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SPEAKERS

Jimmy Carper



00:02

like 99% of the time, say, I, when I was four years old, I thought, you know, I was surprised, for example, when my mother told me that I was a boy. And I thought, No, I'm not, you know, I was four at the time. But that is a conspiracy theory, oncology, not a good feminist theory, you know, that the conspiracy theory of men wanting to become women to become lesbians to get women,



00:24

the the notions that, you know, you do this to get girls. I mean, it's ridiculous. And it's immensely harder for them to find a love, and now and then than it was before. I guess the notion is that we're somehow infiltrating women's space and spying on it. And we want to sort of know, this is to help the oppression of women and so forth. Well, nothing could be further from my mind, because I identify myself and I live my life as a woman. And when women get oppressed, you know, it reflects back on me. And I think the lesbians to identify us as men, and then go about oppressing us that they're kind of getting their own back and reversing the imbalance. And I think they're picking the wrong target. I think Kate Bornstein put it pretty well, in her book, gender outlaw. She said, the correct target is the group that has both the will and the power to oppress you wherever you go. And I really don't have the power to oppress people, transsexuals as a group, are actually one of the most powerless and most oppressed groups in our society. Not that I want to claim greater victim status, but I do want to press home the point that we're not the ones doing the oppressing.



01:37

So where do you see the major oppression? Like, is it the medicalization issue that just generally moving as a woman and being oppressed as a woman or



01:47



01:47

Well, that's part of it, I mean, if we go into a workplace and are accepted as women, or in any other situation, and then we, we are likewise oppressed, in the same situations, when we are not accepted as women where we are, we feel like accepted or known to be transsexuals, then, unless we go into a very understanding and accepting environment, a place that actually does genuinely stick to the spirit of equal opportunity, we're not protected by any kind of equal opportunity laws and deployment, we have a whole lot of other problems with birth certificates and that sort of thing, where all states of Australia except South Australia do not permit transsexuals to change their their birth certificates. So if you go for employment, and you're required to present it, then you just don't have the privacy. I mean, whether it's I don't think it is particularly a matter of public record is like people having to declare whether they're homosexual or heterosexual when they apply for a job. I think people should be required to declare that their head that they're transsexual, yet, the way the law works out, even though that's not actually specifically stated in the law, that is the effect of the law currently. And situations I've been in for instances was going is starting a job. And once it's become known that I was transsexual, after, after the first few days there then thinking I was the best thing since sliced bread, the absolute golden girl, because I was once it's discovered I was transsexual, immediately, the whole management of the organization swung into action to get rid of me. And as it stands at the moment, I have no protection under the law against that. In fact, probably the easiest thing to do for an employee to do if they wanted to get rid of me is to just say, We're firing you because you are transsexual, I have no legal comeback to that whatsoever.



03:41

That's an interesting one, isn't it? Because I mean, we we've said for the last 30 years, and now modern women's movement, down six does not determine your ability to do XY and Z, and therefore shouldn't matter.



03:58

I mean, that that is the principle of equal opportunity. I think this is a business side issue. But I think it would be much better, it would serve us all better. I think if we had a model of equal opportunity, which stated that everyone is equal. And if you want to discriminate against people, you better find a damn good reason why you should. But the moment we're saying, well, we'll have these few groups of people who are protected from discrimination. And if you want to become one of those, if you want your group of people to become excluded from discrimination as well, then you better find a damn good reason why so we're putting the onus on the wrong foot. I think. So I think no, this is this is a very wide issue, but because we're kind of on the fringes, I think it's important.



