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Mon, Jan 23, 2023 1:57PM 33:40

## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

people, gay, houston, sandy, hispanic community, hispanic, friends, call, global, club, group, gay community, community, brian, person, met, empowering, university, happy, fact

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00:00

Be tolerant, and he was it was my own. I put myself in a position that I accepted her told her as a tolerant person, and not try to educate her into what it means for me to be gay. What it represents just the fact that I already accepted that I'm gay that I want to live a gay life and that this is not a face. She'll see. She still thinks it's a face and it's not.



00:27

And your brothers and sisters yours yes,



00:29

I have three more brothers, who who already know my status, and who are very supportive. I mean, my brother had come to Lobos a few times, and he doesn't feel it feels uncomfortable. But he's doing more than tolerating it. He's trying to accept me as I am, and try to be comfortable with it. So I really enjoy that. And the fact that I can, I emailed a person that I was interested in, and he told me, you know, go for it, if you really feel for it. And that really meant a lot.



01:11

And how many are all your brothers here as well? No.



01:16

My younger my younger brothers were here for a time. But the weather here is so changes so drastic and weird. We serve so close to the equator, that we're heat people, and changes in weather, I just do bad, and the allergies and everything. So I'd be the only one who can stand it. And still, I just don't get it. But now they're back in Honduras.



01:42

Pepper hurting with completed Houston wasn't hot enough.



01:47

Believe me been in a country that it's usually your summers is about 120 degrees, it's Houston is nothing.



01:56

And your brother's health. This is your older brothers. This is more accepting of people.



02:00

My older brother is 27. And my two youngest brother, he's 1'm 24th. He's 23. And the youngest is 14. So I mean, the the third one, the one that 23 He, he's like my twin and we always did stuff together because we weren't that far apart. So he wasn't wanting to hear first, you know, really accepted that I wasn't and he gave me all his support. So yeah, there's just came along very slowly, but they come on.



02:39

Well, you're listening to KPFT after hours on 90.1 FM, we're gonna take a very quick break and listen to a couple of songs the power of goodbye and then a song by Selena don't want to come back and and just talk a little bit about a musical. I think that's coming out. We'll be back in just a little. That was first song with my boyfriend power of goodbye. And of course, she'll kill me if I don't play at least one song of his but he's very talented. So I was very glad to then two songs from Selena and we were just talking about wanting to make sure we clear her because she's got a musical that is out and about. And I think in San Antonio, right? Yeah,



03:15

it's already playing in San Antonio was a big success. I really, I really think he's gonna do really good in Houston.



03:22

Actually, I think it comes to speak to Houston. But I've grown into being a Selena fan, but more it was weird. I wasn't a big fan of hers, but I really understood to really had a very dynamic role in how she related to Hispanic female teenagers. And that she was a sex symbol at the same time, but also sort of a very, as much as he was a sex symbol. She was also like, a standard bearer for like, very moral cultural issues. I mean,



03:56

first she was she was a very good role model, because Selena wasn't all about singing. I mean, she, I mean, she wanted to be a designer. That was her dream. And she managed to accomplish that dream at the same time as being a singer. And, you know, she wanted to marry the man she love and, you know, do all the things she wanted to do. It's sad that her life ended, you know, suddenly, but you know, the world has learned a lot from heart.



04:23

Yeah, it has, I think it musical should be interesting. I'd like to go see it. And just sort of is one of the few situations where we have a Hispanic role model that really displayed a lot of character and a lot of class it was actually had a high profile something we're liking the gay lesbian communities, Hispanic community, and we were actually we had an interesting call just over the break, was someone had a lot of good questions. And I wish we had more time to talk but about that, but I had a lot of excellent questions on began listening to Hispanic community and I was telling him, we hit we do this show on the Latino segment of after hours shows on the second Saturday of every month, on the second half of this show, generally for about 145 to three. And one of the things that keeps popping up is how there's a lack of communication between the mainstream community in the Hispanic community, gay, lesbian, white. And we keep talking about sort of that even in the Hispanic community, there's just a sort of lack of information, even among itself even much less like, you know, the general population.



05:30

And I guess city started from a different perspective when you came?



