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Thu, Dec 22, 2022 3:53PM 39:36

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

years, christmas, wives, people, home, gay, call, transgendered, parents, ess, matter, good, denise, listening, jimmy, transgender, queer, inaudible, gender, tri

SPEAKERS

Sarah DePalma, Francis, Jimmy Carper

S

Sarah DePalma 00:03

I, what I hear from wives is, you know, sooner or later the husband wants to do it somewhere other than in their own house. And the wife says, But you have a job. You go out we have things to worry about. And because eventually whether it's through the show or elsewhere, they hear about the Triassic sorority. Now, I know it's taking the chair criticism from here and there. But the fact of the matter is, or the wife of the crossdresser, to Tri-Ess sorority is really a very safe place to start. So I wanted to talk about that a little bit.

F

Francis 00:41

In practice, the Tri-Ess is, and it's in its local chapters, provide an atmosphere that is very heavy on security and the need of people to have their privacy. In many cases, they have meetings and private homes or in a secure hotel meeting room arrangement, where you're not out in a public setting where somebody might see you. One concern that wives have, of course, is if they go out with their husband and her husband is dressed up, nobody is going to recognize their husband, but they certainly are going to recognize the wife and put two and two together. But Tri-Ess for most a balance between the masculine feminine sides of the in the husband and the integration of the well with society labels, feminine character, attributes or tendencies into the overall personality, the daily day to day personality, which tends to have a kind of a mellowing effect on a typical macho guy. And a lot of the the publication's of Tri-Ess the articles in their publications, and a whole newsletter specifically for wives are part of the package. We really try very hard to deal directly with these issues of wives and partners of cross dressers culminating in a conference the only one of its kind in the in the gender community that deals specifically with wives issues and couples issues relationship issues. This is the conference called SPICE the Spouses and Partners International Conference for Education, which is held every summer in a different city around the country. And their wives can come and couples can come and have intensive seminars presented by professionals who are those who are most expert in our in the gender community issues. We deal with wives health and wellness issues with negotiation skills, boundary setting all these nuts and bolts tools to not just to bolster the woman's self esteem and health but her to help her better understand the mechanisms involved in cross dressing provide her and her husband who really

happened to attend they are presented as identical programs that the wives attend each professional presents a program for wives and then programs for husbands. So they all get the same message from professionals and then time is provided for interaction. And as it were mutual debriefing on what's what they each have learned. So it's a very dynamic process that really enhances relationships and feeling capable like a wife who can't have her husband or partners attend with her. There's a tremendous wealth of resources that there that she can appropriate for herself and carry back home with her.

S

Sarah DePalma 04:28

Now how would How would somebody get a hold of the Tri-Ess sorority, we just got a couple of minutes left. So let's give it an address or phone number some way for folks to contact because for the wives who contact us, I give this address over and over but at this great opportunity for you to do it.

F

Francis 04:46

Okay, the address is Tri-Ess 8880. That's three eighths and zero. Bellaire. B2 Suite 104 That's Houston 77036, the phone number you can call is 713-349-8969. And someone will respond to your call or do any written message you might send. And we'll get back to you and try to answer your questions or directly to whatever resources you are looking for.

S

Sarah DePalma 05:33

Francis, thank you very much. I really appreciate you doing the interview with-.

F

Francis 05:37

You're quite welcome. And I've enjoyed it very much. I hope that those listening will benefit and those who are looking for help with the relationship will get in touch with us.

S

Sarah DePalma 05:55

It is the Christmas season. And that's the Nylon.

J

Jimmy Carper 05:58

Yeah.

S

Sarah DePalma 05:59

The Carol of the bill. And I like those lyrics dooby doo doo doo beating all night, you know, those lyrics I could learn that's not bad.

J Jimmy Carper 06:09

I, for a long time, I didn't play the Nylons because I pride myself in playing openly queer artists. And the nylons have not been really openly gay. However, on their last album, they did a version of Jimmy Somerville, a small town boy. So I think that pretty much breaks the barrier there.

S Sarah DePalma 06:32

What didn't you say? The hit two members passed away from AIDS?

J Jimmy Carper 06:35

Yeah, at least one I think two members died of AIDS. So it's kind of hard to deny your sexuality.

