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SPEAKERS

Jimmy Carper, Vanessa Edwards



Jimmy Carper 00:23

Oh yes, you've tuned into after hours queer radio with attitude right here on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of after hours is ready to bring you news interviews, dialogue and music geared for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people and their friends. Hear it after hours, we may be diverse, but we have one thing in common. We are all out of the closet and urge everyone to come out of their closets. That means standing up for yourself taking responsibility for your own life and being proud of who you are. Realistically, we know not everyone can do that because of age job or frame of mind. That's okay, we're here for you too. So sit back, relax, and enjoy this week's edition of after hours. Hello, Houston and college station and Huntsville, and welcome to after hours queer radio with attitude on Jimmy Carper. And I've got a we've got a whole big bunch of show tonight. And we also want to remind you that it's membership drive



02:09

membership fun drive once again. And Jim, it's great to be back here on after hours usually on the weekend. I'm down on San Luis paths Beach, drinking coffee and bourbon and listening to y'all instead of being here. Well, elke,




Jimmy Carper 02:24


I am really glad to have you here to help.





02:29


And yeah, I've been pitching every night. Yeah. It's been. It's been a blast. I've really enjoyed it. And like we just we've been saying all along it is our last membership drive of the year 2000. It's now time to pledge your support for queer radio with attitude not only as a radio, it's queer radio with it added to 71352657387135 to six KPFT out what's the goal for this?


 Jimmy Carper 03:02
No rd me


 03:03
either.

 Jimmy Carper 03:04
I just want to get as much money as we can. We

 03:06
want as much D natto. As we can get jump on board. It's a \$120 level. Get yourself to really nice pretty KPFT T shirts as your nice reward for helping us out here at the radio station. It's very important that you pledge but because as you know, we do not play commercials haha. And not only do we not play commercials, we bring you queer radio with an attitude, mind you. So it's time to do your part gang and jump in and help us out. We have five open phone lines in pled Central and volunteers are eagerly sitting by waiting patiently to take your pledge. The number again is 713-526-5738 What's the lights just went down?

 Jimmy Carper 04:01
We didn't pay the bill.

 04:02
We didn't pay the bill. See what happens. Yeah, we don't pay the bills. You get the hand. Big hand. Rick Tom. ledge 7135 to six KPFT. Okay, there's another part machine doesn't rake you? Yeah.

 Jimmy Carper 04:19
So I mean, yeah, we've got things to do here. And I want to tell you about the music that you heard in the beginning of the show. The first piece that you heard that kind of experimental sounding music was by a group named frustrated housewives. And it was called say goodbye. The second one with that wonderful female voice. That was Christy Claxton off of her CD called Out of nowhere, and that was a song called possibility. Now Christie has been playing around Houston. She's a she's a Texas woman. And she's also going to be at the Houston women's festival October 28. At 245 on the art stage and then later that night at the official lavender lavender lounge event at the River Cafe on Montrose. So you can hear her live. At the end of this month. I'll be playing her every week. I think until then. Now I do have one thing before we

get into our scheduled or CO hosts, actually. Vanessa is kind of standing there stepping her foot and I sorry, I heard my name tapping her foot and Okay, when is he gonna? Anyway, one little piece of information that just came in on the on hand net this evening. Is that Debbie hunt for mourn hunt. Had to go back into the hospital for surgery again with cancer. She will be undergoing a radiation very shortly. She thinks she'll be out by Monday, but that probably is premature. You never know with radiation. And Anita says she is at Herman Memorial Hospital. The Jones wing number 663. send messages of speedy recovery. That's from Anita and can Kevin Kevin Kevin Davidson. So that's Anita.



06:23

Need a printer? Yeah, yeah, right.



Jimmy Carper 06:25

That's right. Read to the Kevin Davidson, who I saw last night at the hatch awards dinner. Do you want to sit here? Is that is that there? No, no,



06:36

I'm sorry. Okay.



Jimmy Carper 06:39

The hatch awards dinner last night. And okay. It's time It's time to get transgenders on here. Like we haven't already. But I mean. Yes. Do you want me to speak? Yes, I do.



Vanessa Edwards 06:57

This is a prompt. For Yes, I'm actually Hello. My name is Vanessa. I don't know if I actually officially introduce myself. No.



Jimmy Carper 07:09

This is the transgender sipping rum is that's okay. That's okay.