05:38

Well, it was it was, I mean, I went to, I lived in an area that was predominantly Hispanic. So it was a sphere, we're back home, you know, we're, you know, being gay was a taboo, but at the same time, because everybody else, you know, like, my best friends have always been, you know, Americans, you know, Angelo's Anglos. And that's because I can relate more to them. And the fact that, I mean, we have a really big gay latin community in Houston, but half of them are still, I don't know if I can mention the word closet, it. But you know, they are still closeted, and they still have to, you know, because he's coming up to your families, if you're a Latino or you know, come from a background that is, really, there's a lot of machismo there, it is so hard. And you know, in any word, you can either be in Latin America or any other country in and you have to keep a standard, it's like, you have to act straight, you have to look straight. And if you go to the clubs, you have to look for people that act straight, because you don't want to be caught, you know, the middle of the street is somebody that it's a little bit of feminine, so that, you know, what would your brother's sister cousin thing, if you're with somebody that you know, does a hand thing or talks a little lower the way I'm talking right now, you know, it's like, it's sad, we're still on the on that level, and we haven't reached that level of acceptance of each other as the other groups have, you know, that you can just be with somebody, no matter, no matter how they are, how they look, you know, and as long as you love them, you know,

without having to feel a shame, you know, a sense of shame, because somebody in your family is going to see them and then pointing the finger at you. What are you doing with your arms kind of people, you know, are you like that, you know,



07:31

when people actually get hurt, like, you know, walking across street, if you're with someone who's more effeminate than you are, like, when people actually go up to you, and I go up to someone, you know, and actually, you know, hit them or harass him, or were you ever get like that? Or was it just, you know, horrible, or



07:48

you're always gonna get verbal harassment from a lot of people, you know, but I mean, that's, I mean, I, I've gotten that, and, you know, but I've reached that level of acceptance of myself where I'm like, I'm okay with it. You know, I mean, if somebody calls me a name, I mean, if I don't feel the hurt, I used to feel, you know, when I was in the closet, because it's like, it doesn't have any power being called a fag, you know, hot or whatever you want to call, it doesn't have a power over me. Because I'm out. I've accepted that what I am. And those are just names,



08:24

I think eventually becomes the point where, when you're comfortable with it, it just sort of okay, am I gonna bother? Like, you would deal with this person? Am I like, educate this person? Or am I just gonna, like, ignore or like to deal with this or not?



08:42

The best anecdote I can tell you, it's in high school, there was this high school boy that used to bother me so much he was he was Latin, and ultra, my freshman until my senior year, he was call me names. And I got to the point where I got so tired, that one day I just, you know, he called me, you know, a faggot, you know, and I came back. And I told him, you know, where are you Columbia, faggot, I thought we reach an understanding, you know, you didn't do that in the high school, you know, that's what we're doing it, you know, together, you know, and I turn, turn, turn the table around, and, you know, it made him look as if he was also gay. And he was so embarrassed. And, you know, I was, I didn't feel no shame, I was little happy that I have. And that was very empowering the fact that he was calling me names, and I was, you know, just turn around, yes, I am gay. And you know, that because I told you, you know, making sure that that he understood that he had hurt me, but at the same time, you know, that, that he could also be heard that words you know, had power if you give them that kind of power. So, a few days later, he apologized, and you know, to me and never, ever again had anybody Bother Me Before You know until I mean, still some stupid people in the world, but you know, they don't have power over me anymore.



10:06

When you're in high school, and I guess dealing with it on a day to day basis, how did you get? How did you like, you know, deal with it like, you know, when you went home crying or



10:16

at that point you're dealing with not only the fact that you gave it a different country, it's a different culture. And it's, yeah.



10:21

Well, I was a very strong minded person. I mean, everybody, my teachers, like, I was not a teacher spared let me point that out first. But I had develop a relationship with my teachers, and you know, but it really hurt. And just a few months ago, I went to my English teacher, and I taught her a lot of things that nobody ever knew about me the fact that I used to be late for class, because I had to go to the bathroom and just cry my eyes out, you know, and try to get a grip. Because words, I still hadn't come out to my team, to anyone to those words, has so much power over me. Because I didn't want my mother or my family to know, that was my burden, to hide it from my family, because I had friends, I knew my mother, you know, if there was a rumor that I was gay, it was going to end up at the house. And I didn't want that. So I've always tried to avoid it. And if somebody called me names, I just said, Oh, they're just messing, you know. But there was a point when I said no more. And that's when I stopped crying. And I stopped feeling sorry about myself.



11:42

We're sort of talking, I think earlier, a little bit about over the break on this Hispanic community, and just sort of the traditional roles, I think, that still are played even in like sales relationships, where someone is like, much more masculine than the other person. And it just sort of, I mean, I still see that a lot. And I don't know how much



12:09

the Hispanic community to both macho culture and the gay community, I still haven't seen that myself. And the fact that, you know, I've been turned down by a few people, because I'm not, I don't act like a man most of the time, you know, and I have my little boys and, you know, I don't fit that macho role that they need to have somebody that has that role. Because they don't want to go out or be with somebody that might give anyone the wrong impression about themselves, too. It's like, I like Hispanic, if I were to fall in love, I would love for it to be a Hispanic because it's my heritage, my language. And I could get along with somebody that I can talk in Spanish even say my love words, and whatever words in Spanish because I just think it's a very sexual language. But, you know, I still haven't found that. And at some point, I found more acceptance within the NGO community than the Spanish community



13:28

speaking of Sandy's low voice, we have a little note trying to get him to get a little bit closer to the microphone, but



13:34

sorry about that.