S Sarah DePalma 06:42

And it's not too late at that point, like Freddie Mercury queen. The group is named Queen. We knew why he passed away at AIDS. And then his friends say, Well, you know, yeah, he was gay. But he knew what talk about and they didn't want to talk about it after he's dead is like it's a it's a hint. You can discuss it now on us.

J Jimmy Carper 07:01

And actually with Freddie he was more in the closet about his heritage than his sexuality. When found his heritage. He I forget what he he's like Indian or or? Yes, he wasn't. He wasn't. He was a British citizen. But he wasn't.

S Sarah DePalma 07:19

Well, I guess, I guess in Great Britain, that maybe that's a big deal. But to me, that sounds like Yeah, so I know, in this country, everybody's from somewhere.

J Jimmy Carper 07:27

We're all from somewhere else.

S Sarah DePalma 07:28

Yeah. You know, it's like, well, we also, I know maybe in Britain, it's different. Let's talk a little bit about surviving the holidays, there was a really good article in Outsmart about, Hi, Mom and

Dad, I'm gay.

J Jimmy Carper 07:44

Oh, yes.

S Sarah DePalma 07:45

And I thought that was extremely well written-.

J Jimmy Carper 07:46

It was.

S Sarah DePalma 07:48

And for transgendered people for we're gonna go home and, and deal with family and friends. It's similar, but not exactly the same. And I thought I maybe I could be so so bold, I will offer a little bit of advice, hard learned advice, about how to go home, and whether you even should come out. And let's start out with this. If you're going home with the intention of telling parents, are you financially dependent on your parents for anything?

J Jimmy Carper 08:22

Right.

S Sarah DePalma 08:22

If you are okay, shut up.

J Jimmy Carper 08:25

Yes.

S Sarah DePalma 08:26

Now, I know that sounds real funny coming from a transgendered activist. But what are you going to do for money? If mommy and daddy say, We love you, but we cut you off?

J Jimmy Carper 08:37

That's right. That's, that's why I'm always very, very reluctant to tell teenagers to come out of the closet. Yes. Because folks, you are dependent on your parents. And that may not be the best only you know, only you know how your parents feel about it.

S

Sarah DePalma 08:59

Do you mean I get I've had several phone calls in the last month from transgender kids. And one of the things that came up that frankly, has never crossed my mind. One of the kids said to me, this, this Christmas, I'm gonna get sweaters and a gun in a slap on the back and say, come on boy lets go learn how to hunt. And what I really want is a teddy. And to be able to be honest about myself, what do I do? This person was 15 I never thought about what it's like to transgendered kids at Christmas, when they know they're transgendered when they're fairly sure of it. And how hard it has to be on Christmas morning to be getting these boys the sweaters and boys socks you know if you're a male and female, when what you really wanted to skirt and posr or you know, for that matter if you're male to female, we'll be getting these dresses. When what you really want is a leather jacket.

J

Jimmy Carper 10:00

Exactly or getting guns when you want a doll?

S

Sarah DePalma 10:04

Yeah, exactly.

J

Jimmy Carper 10:06

Or vice versa.

S

Sarah DePalma 10:07

I hadn't honestly had never given any thought but it was brought up in this phone call it was I had quite a lengthy conversation with this person. And it's pretty tough. If you're a transgendered person out there listening to us tonight, you're a transgendered youth. And I know from your phone calls that you've been telling me that you are listening, I'd like to tell you that I have some easy answer to this, but I don't know. When I was at Dr. Cole's meeting in Galveston a few weeks ago, I brought up this exact issue. If you're a transgendered youth out there and you're facing the holidays, you're not forgotten. There is a host of legal issues, though, about what we can do for you. Not the least of which is we can't want your parents to come back and sue us. It's extremely hard to get treatment for transgender youth without the consent of the parent. And so there are all kinds of legal issues involved here. I wish I had some Institute, all I can tell you is we're trying, they are looking at it.

J Jimmy Carper 11:06

The other thing is, when you come out whatever closet you come out of, you have to be pretty secure in your own gender, or sexuality, or whatever it is-.

S Sarah DePalma 11:19

Be sure you're right.