07:15

I'm always Little Miss. You are just



Jimmy Carper 07:23

I didn't even know you were on the board of directors of the Montrose Counseling Center and surprise, surprise, yeah, we're everywhere and you're involved. Aren't you involved with HG LPC

V

Vanessa Edwards 07:32

with HD LPC Counseling Center, PFLAG, just, you know, a bunch of different what type of things? Are you actually doing anything with transgender groups? Oh, oops. Well, actually no that much anymore. I finally resigned that the President Well, I shouldn't say resign, I guess you know, I did not run for reelection. Okay. For presidency this year at hats. So

J

Jimmy Carper 07:55

there are many actually

⦿

07:57

many other Hey, I shouldn't have said that.

J

Jimmy Carper 07:58

No, no, no. There are many other hands that can step up to the plate. Well, yes, this is

V

Vanessa Edwards 08:02

true. I realized you're broadcasting this now. These people are sitting out there going, Oh, my God. She's got some spare time. Let's fill it.

J

Jimmy Carper 08:10

Now she's already done that. Yes, it is. Well,

V

Vanessa Edwards 08:13

very, very amply filled. Thank you very much. In fact, the Counseling Center and the Comcast in in tech all got to it before I even stepped down. So okay, so

J

Jimmy Carper 08:22

maybe you've read the newspapers. This is Vanessa Edwards Foster.

V Vanessa Edwards 08:26
He Yes. And why have I read the newspaper? No, for folks, for folks out there.

J Jimmy Carper 08:32
So they recognize who you are. Oh, you're you know, you're everywhere.

V Vanessa Edwards 08:35
I'm doing well. Yeah, but I'm not in the newspapers. Oh, well. And yes, I do read newspapers occasionally. That helps add to my education.

J Jimmy Carper 08:46
Yeah, that'll work. I'm

V Vanessa Edwards 08:48
just kind of briefly what are we doing tonight? Our subject tonight? Is homelessness among the transgendered. Wow, that

J Jimmy Carper 08:56
is a big, big, big subject because it's so easy for trans transgendered folks to become homeless because life is not easy out there.

V Vanessa Edwards 09:09
Right? I mean, life is it's not easy for anyone. Yeah. The fact is, once you're transgendered, I kind of tend to use the phrase queer. So the queer once you're out there, especially if you're full time, yeah, there is no real closets to hide, and you try to get a job. Yes. And unfortunately, society can be very unforgiving. Especially when it comes to the job situation. And people don't, I guess, maybe stop and realize how much of our lives revolve around employment. And the economics involved. Obviously, without a job, anyone is homeless.

J Jimmy Carper 09:45
And I think that's why it is so so terrible. That transgenders are not included in ENDA. I don't care if it passes or not. I mean, it's very important that transgender people are included in there.

V

Vanessa Edwards 10:00

Right. And I wholeheartedly agree with you trust me. This is, in fact, actually, it was something that we just got to doing a little awareness campaign. Just a few weeks back. Elizabeth Burch had come to town. And yes, we oh, well, actually, it was fun. It was a nice little photo op. But But more than anything, it was a chance for us to do a little bit of awareness and out some leaflets to a lot of the folks in the community. We've got actually a lot of friends in HRC locally. So it's not like it's an antagonistic type situation. That's

J

Jimmy Carper 10:40

right. That's right. It's, it's, it's kind of a delicate thing, because you want to get the attention. And you don't want to seem like you're pushy, act dumb. Exactly.

