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SPEAKERS

Jimmy Carper, Sarah Dipalma

S Sarah Dipalma 00:02

That's one of the songs that Jimmy introduced me to. I had never heard of flirtations till we started this. And that's one of many pieces of music. You've introduced me to that have gone home said, Wow, that was good. Thank you. Thank

J Jimmy Carper 00:14

you. I'm proud to be able to do that.

S Sarah Dipalma 00:18

There's a piece that we've used, I guess we use for coming out the it was one that the Buddy Johnson put together recently, yes, coming out of high tech coming out. And I've used that on several different places. And people said, Dan, where can I get a copy of that? Is that you can't, you can't do it. You have to listen to our show. To get that. We have our first pledge. Hey, okay, we have our first pledge. And we will not give the amount of course, but his name is Louis. Okay. And Lewis has very nice things to say. And what he has done is, instead of giving money to the bar, he has given us the money that you normally use for drink. Cool. So ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls and grownups of all ages. It looks old. Does he drink a lot? Yeah, he must, not from this dollar amount. But you know what we say all the time, we'll take small amounts, and we and we really mean it. And folks, you know, the number is 5265738. That's 526 K P F T I and it is marathon and I know you're probably sick of hearing us talk about it by now. But there's more to come. It's easier to pledge.

J Jimmy Carper 01:25

Kathy from Southwest requested a song by the Fred's gay Houston band. Yes, I know of the Fred's but I don't have any of their music. And I only seen them in concert once and I wasn't able to get any at the time. So if she has an eight or knows how I can get a hold of some I'd like

to know because I would love to play the Fred's.

 Sarah Dipalma 01:48

I like the name of the group. What kind of music they play? It's

 Jimmy Carper 01:52

it's all women. Oh, really? Yes. Oh, cool. I

 Sarah Dipalma 01:55

didn't know didn't realize that. I wouldn't have guessed that from the name.

 Jimmy Carper 01:58

I know. I know. The great part about it. Yeah, yeah. And they do some really great music. All right.

 Sarah Dipalma 02:06

Well, we started out on the show by saying that we were going to play some of the things that we consider to be the best of. And I thought this the best way to do that is let's start out at the very beginning here. My first my first appearance in the show was September the 17th of last year, yes. And I was here as a guest. Now the circumstances were I was supposed to be here as a guest of another co host. And so Jimmy had no idea that I was going to be here until I did. And I remember Jimmy coming out to me and saying who are you. And for Jimmy having no idea that I was coming or that he was going to be the interviewer sort of had to dance on his feet in order to get this put together. And so this is Jimmy's introduction of me.

 Jimmy Carper 02:57

September 6 1987, after hours was born, and we're still going strong. We're different. We're changing. Oh, honey, we are we changing. But we're still here, and we're still clear. The number is 5265738. And I have a you are listening to KPFT Houston, after hours, a continuing tradition. And with me tonight is Sarah De Palma. And this is gonna be kind of an interesting interview because, kids you're gonna learn a lot tonight. Sarah, welcome to after hours. Well, thank

 Sarah Dipalma 03:36

you very much. I'm glad to be here. Oh,

J Jimmy Carper 03:37

now, how did you get here? I mean, you know, I have a feeling you have a circuitous route.

S Sarah Dipalma 03:45

Well, actually, I was invited here tonight by the head, but I'm not sure that's what you're asking me. Ah. Yeah, actually, I got here in kind of a roundabout way. I started out as a gay rights activist at Texas A&M University. Yeah. And after, after a rather interesting experience up there and getting involved in a case that went all the way to the US Supreme Court. I moved to Houston just in time to get involved in the referendum.

J Jimmy Carper 04:11

Oh, yes. The famous for reference

S Sarah Dipalma 04:14

8585. Later, I was one of the co founders of the original act up here in Houston. Oh, yeah. And one of the original members of queer nation here in Houston. And it was about that time that I decided it was time for me to start my transition from male to female. And there were some folks in queer nation who didn't exactly understand what I was doing. Okay.