J Jimmy Carper 11:21

That's right. Because the first thing that's going to happen is the parents or the friends or whoever you tell, you're gonna say, Are you sure? Maybe it's a phase.

S Sarah DePalma 11:28

It's a phase, you know, grow out of it? You'll nice girl, she'll fix you up easily.

J Jimmy Carper 11:34

And you know, and it's really hard to be adamant and say no, this is who I really am.

S Sarah DePalma 11:38

Hello, mom and dad pay attention.

Jimmy Carter 11:40

So you know, arm yourself with facts read up. There's, there's a host of library materials these days. And if you have access to the internet. Wow, you really have resources to go to.

S Sarah DePalma 11:56

If you are a transgendered person, do not go home in your new persona first. Please

J Jimmy Carter 12:02

No, no, don't.

S Sarah DePalma 12:03

I've had heard people who have done that. That's not smart. You don't want your your mother Do you have a heart attack on the tarmac of the airport. And I mean, this literally. I hope that you have done preparation work. I would hope that you have sent letters in advance, and perhaps sent pictures.

J Jimmy Carper 12:22

Pictures would be good.

S Sarah DePalma 12:23

Pictures are major. I would hope that there has been conversation in advance. And that when you go home, go home androgynous I'm not suggesting you are go home as your old gender. But don't show up in the new one right away you do. Give them a day or two to settle in with you as the person and then bring out your wardrobe.

J Jimmy Carper 12:43

Yeah, I mean thing, but this way, you had a long time to think about this and make the determination and find out who you are. They need just as much time to get used to the idea. It's it's coming. It's they're coming out of the closet, too. I mean-.

S Sarah DePalma 12:59

Frank Francis talked about that with the processors, they're often oftentimes what happens with a crossdresser is the cross dressers is okay, I told you get used to it. Well, that is now the cross dressers had years of mental preparation, the wife has had 22 seconds. Hello, hello. You know, I mean, what's wrong with this picture.

J Jimmy Carper 13:20

You know, and don't be surprised if if it's gonna be really uncomfortable. The first time it may take months to take may take years before it may-.

S Sarah DePalma 13:28

It may never happen.

J Jimmy Carper 13:30

It may never happen. And you have certainly enough of that.

S

Sarah DePalma 13:33

Yeah, that's an that's something that came up and Dr. Cole's and I would stress this too, if you're going to come out to your parents. You know, I've heard this go both ways. I've had people who've said, Well, my parents never understand. And after they told the parents parents were actually relieved because all these years I wondered what was wrong, what was bothering you know, I know. And that I've had people go home and say my parents would never understand. And sure enough, their parents didn't understand. Be prepared for the possibility that you could lose touch with your parents, and it may last years, it may be permanent. And think it through. I'm not suggesting that you ought to stay in the closet. I am suggesting that you be prepared for your cut, be prepared for the consequences and being adult about it.

J

Jimmy Carper 14:21

That's part of coming out being able to stand up for yourself and take responsibility for your own life.

S

Sarah DePalma 14:28

It is hard.

J

Jimmy Carper 14:29

It's very hard.

S

Sarah DePalma 14:30

It's very hard. When I when I told my- when I started my transition I had, I had always said I can deal with anything about my transition. The one thing I never want to lose, as I never want to lose my daughter. As it turns out, everyone in my family has adapted except my daughter. And I would say to you that that no matter how well prepared do you think you are there going to be some surprises. Dr. Cole's and Dr. Phil made suggestions that I thought was very good. He's going to go home and you're not sure the reaction you're gonna get make a hotel reservation.

J

Jimmy Carper 15:12

Oh, good idea.

S

Sarah DePalma 15:14

And so if things are going horribly, you have somewhere to go, you have an escape valve somewhere that you can go, you can get out of the house, if it turns really ugly that you don't have to be part of that. Get yourself a rental car. You know, I mean, plan for the worst hope, hopefully the best plan for the rest of the world.

J Jimmy Carper 15:34

Yeah.

S Sarah DePalma 15:36

One of the things-.

J Jimmy Carper 15:37

But but I mean, we keep emphasizing emphasizing the bad aspects, the good aspects of it is that you're free.