V

Vanessa Edwards 10:48

Again, we're not here to drive wedges, it's basically just to let people know what's going on. And the main issue, of course, is employment. Yeah, and the lack thereof for the transgender community, especially in fact, I just recently, I was sitting in one of our tax meetings, and I haven't look around the room, we had 16 people attending the meeting. And I noticed that four of the individuals were unemployed, they have no jobs. In essence, we've got roughly still, to this day about at least close to 20, or between 20 and 25% unemployment just within the task group. And these are just the individuals that are actually making it to the support group. We don't know how many of them that are out there that have fallen through the cracks that don't have the wherewithal or the opportunities to attend support group meetings, and are basically just kind of out doing their own thing. However they can out on the streets. And it's very unfortunate, in fact, unemployment is the one thing that is been a critical, and in fact, a very nagging concern with the transgender community. And, of course, for a lot of the kids that are homeless family is also one of the contributing factors, especially for the youth that feel like look, this is what I'm going to do, they're honest with their parents, they're open about who they are, and the parents just have an inability to deal with it. So that coupled with the fact that you have, especially in the case of kids that are still high school aged individuals, that really don't have the skills to to get the jobs out there. And also, on top of that becoming transgendered, you have to have the money to get that other name and gender changes, just the very basics, in order to be able to go out and secure the jobs in the first place. So there's really a lot of contributing factors, that money helps. But unfortunately, when you're out there, and they're there's no chance for the money except a bomb, I guess, you know, catches catch can type method. And of course, it there's a bit of besides the economic distress, it becomes a bit of a downward spiral. There's a cycle involved, that kind of feeds upon itself. And a lot of the girls that I had noticed from when I first moved up here to Houston, they were out on the street, and, and we're doing you know, what they needed on a day to day fashion, in order to survive. There's, there's almost a creeping, I don't want to say depression, but just an esteem issue that's involved in it. And because of this, a lot of them tend to self medicate in one fashion or another via alcohol, the drugs or whatever. But there's a need to kind of numb oneself from I guess, the, the, the horrors, almost of day to day life, they really have to deal with a lot of I mean, just very, very hardcore type individuals out there. And not only just the individuals that are dealing with them as far as the people that they meet out on the street, but sometimes law enforcement as well. You will get some law enforcement that basically is just

you know, the law and order types, but you will also get the occasional individual that a renegade, if you will, and they can also victimize as well. And for a lot of the kids that are out there, they really don't understand, I guess, especially getting into it a lot of the the other incidentals that are involved, for instance, having to deal with law enforcement having to try and I guess get beyond that in some fashion or another or try and circumvent that in order to make some kind of a living. And the thing is that a lot of these kids are also very intelligent individuals, they have talents, that the fact is that no one will ever know this because of the fact that they're marginalized and unfortunately They, they, they stay out there because of their situation because of the contributing factors. And unless somebody actually takes an interest and take some kind of action, there's not too much that we can really do. There's a lot of very, unfortunately lost lives and lost souls out there that really never had the chance to begin with. And of course, the homelessness is probably the biggest factor in it, because this puts them out there constantly. And it also puts them at a much greater risk for hate crimes as well. Yes. And of course, hate violence is, you know, something that's not peculiar to the transgender community. But it seems that disproportionately, you will see a lot of trans people that are victims of this because the, you know, they're, they're obvious to a lot of folks. And unfortunately, there's the perception from a lot of the bashers from the suburbs, that this is an easy target. And usually they're not going to go out and search for someone that they think it's going to put up much of a fight, right? They will automatically

J Jimmy Carper 16:07

go out there. Yeah, they're, they're bullies, and exactly, and cowards.

V Vanessa Edwards 16:11

And if they can find someone that I guess shows some kind of outward, I guess, a femininity or a feminization, I should say, the thing is that that spells to them, someone that isn't easy target that may or may not be true. But that's how they more or less come about choosing their victims. And unfortunately, there's not too much that even law enforcement can do to stop these random type acts. You can do it I guess, if there is a serial type situation, but for the kids from out of town that come in on weekends, there's not too much to do. That's true. It's just a catches catch can type of thing. Julia Kara's olus, just recently was one of those. I'm

J Jimmy Carper 16:57

Thomas, a while back was talking about how she went out on the street and talk to street workers and said, you know, if, if there was a place where you could get a job, and give this up with you? And she said, Everyone said, Yeah, I mean, you know, it's not a choice. It's not, it's not that preference to be to be out on the street. It's the necessity of it. Right?

V Vanessa Edwards 17:23

Exactly. In fact, it's very rare that you'll ever find anyone that I guess likes anything about the street or likes, you know, that particular I guess style of life, if given the chance, they would all I mean to a person prefer having legitimate jobs, legitimate lives, and to be able to go about life

is any other normal individual event, gender, it's just it's unfortunate. There's just a lot of misconceptions and a lot of misunderstood individuals that are out there, because the the information is lacking in some of the people that even get the information, just want to ignore it for for moral reasons, or for political reasons. So I really don't know exactly what the answers are to this. But all I know is that there is a lot of work that needs to be addressed on this, especially when it comes to shelters.