J Jimmy Carper 04:38

I'm sure there's a lot of folks out there who don't

S Sarah Dipalma 04:41

either my parents included Yes. But they fav the people. Queer nation finally did get the hang of it. And they were very supportive. And I am now the co chair of an organization called It's Time Texas, which is part of a larger group called It's Time America. It's a political lobbying organization for transgender people. And so that's part of what why I'm here tonight. And partly, I hope to educate some people about transgender people who we are and who we are not.

J Jimmy Carper 05:14

Well, you know that that's exactly right, because we say the word transgendered. And we have read articles in the gay press of Philip Randolph Frey, you know, wanting to get every group to put transgender in, and a lot of us don't even know what that means.

 Sarah Dipalma 05:37

Well, is that still true is we still not know who what transgender people are?

 Jimmy Carper 05:42

Oh, honey, you're really educated this town?

 05:46

There's one burning question that I have about this whole, this whole thing.

 Sarah Dipalma 05:52

limericks and women's rooms and you better than the ones in men's room. You know, the most interesting thing about women's rooms, women talk to one another in the restroom.

 06:02

I know. But they're set up that way. They have couches and stuff. Now.

 Sarah Dipalma 06:06

No, honey, we're talking about in the stalls. Now you see, it's one of the differences. Men, men in restrooms say nothing. They look straight ahead, they keep their mouth shut. That's right. Women carry on some very interesting conversations. Street Journal. And you know, it's usually they are saying things about men men would prefer not to hear others one particular conversation, I remember that I cannot repeat on the air. So but that is one of the differences, actually. But

 06:38

now you have a made the transgendered person come alive for the city. Before you it was just what we read, if we read it at all.

 Sarah Dipalma 06:50

Well, thank you. Thank you, you know, the the single most common comment that I get anywhere I go in when I go and speak to groups is, well, we don't know who transgendered people aren't. So we have no motivation to work on your behalf. And as I was listening to that tape, I heard myself making all sorts of great excuses for the gay community at the time. And

it's one of the things that has changed over the past here. As I've gone from saying, Well, you know, gay people have got their own issues to deal with to enough of this crap. It's been 20 years, if you don't know who we are, where have you been?

J Jimmy Carper 07:26

That's exactly right. Because we, the gay community calls on the transgender community every time we want to fundraiser. Well, Phil

S Sarah Dipalma 07:35

is fine at that point in the interview that she did with us. But it's very interesting, because I came on the air in that first show, making lots of good excuses with gay lesbian community. And it's one of the areas where I've really changed a lot in the last year. Interestingly, you are the person on that show saying to me, Oh, I find that they say you ought to know who you are by now. So it's interesting, I've come to your point of view and this year. So I think I thought that was kind of interesting. The other thing about that show is I was listening to the questions that you asked, and it hadn't been tough for you, because you didn't even know I was going to be here as a guest. Yes, you're right. You're right. And you, you asked amazingly good questions for somebody who had no idea who I was. It was really funny. I walked into the room. And Jimmy kind of looked at me like, Who the hell are you? And why are you here?

J Jimmy Carper 08:26

Well, it was my opportunity to ask any everything that I've ever wanted to? Well, and it's happened, did you able to do it on the air, which was a wonderful thing. So that I, I was hoping that, you know, 1000s of people in Houston, would be able to hear all the things that they always wanted to know.

S Sarah Dipalma 08:43

I have gotten a lot of mail and a lot of comments since we've been on the air. And one of the comments that I get most often is the chemistry that you and I have, and people really like it. Oh, we've had a lot of very complimentary things, said they, I've had one person that you people want you to work together for years, haven't you? And I said, Fine. And I said, Well, no, actually, we haven't. But it seems to develop that way. Yeah, you know, which is kind of nice. It's nice that people would think that

J Jimmy Carper 09:08

I think maybe mutual admiration may be mutual respect.

S Sarah Dipalma 09:12

I think that's true. I think that's true. And I've said this before in the air, but that you're the kind of a person, some people say they believe in stuff, and it's all talk, you actually believe this stuff, and you turn into action. And that's, you know, so that that's, that's different. The next the next little cut we're going to do is actually the first real show, I guess we did. I was on the show with Gigi and Michelle. Oh, yes. And that was our coming out program. And the first the first interview that I did was with Karen, Karen. Now Karen, Karen is the executive director of its time America, which is a transgendered political organization. And this is the first hint of the of what was to come with the Human Rights Campaign fund. We were a year ahead on this issue. Yes, we were a full year ahead. On Karen. Karen, it was talks about our exclusion from ENDA. And when you listen to this cut now, you can listen to it in terms of things that I've said over the last couple of shows and realize this was set in October of last year. And it really gives you some sense of how far ahead we were on

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Jimmy Carper 10:25

this and you're listening to it on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station, Bryan.