S Sarah DePalma 15:48

It is so liberating. Oh my God, it is so liberating to me. I hear people and I have transgender friends who are going home, and they've got their lies all rehearsed. They know just what they're going to say to the parents, we're never going to know. It's like, what kind of a life is this. And especially for a person that's transsexual, a year from now the hormones are going to give you a way, sweetie. Especially if you're going from female to male, you're going to take your own facial hair and fast. So what do you think you're going to tell him a year from now? Well, thank you, I mean, just makes it worse. All right, ya know, so I mean, think about what you're doing, you're playing, you know, you're playing with emotions. Now, I'm not gonna sit here sit here and say to you, that I have all the answers my grandmother's at and she has no clue about me. And she will probably die without ever hear a clue about me. She has had a very difficult personal life, she's lost her husband, she has lost two kids, two suicides. Hell will freeze before I'm going to put one more thing on this woman's back. It's, it's it's not that I'm an all ashamed of it, it's a matter of being using some judicious sense. So it's not necessary for you to go home and, and tell it to everybody all at once. Do try to use your head. But I'll say this too. When you when you come out. It is so liberating. You don't ever have to make up another lie. You don't have to tell your family that yes, you've had a 22 year rule. He's been your roommate for 22 years, and he's just a roommate.

J Jimmy Carper 17:22

You can be you.

S Sarah DePalma 17:24

Yeah.

J Jimmy Carper 17:24

 Jimmy Carper 17:24

And that's, you know, if you can't be you in front of the people you love, then your whole life is a lie.

 Sarah DePalma 17:32

It really is. One of the things that I most enjoy about being so out in public, is I don't have anything fear. No one could ever blackmail me. That's what the hell could they ever say that the whole world doesn't know. You know, what are you going to do? Call up my boss and say, did you know you have a transsexual work before and the boss says, yes, we've known that. Thank you. And thank you for telling us. I mean, you know, it's something I've never understood about the policy and the military, because they're always you know, they're afraid of gays and lesbians a security risk. Let them come out of the closet, there is no security at risk. Right. What are they gonna do come to you and say, Colonel, did you know the chair that this the second lieutenants gay, he goes oh yeah.

 Jimmy Carper 18:14

[INAUDIBLE]

 Sarah DePalma 18:16

You can't blackmail? What's common knowledge folks? In that there's a huge relief in that. One of the other things I wanted to talk about is let's Christmas can be wonderful. But it is so romanticized.

 Jimmy Carper 18:32

And never lived up to your expectations.

 Sarah DePalma 18:35

Norman Rockwell was a painter, not a sociologist. Okay. No one I don't know anybody who's ever had a Norman Rockwell Christmas. It may have happened in the 1800s. But I wouldn't. I don't think so.

 Jimmy Carper 18:49

No, no, no. No, it never lives up to your expectations. And not even us. You know, even me, I always have much higher expectations than than ever occurs.

 Sarah DePalma 19:02

... and the whole world doesn't know. You know, what are you going to do? Call up my boss and say,

Yeah. It so first of all, let's get a grip on what Christmas is and what it isn't. Christmas is wonderful for retailers. For many people is a wonderful religious holiday.

J Jimmy Carper 19:15

Yes.

S Sarah DePalma 19:16

Having said that, it's a day off from work. And the truth of the matter is that the expectations that are set are are I think the most part unreachable. So go kind on yourself. If you go home and you have a Christmas and it's not a Norman Rockwell Christmas, join 90% of the country with that-

J Jimmy Carper 19:38

There you go.

S Sarah DePalma 19:39

You know, yes. Okay, so now you're going to go home and you're going and you're going to tell and maybe this is going to be a real rough Christmas. I'll bet if you actually talk to your co workers a lot of them had rough Christmas Christmases and maybe for real different reasons. You know, the old family resentments tend to boil up at Christmas. Yes, you know, they really do. So One of the best pieces of advice I can give you is if you're gonna go home, be kind to yourself.

J Jimmy Carper 20:05

Good idea.