 Jimmy Carper 18:21

That has come up very recently put a spotlight on that problem.

 Vanessa Edwards 18:26

Exactly. And in fact, one of the individuals that well, the individual that was involved in that is here with us tonight in the studio, was getting ready to say studio audience. Just a brief introduction. We've got three guests with us to do. The first one is Melanie black, the Vice President of the Texas Association for transsexual support. We've also got Kristen Williams, who is the I guess, President is that the correct

 18:59

title of chair President whatever.

 19:03

chief cook and bottle washer,

 Jimmy Carper 19:05

she she is no stranger to these airway, exactly.

 Vanessa Edwards 19:11

of cat community awareness for transgender support. And also I'm going to let her introduce herself with our special guest of honor. Do the honors, please.

 Jimmy Carper 19:25

Hi. I'm Chanel diva data. The youth from covenant sells, Houston. Welcome to after hours. Thank you for having me.



V Vanessa Edwards 19:37

I'd like to thank you for coming on the show tonight. I wanted to get a little background if I can about roughly how you came to the situation. I understand I guess that in your situation. It was kind of one of the typical ones. Because of your, your age. A lot of this kind of derived from family problems. This is Correct. Yeah,

J Jimmy Carper 20:01

pretty much. What happened? I wasn't CPS children protect us, Cassidy. And like a month before my 18th birthday, I run away. So CPS has had let me go. So they don't have to pay no money or whatever. Because when you're 18, they give you a lump of money. But since I left that didn't care. And I stayed with my mom for about three weeks. And then I decided to take her on a talk show in New York, which I'm not gonna say, Okay. I told her what I was because I came out on stage as a transsexual. On the show, she is on TV, national TV. Wow. And she on the show, she had people feel sorry for her because she was crying going weak, and you have any job because I was telling her that I want to do similar kind of work of a field because I wasn't finding work because Ts, and she was Whoa, financial, please don't do this to yourself. And I'm on my 18th birthday, I woke up. And when I walked in the front room, she pointed at the door and told me to get out and don't look back. Whoa, yeah. So I went to canals, Houston. And they told me at the when there, I had to live my life as Jeff, which was my birth name. And I was like, well, I need the money bad. So I'll do it. And I got a job. And I was working for the rodeo as a female. But when I was at Covenant House on property, I was a boy. I was like, I can't handle this. And one of the best ones where I can be who I want to be. And somebody at Covenant House told me about the other canals because I didn't know they have more coming houses. And I looked into that, and I like, Well, I'm gonna go to some other ones. And check that out. sigh which the one in New York and they had support groups for us hormone therapies, all that good stuff. Salsa, or rarely? And they say, yeah, all come in houses like this. Oh, like, no, they're not. And they say, yeah, so I do a little traveling around, I went to like three other ones. And then I was at the one in LA. They told me that they had an investigation on the one in Texas, and they didn't find any of the allegations. I told them that they weren't allowing me to be Chanel here. They said that that was just a rumor that they heard that I was making up or whatever. So I said, All right, I guess they fix it or whatever. So I came back down here. And when I first got back into the program, I'm Rhonda Robinson, the main director there, whatever, told me that I couldn't wear my hair, my wigs, my female clothing. And they told me like three days after I got in, I had to have a physical. I told him, I wasn't at the border physical there. So they told me go talk to the nurses at the clinic, Coven house. So I went into the nurses why I didn't feel comfortable with them, because they told me if my breasts weren't real, that I could else take them out. And just as a boy, I was I couldn't be discharged. So I tell the nurse that I really didn't feel uncomfortable. And I like to do at the Montrose free clinic. So she gave me the physical forms until my physician, fill them out and then bring it back to him. I said fine, but um, the other employees, canals did not, I guess, approve of that. And they told me, it was too late for my physical and all that stuff. So had to be discharged. So they kicked you out? Yeah, they kicked me out. Without no place to go. Yeah, they told me I, they can't give me any kind of services within 24 hours, which is bull. Yes. And I thought it was their policy not to kick anyone out without a place for them to go. That's right, where they give you referrals and try to help you get another place. But they didn't do anything for me. They had my bags, and I was at the door. So it's like a repeat of your mom. Sounds like a repeat of your mom. Yes. Pretty much.