04:42

When you, for example, that we're living in dance or women's hands, what goes through your mind like they think, oh, you know, I could be chucked at any minute for me. Yeah,



04:54

I do feel nervous about it. It has worried me in the past I mean, particularly like last year, I went along to the set and so forth and went along to all the, you know, the dance classes beforehand. And I, I was very nervous the whole time because I felt like Am I really welcome here? I mean, like, you know, I felt sort of, you know, welcome like anybody else, but I always felt nervous, like, well, if anybody sort of knows, or is it if it comes out then that I stand a good chance of being kicked out. And I didn't want to be kicked out. I mean, I don't want to spoil anybody's party for them. But I would like to be invited to some parties. And I do feel that, that transsexuals, such as myself, who do identify as lesbian, we, well, I've always felt that there is a natural Alliance, between transsexual and gay and lesbian people. I don't know, I guess it's just that we're in a similar in a similar bowl caught in common people's perceptions were like, in the same sort of place. And I think we, we get similar forms of discrimination. I mean, the discrimination we get sort of comes from the same place in people's minds, as does discrimination against gays and lesbians. It's sort of like a fear. Yeah, a fear of fear of things that people would rather not have to think about. People are, people seem to be very attracted to easy solutions, and easy ways of thinking about things. And if you're heterosexual, and, and you, you know, you've got the you've got your gender right the first time, you and you see everyone else around you pretty much has as well. It's can be very confronting to have to suddenly bring all that up and think about it. And a lot of people are really likes to do that. I think a really good example was that was my, my friend, Julie Peters. In her, her workplace. After she'd changed over, she'd been in the same workplace for over 20 years, when she when she changed over from male to female. One of her coworkers recently said to her, you know, what really annoys me about you is not that you change is that you made me change, because this person has had to actually think about who he was and who he was in relation to the world and think about what gender men and it causes people to actually consider. Well, dude, am I really happy with my agenda? People just don't think about it. It's like this, like a given, isn't it? It's a given that it's like it's carved in stone. And it's, and it's placed beyond question.



07:35

Do you think that lesbians and also going in, probably should have a better understanding of it? Because some in most of us grew up thinking, I'm the only one I'm deserve? You know, but there's something wrong with me. I'm not the person that people think I am. But they don't always identify that aspect, I guess.



07:59

Well, yeah, I think it's because of that notion that we're some kind of super homosexual. And it comes back to that myth that That's right, that it's good when, you know, if homosexuals are some point along the scale of, you know, queerness, I guess what you call it is that we're just someplace further along than name,



08:19

the politics of transsexuality or trans gender people or whatever. I guess we haven't really looked at that aspect of it. We've talked about the personal side, but you were talking before about the need for equal opportunity. And like we say, those are three mainstream issues, I

guess, in many ways. Yes. But like Australia has quite a active transgender liberation movement. I don't know how activity is in Melbourne, but in other states, like in Queensland and New South Wales, it's been quite active.



08:52

Yes, it has the political side of the transgender movement, for want of a better word has been active in Melbourne. It's just been very underground. It's just been very quietly going about things and it has achieved some significant advances for transsexuals. Things like passports actually changing the changing the gender on those driver's licenses, number of sort of practical issues that have been dealt with over the last 20 years or so by people in Melbourne.



09:26

We've not heard about



09:27

No, because a lot of these things were done very, very quietly. It's just a matter of writing letters to the right people and just persistence quiet persistence is what has got us a long way. And in actual fact, if you look at it, most of the reforms that have been achieved for transsexuals have been achieved that way. I think what's happening now is that we're actually starting to see groups of transsexuals connect up with one another. There's been a very strong tendency for transsexuals to make the change over, they might be active in the political side of things for a little while. And then gradually they just settle down to their life and go and disappear into the woodwork and maybe never seen it and seen or heard of again, they just go on and live their life quietly. And is this old geometric theory that if you're a one transsexual alone, you have a certain amount of chance of being sprung as a transsexual, and if there's more than two of you together, then your chances of being sprung more than double. So, transsexuals haven't tended until recently, to be proud of themselves and be willing to identify themselves publicly as transsexual. So consequently, we haven't got together. It's very much like the gay movement over 20 years ago, where things were largely fragmented, the oppression was sort of went inside people's skulls to the, to the extent that people weren't willing to admit they were, who they were and how they were, and weren't willing to associate with others like themselves, because because they consider themselves shameful. And I think we're now the gay lesbian movement has been way ahead of us, and we got a lot of catching up to do. And I think what has been very valuable about transsexuals mixing in the gay and lesbian community is we're picking up some of that and picking up some of the some of the good things that have happened politically for gays and lesbians and starting to apply them to ourselves. Some of the problems we've had with the gay lesbian community have been, particularly the lesbian community in this instance, have been us being perceived as a threat. And I'm really glad that that's now starting to starting to change.