S Sarah DePalma 20:06

Be kind to yourself. Yeah, this is tough. Hopefully you've spent time preparing for it. Hopefully you have built a support network around you and you're not doing this in a vacuum. And if it turns out to be a rotten Christmas, there are other Christmases and they do better. I mean, I went through this with my own family. My first Christmas after telling my parents was not fun. To put it mildly, it was not fun. I spent Christmas alone in a dingy little apartment over in the Heights, thinking, what the hell have I done? And it does get better. My hope was my daughter is that that was something that Phyllis Frye told me with the happening with her own son, that her son didn't speak to her for 16 years. And one day, call her up and said, Phyllis, we're having a baby, we'd like you to be the godparent.

J Jimmy Carper 20:59

Wow.

S Sarah DePalma 21:01

So I mean, it can happen, but you just don't ever give up the hope. But one of the things that Jimmy pointed out in ethics, right, is we start at the opening of the show, we say to people, you know, accepting responsibility for your own life.

J Jimmy Carper 21:16

Yeah.

S Sarah DePalma 21:17

Do that. In going if you're gonna be going to come out for Christmas, go in with your eyes open and be prepared. And be patient with your loved ones. You've had all your life to prepare, they're gonna see you with a whole new set of eyes, and you have to give them time for that. Yes, I have a good friend who's going home to Indiana, Illinois, one of those northern states, where it snows. It starts with an I know, it's whatever, one of those and she's gone home now for three years as in her new and is I mean, she lives and works as a female. So I mean, so she's her family should be used to but now, in every year, she goes, she has one brother who refuses to call her by her given name, her new her new name and refuses to acknowledge that this is a woman sitting in front.

J Jimmy Carper 22:08

Oh, boy.

S Sarah DePalma 22:10

And her whole attitude has been to treat this person like, boy, are you ignorant. And the rest of the family has picked up on it. And apparently there's even been some discussion with this person to say, you know, why don't you just knock it off? You know, nobody wants to hear this. What I mean, that's after three years, so be prepared for the fact that it could be a long haul.

J Jimmy Carper 22:29

Yeah.

S Sarah DePalma 22:30

—

But having said that doesn't mean you shouldn't do it. Just Just be prepared for what you're getting into. That's all. So anyway, I just thought it would bring that up. It is Christmas. I like Christmas. But it's Norman Rockwell it ain't-.

 Jimmy Carper 22:43

Boy, no kidding.

 Sarah DePalma 22:45

Why don;t we when we talked about that article in the Advocate. We went, it was, yeah, where's it? We just had it here? No, certainly no. Okay. Would you tell people that was-.

 Jimmy Carper 22:56

It was a terrific article, we touched on it early in the show. It's the last word in the in the December 10 issue of the advocate. It's the last page and it's by a gay writer Gabriel Gabriel Fertelo Hello. And the name of the article is Transgendered Like Me.

 Sarah DePalma 23:20

Yeah, there's one. For those of you who've been re listeners to this show-.

 Jimmy Carper 23:24

I want to I really, if we have time, I'd like to read the whole thing. Well, I was just thinking of ones. Okay, go over one section vocal. I'll read it next week.

 Sarah DePalma 23:32

Those of you who are realistic listeners to the show have heard me talk a lot about the gender continuum. And I've talked about how gender is not a fixed thing. Contrary to what you know, if you listen to most people to bipolar society, you're either male or female period. And because you were born with a certain biology, and because your be out your biology was one thing or another, there are a whole set of behaviors that come along with that. And I made a statement on the show, I guess few shows back that gay and lesbian people are transgendered? Yes. Well, boy, did I hear about that. But I mean, gays and lesbians got up in arms and I heard about how dare you Who do you think you are gang gang? Yeah. Well, guess what this guys are reading here from the Advocate. And I'm just gonna read you this little part. He says homophobes don't merely hate us because of how we make love. They hate how we make love because it violates our expected gender roles.

 Jimmy Carper 24:32

 Jimmy Carper 24:52

Yeah.

 S

Sarah DePalma 24:33

Oh, really. We are hated for gender transgression, when I was 10, and it was taunted for throwing a ball like a girl. I don't think the schoolyard bullies suspected me actually sleeping with men. They bashed me for not being boy enough. Gee, I wonder where he is on the continuum that we're talking about. This goes for almost all of us, whether we face prejudice to being too butch or to femme or for being crossdressers For [INAUDIBLE], or being perceived as gay or lesbian, we are all ultimately dislike, for the same basic reason, transgressing our expected gender roles. Hello.