23:56

What ended up happening? What happened



Jimmy Carper 23:57

after that? I got in contact with Brenda Thomas. And Christina Williams. Kristen, Kristen, while my sister helped me out. And I'm short to me, today found another person that took me in and is still taking me at this moment. And how was that working out? is very good. She's a very nice, heterosexual female. She's very happy to have me there. That that's something that I want to bring up. And I remember the call going out all over Hamnet saying hey, you know, we've got this this transgendered woman who needs a place to stay. And the one person who said yes, turned out to be a heterosexual woman. Now what does that say about us? That's right. Now I know that many, many People have restrictions. I know I do. I can't I live in a one bedroom apartment and only one person can live in the apartment. But like, like you, Kristen that someone could stay for a couple of days. But no more than that. But you know, no one else. Now I know that heterosexual woman, and she's wonderful. And I've seen the two of you together, you're like, sisters, it's incredible. I think you're both learning a lot about life. So I'm glad that's that's really working out. But I'm just appalled at that our own community.



Vanessa Edwards 25:37

One of the things I'm kind of, I guess, very concerned about is the fact that really, even in this day and age, we still have no actual facilities. No, we don't take any train standard. That's



Jimmy Carper 25:50

it? Yes. I mean, it's, it's kind of queer. Why? Because there are very few places that will take domestic violence abuse between same sex couples. There's, there's Yes, as as body well knows, he was in that situation. There's very few that will take openly gay men, or openly Well, I don't know about lesbian women, I think they have a little bit better. But certainly the transgender situation is appalling.



Vanessa Edwards 26:28

The one thing I guess that really distinguish distinguishes us from especially individuals that are gay or lesbian, that are homeless, is the fact that we really don't fit into the neat gender categories, right? They can't place us with the females, because to them were still male, that then if they place this with the male population, then that's a disruptive factor as well. And they're actually putting the individual at a great risk of harm as well. In fact, some of the particular shelters up in the New York area, I have heard situations where they placed homeless transsexuals in with the male population. And they were subsequently assaulted in homeless shelters. And yet this was their situation they deemed it. There wasn't anything that they needed to rectify or to fix per se.

 Jimmy Carper 27:29

Chanel, let me ask you this. When you were in New York and Los Angeles, were you with women or men or alone? Or what? When the one in New York, I wasn't an intake, so it's with the males, but the one LA, they had like their own hallway for the transgender and homosexual people. And we had our own bathroom. unisex bathroom. Oh, cool. Oh, yeah. I've always been a proponent of unisex bathrooms. I mean, you know, just make one big room but all stalls in what? What's the difference here? Everybody

 Vanessa Edwards 28:05

was raised in a house with a unisex bath. That's right. They didn't complain about.

 Jimmy Carper 28:11

So. So there wasn't a place in well, here, they wouldn't even allow it. I'm trying to figure in my mind, what would be disruptive about being with females. Because they're not the ones who had a problem with it. They also had a potential, a form of state and that they didn't have a problem with what I was, and even the males most of the mail signed into, but that wasn't good enough for employees there.

 28:41

Whenever I spoke to them, they said that, Kristen, you were involved with this quite a bit, weren't you? Yeah, yeah. Right after the protest for HR saying, Brenda drove by Covenant House and she was sitting out there on the corner. What what I was told was that they that Chanel's appearance was causing a disturbance at all. And she said, And do you know he actually wanted to wear a dress. And then right after that asked me if her breasts were real, and it was right after that, I asked them what their policy was concerning intersex individuals. And then I asked them about their policy concerning no matter what the infringement whenever they decide to eject someone from their program, that they must make some attempt to try to find some, some other place for this person to go other than the straight because that's how people wind up being prostitutes. And they made absolutely no attempt nothing. and like, you know, as I said before I spent hours and hours, Melanie sat there with me at the Lesbian Gay center trying to find some place Clarence Bagby tried. Tried. Right after we picked her up. I

 Jimmy Carper 30:17

remember you telling me you made incredible amounts of phone calls to different people, different different organizations looking for help.