11:49

Do you think from your point of view that now that transgender male and female are starting to talk about the issue will mean that things will improve that people will be less fearful and less?

talk about the issue will mean that things will improve and people will be less fearful and less.



12:02

I believe that's true. I think I think that is happening, I think we're now starting to work on empowering each other. And being willing to acknowledge who we are things you know, important little things like for instance, a transsexual or transgender float in the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras. One of the things that little things I do on the internet, for instance, I publish a on the internet, a guide of resources for transgender people in Australia, in New Zealand, also making it available to help groups like the gay and lesbian switchboard. And also, I have actually come in contact met a lot of people through the internet, transsexual people who are just starting to come out and having a hard job dealing with it. I just recently dealt with the a female to male transsexual in Toronto, through the internet, who was nearly suicidal. And the thing that I'm noticing about it is instead of it just being well, you know, this is how you This is how you pass as a woman or pass as a man so that you can just fit into the woodwork and forget all about being transsexual. Instead of talking about that so much, we're talking about how we have a right to exist as who we are. And so it's not so much about making yourselves invisible. It's about empowering each other, and making our lives better. And trying to get the sort of political reform we need, trying to forge links with the gay and lesbian community. Because I think that they are important allies for us. And I think we have to recognize, for instance, that with the Equal Opportunity issues that standing at the moment, transgender people stand, we really stand to lose at the moment, the the proposed legislation in the Victorian Equal Opportunity Act has just been watered down. So it may not include gays and lesbians. And it's been watered down, I think, to a stage where it certainly doesn't include transgendered people. It was originally to be worded legal, lawful sexual orientation and or practices. Now, it's the same law for sexual practices. It's very hard to imagine how you will get dismissed for a lawful sexual practice. Unless you're practicing sex on the job, I guess. And certainly, because I would argue that trends, your transgendered status doesn't determine your sexual behavior, or your sexual preference. It's very hard to see how we how we would be included under that. So I think if we don't get on side with the gay and lesbian community and with this one with them, I don't think we're going to win it for a long time. I think it's going to be a significant setback for us.



14:49

So on that note, which is sort of positive and negative, Jane, thanks very much for coming in.



Jimmy Carper 14:54

Thank you. Hello Houston its Jimmy with the QMZ the queer music zone, which is heard just about every week, right here on after hours. Queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station Bryan, we've already had requests for some career music. And we'll be taking your requests at 5265738 Give us a call and let us know what kind of career music you'd like to hear. But right now for Richard requested Doug Stephens in the outbound and I know rainbow Decler and likes to hear him too so for you too. And everybody else hears Doug Stephens in the out band with out in the country Oh yeah, by request pansy division and that was covered today from the Old Joe Jackson song, real man. And we are taking your requests for queer music on the queer music zone at 5265738 and write now a group that kinda is my