 J

Jimmy Carper 25:13

That's it in a nutshell.

 S

Sarah DePalma 25:14

I think we started saying that the first time I was on the year and we've said it for two straight years. Yes, lo and behold, here it is, in the Advocate, boy have things gone and have week and things changed in two years.

 J

Jimmy Carper 25:28

I'm tempted to cut this out and frame it.

 S

Sarah DePalma 25:33

You know, it's one of the things is we come toward the end of the year here. We've done we've said some real controversial things on the show. Lots of times, I really heard about it afterwards. But it is amazing after two years on the air, and as we come to the end of another year, how much of what we've seen on the air has began to turn up in print, and how much of what we've talked about on the show, we've begun to receive phone calls from people saying, I've been listening to for two years. And I started out thinking, what is this broad doing here? You know, she's a controversial SOB and she doesn't belong in the queer community. And and yeah, yeah, yeah. And now we're two years down the line. And we're starting to get some phone calls from people who saying I didn't get it. But after two years, I'm beginning to get it.

 J

Jimmy Carper 26:19

It's helping in a radical, you know.

S

Sarah DePalma 26:20

It is, you know, but it's so much fun to have it, I wouldn't trade it for anything. I'm glad that I'm no longer than national political leader. I'm glad not to have that gorilla hanging around my neck. But I love doing this show. I look forward to it every month. It's one of my highlights in my month. Because it seems like no matter what we talk about on the show, we get feedback afterwards from folks who say, you know, I did I think you're not or I I, you know, I I can identify, but we're so we're getting some people to think and whether they agree or disagree doesn't matter that much. I mean, we're just getting him to think that matters. Yes.

J

Jimmy Carper 27:02

Tom had a caller earlier too, that we've had lots of good calls tonight. But Tommy girl from a Christian woman.

S

Sarah DePalma 27:09

Oh, after my crack about Christian radio, yeah.

J

Jimmy Carper 27:12

But she called to say that she enjoyed the program and she wasn't gay. She had friends who who were but she liked the music and and enjoyed the program and kind of it's less willing to know that we're getting through-.

S

Sarah DePalma 27:31

Being Christian does not mean be that you're evil. Oh, no. And genuine Christians. Are me people who practice Christianity and the genuine sense yes, are so rare is to really be treasured by this. Absolutely. Being Christian does not mean being Nora Roberts.

J

Jimmy Carper 27:47

No, but there are a whole lot of queer Christian people. Gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender Christian people.

S

Sarah DePalma 27:57

That reminds me. Several months back on there fell we had an activist on the show by the name of Wendy Allen. Well, Wendy has a Wendy has a roommate named by the name of Denise Cop who many people in our community will know. Denise and Wendy moved to Arizona. And they are they have to come transgender activists in Arizona and I have been hit great deal of success. But they were also working with security guards. A couple of weeks ago, Denise bent over she reached something and the gun fell out of her holster. And she was shot

by her own gun. No, it went underneath her one breast through punctured a lung, went through another breast and ended up in her left shoulder where it is now stay. And thankfully, in this case, since Wendy and Denise were open, about being transgendered, when Denise when when do you get on the radio and call for help everyone knew who Denise was, when she was taken into the hospital, she was treated very well. They knew what what was what they knew what was going on in and she's she's going to be fine. They're going to leave the bullet on her left shoulder because they say it would cause more damage to the muscle to try and remove it would be to simply leave the bullet in there. But the company that we're working for one of them to basically sign away their Workmen's Compensation rights, which Denise said to you and the [INAUDIBLE] and for which he was promptly fired.

J Jimmy Carper 29:32

Sure.

S Sarah DePalma 29:33

And so they are facing Christmas with no jobs. And-.

J Jimmy Carper 29:40

Both of them well.

S Sarah DePalma 29:41

Yes, because they both worked for the same company. And so I would ask those of you who know them, please keep them in your prayers. We're talking about this. They are really looking at facing a very difficult time they're looking at going into Christmas with no job. And with Denise laid up at home with a bullet in her shoulder.