 30:26

Yeah. Well see, the problem is I don't think that it wasn't all of them were just by us. There were an awful lot of them that were set up for AIDS or for battered women or for individuals

were an awful lot of them that were set up for AIDS, or for battered women, or for individuals who have drug and alcohol problems. So, you know, had she been beaten had she had had been HIV positive or had a really bad drug problem or an alcoholic you could get rid of fun founder some place. Maybe it's like she's a vegetarian is. Yeah, so, you know, that night, we sat down at Starbucks and I was talking to Jackie Thorne. It was it was great. Vanessa was there I believe, Jackie Thorne, Sarah de Palma. Phyllis Frye. And and I was asking them, Well, do you have any advice, any suggestions, any experience? And they said, Nope. We've been messing with this stuff for years and years and years and have made absolutely no headway at all. So and that's basically where it stands right now. Covenant House did give me a couple of dates, that that they would like us to come in and educate their staff about transgendered issues. Yeah, thank you. Now I can see. I called them to confirm, but they haven't called me back yet. And so that's still up in the air. I believe that Chanel has some IDs. And you know, she, she wants to get to work. She needs her IDs and things like that doesn't have them Covenant House has been giving her the runaround. First they didn't know where it is. And then they lost it. And then it was on the directors table and, and she still hasn't gotten it. Whenever she went to go get it the guy was out. So it's, it's just, that's just excuse me ridiculous.

 Jimmy Carper 32:38

That is inexcusable, for actually no reason why they should have it in the first place.

 Vanessa Edwards 32:43

They shouldn't even have possession of it. No, there's no Riquet. ID. Let's get rid

 Jimmy Carper 32:49

of the person. What's wrong here? Brilliant. No.

 32:54

Snails just making faces? Like what? I don't know.

 Jimmy Carper 32:58

I know, I don't expect an answer. It's just no fun at all.

 Vanessa Edwards 33:05

They really should not have taken, I guess, possession of the identification to begin with. And I don't know why they would have that.

 Jimmy Carper 33:15

Like who you are, I guess they think you might be lying to them.



33:18

But why would they keep it? Good question.



33:22

As I understand, to be legally to walk around legal. You're supposed to have identification with you all the time. Well,



Jimmy Carper 33:32

I don't know about that. Right here Hill may say no about that. Yeah. If an officer asked you for identification, and you're on the street, I don't believe you have to give it if you are driving a car. Yes, you do.



33:52

Oh, yeah, sure. Yeah.



Jimmy Carper 33:55

But he went to the Supreme Court on that one. Yeah.



33:59

Yes. US Supreme Court or Yes. They actually heard the case. Yeah. Someone got hurt.



34:09

Yeah, it was it wasn't the Supreme Court.



Vanessa Edwards 34:13

Actually, the bad the situation that you went through? is, Has this been, I guess brought up with any the local politicians and is there any kind of movement? I guess from from some of our elected officials,



34:20

 34:30

which we talked, we talked to Dapper Dan Berg's office, and they were wonderful. They really were They were wonderful. And Deborah Dan Berg's office talk to me for about 30 minutes. Just asking me Yeah, that's that's an incredible amount of time that they you know, whenever you think of how busy they are. She asked me about everything. She she took the time. Time to really get to know well does she have some place to say what's going on? She looked through her notes and found Phyllis price. You know, she really did try and what she committed to do was to contact Covenant House and and express her dissatisfaction with this service.

 Jimmy Carper 35:19

They are in the Montrose. It's not like they have ever seen a transgendered person.

 35:23


Well, yeah, it feels an elven. I would understand.

 Vanessa Edwards 35:27

Covenant House now Alvin.

 35:30

I think there's more transgenders and Alvin.

 Jimmy Carper 35:34

I'm beginning to think so.

 35:38

Yeah. We also contacted a nice Parker's office and and they were very, they were great. They were absolutely great. And she said that she would contact Covenant House on our behalf. Also Deborah Dannenberg said that she would give us an open letter to basically any shelter, we want to go to, to ask them to express this need that there's no place in Houston that we know of, that will take a transgendered person regardless of how much money they have. Like, like we were talking about there was, believe it or not, the YWCA would take her bet, required, I think upwards towards \$150 a week for that. And, and that's twice what I pay for rent. Yeah.

 Jimmy Carper 36:36

Wow. Bobby might add something to that.



36:39

I was just thinking that Isn't it interesting how, as far as people are concerned, and services are concerned, it's we will help you we will do everything we can to help you. As long as you look just like us. I had much that same problem when I was getting beaten up by my ex. Yeah, yeah, that's true. They'll help you adjust. But as long as you're straight white, and you know, ya know, like that variety will probably just what group of people would they would consider you just