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10:36

Okay. I have been working very closely with Senator Jeffords office on a number of different issues, and have been cultivating quite a number of different politicians from both major parties. In consequence of that, I received a letter from him telling me about, he recognized my interest in gender affairs, and was very proud to announce that he was one of the co sponsors of ENDA. That's the employment non discrimination act. It is currently before the Senate Labor and Human Relations Committee, which is chaired by Senator Kennedy. I immediately began pursuing finding out what I could about it, and subsequently got to know one gentleman in his office by the name of reg Jones, who has been Senator Jeffords point man and working with the labor and human relations committee. As a result, was determined, because there was going to be a hearing that I would go down and testify, I did not choose to go along because I thought it would be a lot more valuable to take somebody with me. And we had hoped to have a very small delegation go. But ultimately, it ended up myself. And so as Friday went, we were very, very well received and extremely well treated. We did get to turn in our written testimony. However, we were precluded from speaking. Now we should back up, I guess a little bit and perhaps explain the genesis of ENDA. I had been involved with the Human Rights Campaign fund, and had been supportive of their program for writing in cards and so forth, dating back to the well, quite a few years, but as most especially the March on Washington, I was quite surprised when I found out that they were the point people for the end of the program. To the best of my knowledge, and understanding they had employed, Kleinfeld Blum was an elite member, I guess, of the Georgetown Law School. She's a professor there. And she had apparently drafted the proposed and the legislation. And it was specifically non inclusive of transgendered people. We became quite alarmed at that upon discovering it. And as we listened to the panels as we were sitting there in the hearing, the last panel consisted of three people, the first two of which were rabid homophobes, and that's probably being about as kind as I can. And the wrap up speaker was this guy Feldblum. The next to the last speaker on that panel passed a terrible remark he represented that the gay and lesbian community should be rather ostracized because there was how would they feel if they had a male employee, strapping six foot man who came into work one day in a in a sequined gown and five inch by keel shoes. Certainly that doesn't describe the gay lesbian community.

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Sarah Dipalma 14:03

No, and it certainly doesn't describe the transgendered people I know, are even most of the drag queens that I know. So I do find that remark rather remarkable.

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14:13

Yeah, it is. What was interesting was notice Ryan and I were both sitting there very well identified with badges announcing that we weren't going to be allowed to orally testify. And for reasons that we don't understand, we were never given an opportunity to refute that. I think Chi Feldblum did a very good job at refuting the issues as far as they had gone on attacking the gay and lesbian community. But it disturbed me a great deal and we didn't have an opportunity to defend ourselves.

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Sarah Dipalma 14:46

Well, there's the first hint, yeah, we didn't have an opportunity to defend ourselves. Gosh. I sometimes feel kind of funny on this Joe talking about some of the transgendered issues, the political parts of it. I've had people who have said to me, Well, you know, you sure do beat up on gays and lesbians a lot. And that's, I feel badly than anybody would think that because that's not true. I'm beating up on a small clique of political leaders.

j

Jimmy Carper 15:20

That's exactly right. There's a big

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Sarah Dipalma 15:22

difference between reading up on gays and lesbians and beating up on a clique of people who have made it their business to exclude others.

j

Jimmy Carper 15:30

If there's, if there's one thing I want people to learn from this show, is that if you listen to after hours for four weeks in a row, you're going going to hear diverse people from the queer community, who don't always agree with each other, but they respect each other. That's, that's what I want to get through.