J Jimmy Carper 29:59

Yeah.

S Sarah DePalma 30:01

They just live in a little trailer. I mean, like a pole long type. And so things all of a sudden you're not looking so good for them out there.

J Jimmy Carper 30:08

Wow.

S

Sarah DePalma 30:09

And it's a reminder to me as we go into as we come toward the end of the show when we start looking toward a new year, that this is a good time for all of us to thank ourselves for our blessings. You bet. Jimmy has come through another year. Yeah, in reasonably good health.

J

Jimmy Carper 30:25

Thank you protease inhibitors have a new lease on life. I talked about this a couple of times. But it's, I've spent 20% of my life the last 10 years preparing myself for death. And now it is, I have to I have to reverse that trend.

S

Sarah DePalma 30:45

Isn't that neat?

J

Jimmy Carper 30:46

I have to prepare myself for life.

S

Sarah DePalma 30:48

We have a mutual very good friend of mine and acquaintance of Jimmy by the name of of Ken Fontan. And we there was a point not long ago-.

J

Jimmy Carper 30:57

Not very long ago at all, when we were all just waiting for the phone call.

S

Sarah DePalma 31:01

I expected the phone call to come any day. He had. I mean, we just thought this was it. And we started him on protease inhibitors. He was well enough last month to go to Austin with us. And we all and just a few months ago, we thought he was going to die. We expected a death call any day. And so as we come towards the end of this, this this holiday, I certainly feel like I've got something to be grateful for. Yeah. I'm very grateful for this show. We've had a remarkable influence. We have spun off a show on the British broadcast system. After they interviewed that was there. It was kind of funny what happens that Steven, we had Steven Woodlawn, here's a guest. And Steven would have went home to Great Britain and said, you know, in Texas, the home of cowboys, they got this this redhead in Houston, who has her own radio show. Why can't we do this? And the next thing I knew I got a phone call from a producer to BBC says

could you send us some tapes? And I said, Sure. So I did. I sent her I sent her the show that we do with Dr. Cole. And I sent her a couple of other shows. And lo and behold, we spun off a show on the BBC.

J Jimmy Carper 32:06

Great.

S Sarah DePalma 32:07

We had Jane Langley on the show this year live from well worn Australia. I broadcast that was really, I thought it was great. Jane Langley get off the phone. Well, how come she can do it in Texas, Australia is not that far different. So Jane called the Australian Broadcasting System [INAUDIBLE] You read them the riot act. So they clearly knew the Australian Broadcasting System calls and says, Well, would you do an interview and I said fine. I so I didn't know. And next thing I know Jane Langley has her own show in Australia.

J Jimmy Carper 32:37

And the next thing you hear is interviews with, with Jane on this way out and every other place.

S Sarah DePalma 32:43

That;s it now you know if you stop and you think about this new KPFT is a fairly small station is taking go even Houston. That's a remarkable influence for a little for a little show, and a little stint in a little station. I'm very proud of you. I'm very proud of the show. And I'm proud of you for letting this happen. Because it didn't happen without you. But But that is remarkable. That's something to really be thankful for tapes of the show had this is this Our show has been played in France. We get Armand [INAUDIBLE] on the show. And I sent him copies of the show. In in France and transgenders are very persecuted, as are gays and lesbians in France. And Armon has paid played copies of the show at various gatherings, secret gatherings of transgenders in France, so that they could hear what's going on in the United States in a real makes me feel sort of honored actually feels being heard like that. And that's another thing to be thankful for. As we come to the end of the year. A little show, little station, we're going to hell of an influence.

J Jimmy Carper 33:46

You bet. You bet.

S Sarah DePalma 33:48

I'm real grateful for the people that have called me, especially for the kids who had called us and said, Listen, I'm listening to you on Walkman. My parents would kill me. But thank God,

you're there.

J Jimmy Carper 34:02

I hear that too. I've recently got a letter from from a young man who has been listening to the show since its inception. He was about 14 at the time. And he knew he was gay. He lived in Spring Branch.

S Sarah DePalma 34:21

Spring branch. Redneck city.

