different places. Yeah,

M

Michelle 28:12

we also have to, like increase the visibility of the group by more public location. Okay.

G

Gigi 28:17

Yeah. And also, I think we're starting to get a little bit of the political side, being seen in the community, versus just being kind of isolated. I think it's important that

J

Jimmy Carper 28:34

there's a lot of restaurants around town, that pride group. Oh, yes. A lot of you meet at

different restaurants. Meeting.

G Gigi 28:44

Yeah. But I think it's, you know, just one of the things we're going to be looking forward to bar to sponsor us where we can meet at a bar once a month regularly.

J Jimmy Carper 28:58

seemed as though that heaven was was kind of like the bisexual place on Wednesday nights.

G Gigi 29:07

Yeah, for a while it was met heavens. Not the best place for

J Jimmy Carper 29:16

It's a dance bar. Yeah. Today, it's hard to talk, any kind of conversation, we want

G Gigi 29:21

more of a laid back bar where we can, you know, have a little time for talk and have little time for dancing or little time, you know, something that's a little bit more conducive to doesn't have to be a bar doesn't have to be, you know, we're just we're still in the planning phases. We haven't nailed it down yet.

M Michelle 29:41

It could be like Joe's putt putt golf or something.

G Gigi 29:45

Just something that, you know, that's his community and it's social and fun and you know, where things can kind of lighten up and it's people can meet one another instead of being in a formal support group.

J Jimmy Carper 29:59

So really the bias of the bisexual community is just really getting getting off the ground. Yeah, you're just forming. You're just,

G

Gigi 30:08

and I'm talking to other. I've talked to groups all over the country. And it's like, it takes anywhere from three to five years for most groups to really get firmly established. Oh, no kidding. Yeah. In other cities, some take even longer. Some of the earlier ones

J

Jimmy Carper 30:27

while you talk to Ray Hill, and you find out that the, the first gay pride parade was down Main Street, and I believe in 1975. And they had maybe 20 to 25 people. Yeah. So it takes time. Yeah. Now Now you've got 20,000 People watching the parade and a couple 1000 in it. Yeah.

G

Gigi 30:48

So we're a new movement and, and growing. And nothing, you know, it's like, up until just recently, there hadn't been buying that around the country. You know, this is kind of a relatively new phenomenon that's been occurring over the past five to seven years. But 10 years ago, there's only one buy now. That was bad. And

J

Jimmy Carper 31:16

then and now you've got Yeah. All right.

G

Gigi 31:20

So you know, it's, it's, it's moving. And it's, but I think it's been a kind of silent wave forming. You know, the need is out there. And that's been kind of rising up over the years. And I think we're gonna see it really measure him in the next 10 years.

J

Jimmy Carper 31:44

Well, you are listening to after hours, queer radio with attitude. And I'm Jimmy Carper. And we've got the bisexual folks tonight. We're talking to Gigi and Michelle.

G

Gigi 31:58

And station

M

Michelle 32:00

break time is KPFT 90.1. FM,

J Jimmy Carper 32:04

and KEOS College Station, Bryan. Let's go to a piece of music and see where we're gonna go on from here. Okay, legendary children, all of them queer is the latest song by Holly Johnson and he was the lead singer for Frankie Goes to Hollywood. Remember that great song. Oh, Iacs over yet? Well, Holly Johnson is still with us and still working. And I think you're gonna like this. This is a fun, fun piece of music. Oh, yeah. Holly Johnson with legendary children, all of them queer hope you recognize all of those queer names. And we're back. This is after hours. And Jimmy and with me is

M Michelle 32:56

Chi Chi in the shell, and j and

J Jimmy Carper 32:59

we need to we're gonna wrap this up and go to an interview? I do? Yes.

G Gigi 33:11

I think it's a wonderful opportunity to promote polyamorous relationships tonight. Yeah. To look at options and look at the whole need in our community to legitimize things, and it is something we totally believe in ourselves.

J Jimmy Carper 33:35

It's funny how when you start questioning sexual roles, and then you get into questioning gender and crossing the line, and it's a read it can this this whole thing can really blossom and you can really free yourself from from a lot

G Gigi 33:52

of chains. But the bottom line, I think is that, you know, people need to know that they have a choice in mind. And a lot of times that choice is not there for a lot of people just due to the mainstream society not getting the word out or they're their options,

J Jimmy Carper 34:15

people's own boundaries and walls they build up Yeah, I mean

G Gigi 34:19

the challenge comes both wavs. And to me that's that's what this show is all about. It's already

the challenge comes both ways, and to me that's what this show is all about. It's already had eyes has been is to challenge some those boundaries and chip away

J Jimmy Carper 34:33

at and you're here every fourth Saturday. Yeah. Yawning or not? We aren't delighted to be here. It's just kind of late getting laid. And we've got an interview that I wanted to go to. It's Australian transsexual Jane Anna Langley, talks about oppression of trans Gender lesbians in society. This is from this way out segment. And I listen to it and it's really kind of super since Sarah dipalma brings up trans transgendered issues. I thought it'd be nice to have a little something about transgender without Sara.

G Gigi 35:21

Yeah.

M Michelle 35:23

Oh my god.

G Gigi 35:25

Yes. What will she do?