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Sarah Dipalma 15:51

I work for lesbian attorneys. I've been I took when I was when I was at Texas a&m, I took Texas a&m all the way to the US Supreme Court on behalf of gay lesbian students services. I'm one of the founding members of queer nation, one of the founding members of ACT UP. For heaven's

sakes, folks, I am not anti gay, and anybody who believes that just really doesn't know it. But at the same time, I am a transgendered person. I'm a transgender rights activist, I guess I'm considered to be a leader in our community. And it's unfortunate that there is a small group of people who are in a position of power, who have made it there have decided that is their right to exclude some people while they think they're in power. They think they're in power. And, you know, I It has been my experience that most gays and lesbians are shocked to find out that's going on. Yeah, they don't agree with their own leadership, either.

J

Jimmy Carper 16:44

And, you know, the ones that I've heard of that do don't couldn't even tell you what the transgendered person is. Yeah, I

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Sarah Dipalma 16:52

think that's right.

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Jimmy Carper 16:53

I think that's exactly right. parroting something that they've heard from somebody else? I

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Sarah Dipalma 16:59

receive a lot of email. And a lot of the people who act who say, Well, no transgender people don't deserve any rights. When you ask them well defined transgendered for me, they said, well, um, well, gee, how would you know if we deserve rights? But I think you're right. But I'm very proud of the fact that we had Karen Karen on the show, and that we were a full year ahead. And the issues are amazing, isn't it? And I want to go to one more cut. For Karen. Karen. That's next. And it sort of goes to something that we just said, and that is, we are not down on gay lesbian people. If you listen to this, you're going to hear Karen Karen say that she thinks that two wrongs never make a right.

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17:50

I do not have the ability to retreat back into my closet. Because I can't retreat back into my closet, and I have to live as one when I am. I feel that for employment purposes, people like myself really do need more protection. I'm not looking for any special privileges, I think and that was very well crafted in that intent. And I would hope that my many gay and lesbian friends and I have some in Houston, like Ray Hill,

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Sarah Dipalma 18:21

your role Ray?



18:24

I would hope that those kinds of folks would, would make their voices heard in the gay and lesbian community very loudly, because it is clearly another wrong and I think that we've had too many wrongs in America and I've never seen two wrongs make a right.



Jimmy Carper 18:43

Well, that's exactly right.



Sarah Dipalma 18:44

She's right. Two wrongs don't make a right. When we go to speak to the Human Rights Campaign fund next weekend, one, we have a very diverse group of people who are going first of all we have Sharon Stewart. Sharon Stewart is a person that I've mentioned briefly on the show before, she is a by gendered person by gendered meaning that she lives part time as a female part time as a male, depending on basically what her mood is. We have Phyllis fry going. I don't guess we could probably do this with we didn't have Phyllis going. But after all, she is the head of the transgender long conference. So it certainly makes sense. And she's got long term experience. She was for years and years she was the only transgender rights activist in the country really. We have a terry Fredrickson going Terry Fredrickson is on the board is going on behalf of the Transgender Law conference, but she runs an organization in her own right called the gender information service. We have Ricky and Wilkins going from the co founder of transsexual minutes. Yes, Karen, Karen and Jessica Xavier. From it's time America will be there. I'm and I will be there. It's a very diverse group. Karen Karen, although she's president as she is the executive director of its time, America is transgendered because basically because she is a survivor of cancer, her male or her male organs were working through her son had to be removed. So she is she didn't she is unlike many of us in the Karen didn't didn't was not a transsexual in the sense that many people would assume she became transsexual because it was either become transsexual, or die literally from cancer. She is a cancer survivor. So she has a very different perspective than say, I would what Phyllis wood. And as I was listening, reviewing the tape, Karen talked about how she considers herself to be a former bigot. She said that she didn't know anything about transsexuals or transgendered people. And she wouldn't work on their behalf in any case, until she became one herself by hit by force, and began to discover what it meant to live is one. Yes. And I thought what an interesting perspective it is to walk a mile in somebody else's shoes before you start shooting your mouth. And I know we've got another pledge when we do.