favorite these days. It's a local group called boy girl. And they just completed let's see, I saw them in concert Thursday night. We told you about it right here on after hours. They were at the Allen Park village an anti rape concert along with third sex out of Portland and I think boy girl also played in Jackson tonight know last night? I don't know. But whenever I find out about where they're playing, I will let you know. Right now my one of my favorites of course I got a lot of favorites by boy girl. It's called punk rock boy boy girl with punk rock boy one of my faves this week is a pretty good group to teenagers who like to make music and have something to say and put out tapes. So whenever I see that they're playing somewhere I'll let you know now by request. From Leslie and Ali and Sugar Land. CWA only straight girls wear dresses. You know this this song is requested by a lot of different people. And it seems to be a favorite with after hours listeners. I like it to only straight girls wear dresses. Yeah, right. Oh, yes, it is. The rest is definitely a big blur. Ah, this is Jimmy and you're listening to the QM z the queer music zone, which is her just about every week, right here on after hours queer radio with attitude. And I got a couple of here for Jeremy Bry wants to play one for Jeremy and I think Jeremy wants one of his own. I don't know what's going on, but sounds nice. So this is from Roy to Jeremy. That's what it looks like. romanovski and Phillips, good ol Romanovsky and Philex and give me a homosexual. Oh yeah, you've been listening to the QM Z right here on after hours. Queer radio with attitude hurt every Saturday night at midnight. I'm Jimmy Carper. And we've had to bind that group on tonight. But hey, stay tuned. He's bad. He's back. It's Billy Gilbert, bringing you the best of his really weird kinds of music. He'll be coming your way in just a minute or two. So see you next week.



19:33

Hi, this is Pete Anderson and you're listening to KPFT Houston 90.1 FM, and ke O 's College Station in Bryan a 9.1 FM thanks for listening.



19:52

Hey, Sheriff, I think this is the body over here wrapped in ready



20:00

Oh my god, it's Laura Palmer Minar get an autopsy.



20:04

When peaks action figures. There's Laura Palmer complete with her own plastic shroud and a black wig. Back collect them all the log lady Sheriff Harry S. Truman, Audrey Horne posed them any way you want bury them in shallow graves make them hallucinate



20:28

this map of Tibet will help us solve the case. But first, give me a slice of that wonderful cherry pie.



20:35

reneges agree that the performance of the Special Agent Cooper plastic thing here is far more realistic and believable than that of Kyle McLachlan



20:45

jelly. Where's we oh, he said was doing right here on the floor.



20:52

When peaks action figures, each comes complete with a doughnut and terrible secret. Put them in your Leo's truck carrying case and take them out to the woods where they're really awful stuff happens. Turn your backyard or your bedroom into a town full of adulterous murderers, perverts and timber barons with Twin Peaks action figures. All 129 major characters each sold separately from highbrow toys



21:30

listeners should be aware that the following program contains language and audio images which may be found disturbing and may not be suitable for your snotty nose little brat who probably causes like a sailor behind your back anyway. Parental discretion is advised



21:48

our feature presentation



21:58

our folks this is radio feel in a moment my program but first a word from our sponsor brought to buy degenerate friends have you tried cornflakes lately folks? They're corny er than ever and for a surprise mix them with molasses. We're a real corn ball desert big



22:16

job cotton swabs give your ears sex appeal no matter where you use them. Here, use this. No, here. Allow me. Oh I love you. And I love you Yes, big job. Cotton swabs give your ears sexy people no matter where you use them.



22:47

Hey, beer. Drink big. Think big. Feel big drink pig. Tank for the pig in your tank rose out with pig beer



23:04

hungry. How about a nice big lukewarm bowl of tasteless garbage. look good. Go ahead and try some



23:18

haze good. Yeah.



23:24

You eat it every day.



23:26

Folks, I'm Bob croad originator of the famous tower stores. Look for a tower of crud store in your area. Also listen for our new radio show the Toros couldn't tolerate come down soon friends. And remember with each purchase you get a free Can you help me FlowerPower tower or towels? Back you might even win a whole set Mr. FlowerPower. Tower our toes for your convenience. If you find a flower power tower or tow for your own receive boats. This is Bob crud. tarrifs good stores reminding you don't forget.



24:05

Hi, I'm Buster crabs. I live in your shoes. That's my dog bag.