J Jimmy Carper 34:23

Yeah, that's right and Nelly as can be but he knew himself. And here's this Nelly hairdresser with purple hair living in spring branch, finally moved to to the Montrose and had his life together. And recently, just a few months ago realized that he had a drug problem, put himself into a care facility. And he's doing fine. It's a matter of what we say in the beginning of the show.

S Sarah DePalma 35:04

Personal Responsibility. Yes, yes. One of the things-.

J Jimmy Carper 35:07

Knowing knowing who you are and taking responsibility for your own life. That's what he's done. And I'm really proud of him.

S Sarah DePalma 35:16

We've gotten several calls and letters from folks that are in prison.

J Jimmy Carper 35:20

Yes.

S Sarah DePalma 35:20

And one of the things about radio is that there is no wall thick enough to keep us out.

J Jimmy Carper 35:26

Ain't it grand.

S Sarah DePalma 35:27

It is. And we've and we have reached through prison walls. I've heard from transgenders. There's a transgendered person on death row. And I've been trying for a long time to do an interview I talked to Michelle Ballinger, but it just can't happen, which is too bad. I would love to have gotten this person on. One of the things people ask me all the time, you know, Sarah, this show goes from from 12, midnight to 3am? What the hell are you doing the show for? And in and as we come to the end of the year, this is why I've often wondered how my life would have been different. Had I just had one role model? Just one? Had I known just one openly gay person? Had I known just one open transexual? What- how could my life had been different? How much aggravation could I have saved? The person that I was married to? And the trauma that she went through? How much could I have saved my child? How How much would my life have been different? And I this is an area in which I absolutely agree with something that Harvey Milk said years ago, role models are the way out, they are the way out. And I really believe it. And that's why I do this show is because if I can serve as a role model for one person, and one person doesn't slit their wrists, because they they have heard us talk. And they know that that being transgender is not a death sentence. And being queer does not mean the end of the world than this show was worth doing.

J Jimmy Carper 37:04

You're absolutely correct.

S Sarah DePalma 37:06

You know, it's one of those things that we have that we look forward to every year. And so as we come up to toward the end of the show, I wanted to wish everyone a wonderful holiday season. And I want to say to everyone out there, this has been a great year for me. Yeah, I've love working with Jimmy. And we're gonna keep doing this show.

J Jimmy Carper 37:29

And until they kick us off the air, you know, the three hours a week that we have here is a gift. It's a gift from KPFT to our community. And so as long as they let me in the door, I'm gonna take full advantage of that. Yep.

S Sarah DePalma 37:44

That's it. Jimmy is on his way to Hawaii next month.

J

Jimmy Carper 37:48

Yes. For my birthday, Stanley yeah. takes me to Hawaii for my birthday every year. Isn't that sweet? So we'll be living on the sixth be back on the 20th. So I won't be here for the for your next show. And for the third Saturday of January.

S

Sarah DePalma 38:08

Dee McKellar will be sitting in with me, our guest will be Gary Bowen of the American boys network. We're going to be talking about female to male transsexual.

J

Jimmy Carper 38:18

Oh, I can't wait for that.

S

Sarah DePalma 38:20

And they make my experience looks simple. I mean, the inner they're really amazing. So with that, we're going to go out and finish it. We have Romanovski and Philips in the background and background and you know-.

J

Jimmy Carper 38:33

Cleaning those clothes, straightening up the house.

S

Sarah DePalma 38:35

Straightening up the house and seems really appropriate and what we've been talking about.

J

Jimmy Carper 38:39

You've been listening to After Hours queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station, be sure to listen to our sister program lesbian and gay voices her every Thursday night between eight and 10pm coming up right after the BBC News. At the top of the hour will be the return of the sons of musical chairs with Billy Gilbert and Randy and Elmo and they're all in the house right now ready for you.

S

Sarah DePalma 39:11

For those of you are out there, wherever you are, whether you're listening to us in the taxicab, whether you're coming home from one of the bars tonight, wherever you may be, have a safe, sane, consensual holiday.

J

Jimmy Carper 39:25

That Yeah. Merry Christmas,

S

Sarah DePalma 39:27

Happy Hanukkah, happy Kwanzaa. Wherever it may be good night, folks.