Jimmy Carper 21:07

Yes, Christine called in with a nice generous pledge. And she is a previous member and enjoys sit Spencer. Oh, cool, we gay cowboy and requested some music. And we'll do some sit Spencer in a minute. And we're going to do some sit Spencer, we also got a pledge from Paul, who is as a long term listener also. So they are coming in Little by little, but people are supporting the show,

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Sarah Dipalma 21:40

I want to tell you about a phone call I got and I of course will not use this person the year, I got a phone call from a person I guess this was two days ago. This person is 17 years old, and living at home is 99% sure that he is a transgender person and is scared out of his mind called me because he had heard our show. And as far as he this person knew I was the only transgendered resource in the city of Houston. Wow. Well, of course, we were able to correct that. But this is a situation of it was a very difficult situation because the person is less than 18. Yes, they have to be very careful, it's dancing on the head of a pin when you're dealing with somebody that is legally A minor. And yet, I was able to at least recommend some place where the person could call and get some help. That's the reason that I do this show. And I know it's the reason that Jimmy has done it. And Jimmy has told me stories over the years of phone calls that you've received.

J

Jimmy Carper 22:42

Yeah, the same thing. It's one of the reasons I got involved with the with the Gay Lesbian switchboard, because I remember being 1415 and 16. And knowing I was gay, but I had never even heard the word homosexual. And being so isolated, I thought I was the only one there way back then there weren't radio shows that third in where I live, there weren't even bars or bookstores or anything like that, I had nothing. And so I wanted to be able to do something so that teenagers would know that they are not the only ones because that's a terribly lonely time. When whether you're gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgendered, or whatever, it can be lonely when you think you're the only one of your kind.

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Sarah Dipalma 23:31

The fact of the matter is when you make your pledge to KPFT. You're not making your pledge for the for the premiums, although they are nice, I have to admit it, they are nice. But realistically, what you're supporting is exactly what we've been talking about. The fact of the matter is that we get phone calls, and we get letters from people who tell us that they were, they are listening to us because we're the only resource for information. They know, if you're a gay and lesbian person tonight, or you're a transgendered person tonight and you're out of the closet, or maybe you're a person that's been a fairly content situation, think back a little bit, what was it like when you were growing up? How many of you grew up listening to after hours, or grew up listening to wild in Stein and learned what it was to be a gay or lesbian or transgendered adult by listening to the shows? That's what you're supporting? Sure.

J

Jimmy Carper 24:27

And how many commercial stations would have after hours? None.

S

Sarah Dipalma 24:33

How many stations would have an openly transgender activist on the year?

J Jimmy Carper 24:37

This is the only place that you're going to find it.

S Sarah Dipalma 24:39

That's right. That's right. And the truth of the matter is that the the pledges that you send in to us, that's what you're supporting. Sure, yes, this is it's expensive to run a radio station. I think people know that. You know, if you listen to us, sometimes our transmitter wavers a little bit. So you know that we're that we're lacking money for some of the repair is those are good reasons in themselves? Certainly, we do have

J Jimmy Carper 25:05

good news as far as that because the signal has been really lousy the past couple of weeks. That that because of where we have the the transmitter now and the lousy air conditioning? Well, we're changing that. And in spring of 96, we're getting a new transmitter tower, which is double the height of the one we have now. So we will be able to reach more people, it's in a better location, better air conditioning, I mean, overall, plus, it's going to cost us less money.

S Sarah Dipalma 25:39

So 5265738 We are working,

J Jimmy Carper 25:43

we're working hard, and we're working with very little money to do what we

S Sarah Dipalma 25:48

do. When So, think about your pledge for KPFT. This is what you're really supporting. You're supporting and outreach in a way you bet. I know that there are many transgender people who are listening to us on tape recorders will hear us the next day. Yeah, you know, you can call in Sunday morning when the blues broad is on. Oh, yeah. And just be sure to tell them that you're donating on behalf of after hours

J Jimmy Carper 26:14

because do Cathleen Kern the blues broad got her start? Right here on KPFT. Following after hours, I remember the first night she knew that Yes. Following it was 4am in the morning, oh my god ran from midnight to four in those days. And her first I remember her first night because because we kind of had to show her around the control room and how to work the board and, and stuff like that. And from four to six.

S

Sarah Dipalma 26:43

It's funny, Laurie and I get up on Sunday mornings with our coffee. And we make we make pancakes and we listen to the blues brought I'm a huge fan of the blues and he had been all my life. So there's another good reason to to donate the KPFT.

J

Jimmy Carper 26:57

And we realize that that if you listen to KPFT you probably listen to more than one show you listen to after hours he listened to the blues broad you listen to the prison program. And so you may be well I gave money to the pros Person Program, we realized that we thank you for your for your donation.