M Michelle 35:28

You mean Sara brings up transgender issues

J Jimmy Carper 35:32

every now and then.

M Michelle 35:35

You mentioned it once or twice

J Jimmy Carper 35:39

okay, well, thanks for being with us tonight. We'll see you the next fourth Saturday of the month okay, we'll

M Michelle 35:45

be here okay.

J Jimmy Carper 35:47

And what did you kind of have planned for the next year next show maybe some computer stuff

M Michelle 35:55

Yeah, we're gonna talk about some some computer stuff like gays and on the trying to get some guests and talk about maybe yes, though. Yes, stuff gays and lesbians and bisexual transgender people on the internet on BBS as on computers cool.

G Gigi 36:10

superhighway.

J Jimmy Carper 36:11

I'm a total virgin when it comes to computers. So oh, it's quite fascinating. I'll just sit back and push buttons that night.

G Gigi 36:20

Surprise, which you can get out of binary. Nowadays. There's some real erotic stuff on the internet.

J Jimmy Carper 36:30

Wow, I'll be looking forward to that.

M Michelle 36:34

Okay, I'll be here in where are we?

J Jimmy Carper 36:38

At now Australian transsexual Jane Anna Langley.



36:50

The increasing outspokenness of the transgender community has turned the Kinsey scale into a Richter scale for people of all orientations, especially as more male to female transsexuals become active in the lesbian community. The politics of inclusion and the politics of conspiracy are meeting head on with equal rights and protection issues hanging in the balance. In the continuing wake of one such confrontation at last year's Brisbane lesbian conference, Sheryl Berkovich spoke to Australian transgender lesbian activist Jane and a language



37:23

because of transgender or transsexual,



37:26

I would say I pretty firmly fit into the category of transsexual. I think transgender is much more all encompassing term and it seems to cover people who have been traditionally called transvestites people who have called transsexual and people who may fit in between. I think for a long time it's been seen that transvestites and transsexuals as mutually exclusive distinct groups. And I think we're actually starting to recognize now that they're actually not that there is a continuum. And in actual fact, I find I've probably refer a lot to Kate Bornstein work. One of the things she describes transgender as is people who are transgressive. We gendered who break the rules that were a gender. And she would even say, people who are transgendered as anyone who cares to admit it, so that would possibly include gays, lesbians, if you like so is inclusive as you like, I guess.



38:22

Now, what, we haven't been discussing this issue as a lesbian community for a long time. I mean, I guess in Australia anyway, the issue really came up. Last year at the Brisbane European conference where women who hadn't been used to the community in Brisbane, were suddenly shocked to find that we return sexual or transgender this month on the Organising Committee and so on a limit. I think a great deal of time spent getting rid of them is



38:54

the issue certainly came up with a vengeance. I'm certainly amongst amongst the transgender community. So one of the better words it caused a strong reaction amongst us. I mean, there is a significant number of transgender people who consider themselves to be lesbian. In fact, the figures for lesbian lesbians and like male to female transsexuals is something at least 40% is the minimum figure I've seen quoted. It may well be much higher. I suspect it's something between 60 and 80% of male female transsexuals who identify as lesbian. I think there is a very good reason for that, is that sexuality and gender, as far as I can see, are not dependent upon one another, so one doesn't determine the other. And what you'd expect. If that was the case, you'd expect roughly the ratio of gators strikes to be reversed in transsexuals, and I think that is actually roughly the case. I've never been attracted to men and changing is becoming a

woman will argue with them whether I did or not. But to simplify them that is to say, when I became a woman, I, my sexuality didn't change. I've always been attracted to women and I haven't stopped being attracted to women,



40:15

when near So one idea that goes around about particularly male to female, I think, is that these were gay men who weren't happy with being homosexual. And for the thought, Oh, I'm gonna be a woman. Well, you know,



40:32

in the life of that, that knowledge that gender and sexuality are not dependent upon one another. And SQL in the knowledge that most transsexuals are homosexual in their new role, then it just doesn't make any sense. I mean, someone like me, I felt very strongly before I was even aware of any sexual attraction that that female was what I was, you know, was just more appropriate to be female was more appropriate for me. And like I said, it was because of that myth, it was a confusion for me all through my teens about what I was whether I fit in, because I had heard vaguely about transsexuals. And I was supposed to be these ultra homosexual men and, and I didn't fit that at all. And it caused with a great source of consternation for me, because I didn't know where I fit in, because I didn't fit that model. So I think that model is true, perhaps there's a very small proportion of transsexual or transgendered people, perhaps they may not be, depending on how you define transsexual, they may not be transsexual, but it's certainly not true of majority.



41:43

When I first started reading, feminist writing, the issue of genocide and the Chansik from implement, she says that the ultimate sort of put down in a way a man becoming a woman and then becoming a lesbian



41:59

are very strong. But



42:03

when you read, writing five, transsexuals are transgender who describe themselves. They, like 99% of the time, say, I, when I was four years old, I thought I was surprised for example, when my mother told me that I was a boy and I thought, No, I'm not for the time, but it is a conspiracy theory on Colombina good feminists do you know about the conspiracy theory of men wanting to become women to become lesbians to get women?



42:35

The the notion that no