S

Sarah Dipalma 27:15

Yeah, we're not gonna go out and choose you honest. We really aren't in honestly, we'll accept small donations, we'll accept big donations. I mean, just think about it about what KPFT has meant to you in your life, and then pledge what you can. That's all that's all we're asking. First, let's go to some music here.

J

Jimmy Carper 27:36

I think Christine here is a new one by Syd Spencer one that I haven't played yet. It's called you gotta swim.

S

Sarah Dipalma 27:47

anybody's seen me swim knows eating pretty.

o

27:50

Spencer, you got to swim.

S

Sarah Dipalma 27:53

You know? Why is it Why Does it strike me that the idea of being gay and a cowboy is an oxymoron?

J

Jimmy Carper 28:01

So many people think that but if you've ever been to the BRB, gosh, does cowboy boot scootin

say other it's it's quite a sight

s

Sarah Dipalma 28:12

now. I guess that's my bathroom ranch. See, I grew up in Connecticut, where there were no cowboy. Ah, okay. And so I guess maybe it's just my upbringing that the idea of a gay cowboys seems like, I don't know, seems like the two words don't go together.

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28:25

Actually, if you if you read the real history, there are a whole lot more real gay cowboys in the 1800s then, then you might think,

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Sarah Dipalma 28:37

well, I'll be done. See, now there's something something new for me to learn. And if

j

Jimmy Carper 28:41

it was like institutionalized homosexuality, I mean, you had a bunch of guys who lived and work together, out in the boonies all by themselves for months at a time. What do you think they did? Okay.

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Sarah Dipalma 28:54

Yeah, that makes sense. That makes sense. I don't know it just something new for me. The next we're going to go back and do another piece of tape. Now, with Trump I have tried many times to get female to male transsexual Xhosa. Yes. And it is a lot easier to pull teeth out of a person with dentures than it is to get female to male transsexual to appear on a on a radio show. Yeah. And we were lucky enough to get a person on the show by the name

j

Jimmy Carper 29:25

of Shane. That was amazing. That was a good show. Never forget that night.

s

Sarah Dipalma 29:30

That was a good show. We had a mother who called in and talked about what it was like to be the parent of a transgendered person on that show, and that I thought was one of the more interesting shows that we had done. And Shane was very open about about himself and what it was like, and there's a magazine I've talked about this organization before the cold Aegis. Yeah. And well, they publish a magazine, an excellent magazine called chrysalis quarterly. And their

latest issue which I just received in the mail today is dead. Dedicated to female to male transsexuals. Oh, now, that's very interesting because virtually all literature that you read about transsexuals is male to female. Finally, here's something where it's just the opposite. So if you are a female to male, transsexual listening to our show tonight, give us a call, I'll be glad to give you the address and the phone number or how you can reach Aegis and get a copy of this magazine. If you're looking for factual information, what it is to be a female to male transsexual, where to get help, how to get hormones, what questions to ask, this is she's got it all. Wow, that's got it all. It's the first time I've ever seen it happen. It's another sign of growth, yes, in the transgender community that there will become more and more aware of female to males, and we really want them to participate. So let's go to this next piece of tape. This is Shane talking about what it's like to be a transsexual. I want to talk about something that you just said. There is a general feeling. And I've heard this from various sources that somehow people are defined by what is or is not between their legs. And I'm sorry that society feels that way. Because I don't happen to believe it's true. Feminists will tell you very flatly that they are that women should not be judged by the size of the size of their breasts. Men will tell you that they don't want to be judged by the size of their genitals. Why is it so different that we are not what is between our legs. I personally think that's a lot of nonsense. But I know particularly female to male transsexual is get a lot of abuse about that.



31:42

I've never had really a problem with it. Because most of my friends know they rag on me, it's not gonna end up pretty. But testosterone speaking. Actually, that's just me. But it is a big issue simply because being born in a body that does not go with your brain is like being in a Halloween costume you can't get out of there or just it is something that you feel would make you complete, not just for sexual reasons, but just just because because it is the complete person and there's not like your stick shift isn't missing.



S Sarah Dipalma 32:36

Okay, now, there you there, you've heard what I think is probably one of the best comments I've ever heard. What is it like to be a transsexual, it's like being in a Halloween costume from which one can never escape. If ever, you want it to know what it is like to be in a situation where the mind and body do not match. That's it. That's I have, I've never heard a better explanation than that. I've attended seminars all over the country. That's the best definition I've ever heard. Now, one of the things that we like to do on the show, is we like to tell people how they can get a hold, how they can reach local organizations. If you're a person who is transgender, or you think you're transgendered, and you want to know how it is possible for you to get help. I'm going to give you a couple of phone numbers and addresses. So go get a pen and a piece of paper. And I'll wait a second, you know, we make believe we're playing the theme from Jeopardy here. And you just go ahead and get yourself a pen and a piece of paper. And okay, are you ready? Okay, first of all, let's talk about the Gulf Coast transgender community that's GC, TC, their phone number is 7804282. GCTC is an organization that is open to all transgendered people, regardless of your sexual orientation. So it makes no difference whether you're gay, straight, bisexual, none of the above some of the above, take your pick. GCTC is open. More importantly, GCTC is an excellent source of factual information. It is a place where you can go, you can receive the best possible information and meet others who are like yourselves and learn from their experiences. So their number again is 7804282. Then there is

the Triassic sorority. Now the Triassic stands for the Society for the second self. Try s sorority is primarily a group for heterosexual cross dressers, and they're in their spouses. I would venture to say that cross dressers in terms of actual numbers probably make up the single largest element of the transgender community. And often it is the why Observe crossdressers who feel the most distraught. This is an excellent organization and a good place for you to go. Their number is 3478747. Or if you would like the address, give us a call here. We'll be glad to do that for you, the Triassic sorority another good place to receive factual information and they should be able to help you a great deal. Finally, there is the Texas Association for transsexual support. That's the group is known as tats have attended many of their meetings. I know many of the folks involve taxes all as one of the things I like about tats is if you're looking for a place to get factual information about hormones, about surgery, get the real truth about how to select a therapist. This is an excellent place to go. And their number is 82759131 thing I will tell you about all of these organizations and that is they are discreet. So do not be afraid to call and leave your phone number. If you are in special circumstances, be sure to let them know that they will abide by what you have to say they you do not need to worry about that. Okay. Now of all the interviews that we have done on the show, none has ever attracted more comment than Kate Bornstein. Now I had the I had the privilege of being able to meet Kate Bornstein fascinating woman. And later in the show, we'll talk about what her appearance is. But the next thing I'd like to do is we're going to play a cut from Kate Bornstein, in which you'll hear her talk about something called gender fluidity. And we'll come back and talk about what gender fluidity is. You know, it's very interesting. I happen to be in the hospital, I guess it was about a year and a half ago now. And they put me in the male ward. And I was just furious with them. And they said, well, but our policy is that you go in the ward by your genitals. Oh, God. And I thought, what? In suddenly it occurred to me that they in fact, really did define male and female in terms of we are what is or is not between our legs. Very scary.



37:20

Yeah. And by extension, what's even scarier is what is between our legs is going to dictate how we think. I mean, you know, women have been saying this for for ever, that biology is not destiny. Right? Keep your laws off my body. And we're just saying the same thing we're taking the inevitable new step in feminism is we're saying no, biology is not only destiny, not only not destiny, it is totally irrelevant. What is between our legs does not dictate how we're going to behave in life does not dictate our math skills does not dictate our verbal skills. That's a whole other set of genes.



Sarah Dipalma 38:07

I want to go back to your book, which by the way, folks, is called Gender outlaw. And yet, it's actually called the Blue Book. Now with my background, I was really interested in this. And you said in the book, and then I found out gender can have liquidity, which is quite different from ambiguity. I love the the concept of gender fluidity. Tell us tell the listeners a little bit about what you mean by that.



38:31

Okay, well, I need to backtrack a little bit and go over what gender ambiguity is. And just recap what we've been talking about. What I would say gender gender ambiguity is, is you don't have

to be you know, Sylvester Stallone, or Madonna. You can be something outside of that you can be a female you can be a drag queen, you can be a butch dyke. These are all genders. You can be a top butch dyke, bottom, butch dyke, you can be you know, these are all different genders. Gender is simply a word that means classification. That's what the word means. That's all it means. The way to classify people and people like to insist that there are only two classes male and female. Well, what else in nature is two and only two and bipolar opposites at that? Nothing. Okay, but we insist that gender is two and only two. Okay, fine. I say that gender is more ambiguous than that. There's a lot more ways to express identity than some some biblical drama, you're in the Bible. But some mandate some cultural mandate that says you can only be two so I say gender is ambiguous. More than that. I think that gender expression, how we express ourselves in a gendered way. And hearing your story, Sara just confirms this. We grow don't we? We change. When I meet somebody I am absolutely fascinated about How they're presenting themselves. And I find myself shifting in order to accommodate their presence. And so my gender is if, you know, I identify mostly as if I'm bottom, but if I meet, you know, some amazing femme bottom up the top of me is going to come out you know, and so like a kind of shift, it's a dance isn't that and I think that this fluidity is something that allows us to, to express ourselves more fully in the moment of God and setting so New Age. But, but it's just that freedom to be what you are when you are it. And not to say, Okay, well now okay, we got it. You're a transsexual or lesbian. Well, maybe I'm not. I don't know this one I'm being today, I don't know when I'm gonna be tomorrow.

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Sarah Dipalma 40:52

The freedom to be what you are, when you are at. Now, there's an unusual concept. And we've been joined by a guest guide and give your name. Okay, my name's

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41:03

Beth, and I'm friend of Sarah's for a while and had the lucky fortunate consequence to meet meet Kate Bornstein a couple years ago, and, and really have enjoyed what she's had to say throughout the time, we've had our discussions and it's been, it's been a good time.

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Sarah Dipalma 41:17

The whole concept of gender fluidity is, is to me. Very interesting and in fascinating, because Kate is one that she's very much like, like Martine Rothblatt, in that she thinks that everybody has essentially their own gender. Yeah. Oh, yeah. There are, I don't know how many billion people there are. But that's how many genders there are.

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41:36

Oh, definitely. I mean, this whole process for me has been for me to find my place my place in gender, wherever that might be. And you know, I don't think of gender is aligned with male on one side and female and other it's more like a surface where there's a Okay, male up in this

corner and female in that corner. But then there's this whole rest of the universe out there around it. I mean, why have just black and white when you can have purple and green and red and yellow and everything else, too.

S

Sarah Dipalma 41:58

I think most people grow up in they take for granted that there's male, and female. And that's it. One of the things that we've talked about on this show a great a lot is the idea of a continuum of, of genders, that the gender is not some fixed thing. And that's what Kate says, Well, yeah, I might be transsexual lesbian today, but I might be something else tomorrow. Yeah, you know, the gender is not some some, something that's fixed. And there have been different themes that we've presented on the show. And unlike they'll talk about, so I want to talk about some of those for a minute. One of the things that we've tried to do on the show is we've tried to define the differences between a transsexual, a transgender wrist, and a transvestite or a crossdresser. And you'll hear different cuts that will present and will will try to explain those differences. It's something I get asked a lot. Well, what's the difference between and it's something that we've attempted very hard to do on the show. Another thing, of course, we've talked about is transgender inclusion. So we've done a lot we've talked about a lot of politics. Another thing that has found that people found very confusing is the difference between sexual orientation and gender identity.

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43:14

Everything you said it's been like, different different dimensions. It's all part of the same hole, but they're not exactly related. But they sure play into each other.

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Sarah Dipalma 43:24

They sure do. Yeah, they sure do. Another theme on our show has been we are not our genitals, darn too. And we there will be many cuts in we've talked about a great deal on the show. We are not our genitals and the last theme I think we've seen in the show has been that of personal courage, what it has taken to face issues. Now Kate Bornstein is real interesting case, because Kate, Kate, at one point was involved in the Church of Scientology very highly as a matter of fact, was actually I believe she worked on the yacht for the Church of Scientology if I'm not mistaken. I believe

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44:01

the title was first mate

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Sarah Dipalma 44:05

has fathered a child became very active in the theater now considers herself a transsexual, lesbian. And Kate is a fascinating woman she when we did is do a an interview here in studio, big woman