13:37

Brian, do you have any questions? You



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know, just listening. I guess I was just more interested earlier, like with the high school stuff, how it was, by



13:46

the way, Brian, it's my best friend. And he's also my roommate.



13:51

And not Sandy's ideal, mate. Because he's not Hispanic.



13:54

I know right now. No, I'm just his best friend.



13:57

He's turning me down. Let them know. How long I've been pursuing you since February of last year.



14:06

I used to have a crush on him. But you know, we just became we became really good friends. And it can never be more than that. Can I tell you



14:19

please, no hate calls. For roommate, so I love him. He listened he lives next door. So I put up with all

14:26

that my door has a lot

14:30

of flashback to what it was like, you know, like, what do you call it? Ricki Lake shows where like someone's revealing their crush on somebody. That person says no, sorry, but you're just a friend. Keep doing that.

14:43

No, but Brian and I had different high school experiences. I mean, mine was a lot of tough because of the fact that my name is Sandy. And I'm not making it up. My dad just happened to name me Sandy, and to be Latin, Latino, and do you have a girl named Dan makes you gay.

15:04

And even and, and correct me if I'm wrong, but your dad even like, you were named Sandy after like a baseball player that like, so it was just sort of it was supposed to be a very masculine professional baseball player. Yeah, this was sort of masculine thing and it ended up.

15:21

But it's like in Honduras. I mean, the only people named Sandy were either girls or puppies. But I mean, I mean, when I came to America, I thought, hey, you know, if this great baseball player name was, you know, Sandy, you know, when we also had a secretary of the house, the White House secretary of the press secretary, Sandy, and, you know, I'm like, how do they deal with all these crab inside, but then it's like I have, I've never been able to hide my mannerisms. I mean, and it's just who I am. And you know, and if I ever date someone, he better be comfortable with it. And you know,

16:04

and the goal of me worrying doesn't give it away either at all.

16:11

But, you know, eventually, I just want to, you know, I'm getting to the point where I'm going to be comfortable with who I am already, and with my community, and with my family, and

be comfortable with who I am already, and with my community, and, you know, my friends and everything that that being gay represent, and we're talking earlier about the gay community as a whole and how we are, most of the time give the wrong image. I mean, we all want to be happy, fine, you know, somebody to be with us for a long, long time. But we always go look for it, look for it, and in the wrong places, you know, but where do you go look for, you know, people, you want to have something in common? If not, you know, coffee shops, or clubs or anything else? If everybody it's just so close to you know,

17:01

because we just the call that we had earlier, when we're talking about that was a gentleman asking a lot of questions of the Hispanic community and how you sort of connect or Hey, find out more about the Hispanic gay community here in Houston. And I'm always hesitant to bring up clubs as a place to go and get to know community. But the reality is, I mean, if you go to the Chimney Rock 59 area, the Gulf area, I mean, you've got two huge Hispanic clubs. The music is great. The music is great.

17:32

Yeah. What are your some some Spanish

17:34

dance there boy?

17:37

energy and joy again, I'm really bad on that energy and toys, great music, and the crowd is 98% Hispanic, the rest are Hispanic admirers, and it just sort of in Brian's picking up there. But I mean, they're great places it but if you look at that part of town, that's I think it's, it's sort of a second Montrose, it's not really discovered yet. It's like it has a large Hispanic, a population that lives there, that party's there that works there.

18:07

The thing, the thing is that you shouldn't go to a club, you know, to find your soulmate, or find a place you're going to love, you know, fall in love with. Just go to a club to have fun to be yourself. And even that person happens to be there. Well, good for you. But if not, don't don't get disappointed. You know, it will come?

18:27

Yeah, I don't think I've actually ever met someone that I've dated at a club, or whether there was a relationship. I mean, the first person I was relationship with was I, we met at a club, we didn't meet at a club. we met somewhere else but I was like oh yeah we met you because

you're a friend of whoever. And the second version was at school. And you know, and then David, and I didn't meet at a club. And, you know, we've been together a little bit over two years. And hopefully, it'll be together a lot longer. But it's sort of I I just don't think it's a very healthy environment. And I mean, there's some people that have met at a club, and I guess it's worked out, but I just don't see that it's the right kind of atmosphere. I mean, it's a great place to go with friends in the party and even to go with like, your current view, current boyfriend, but I just don't see that. Is it the best way to meet someone? Who might a judge?



19:29

I mean, it's all about I mean,



19:32

we have the word do you meet people?



19:34

That's the other question. I mean, you know.



19:41

So if we had the answer, the book by



19:45

now, yes, I've written the book. But I mean, I've been to clubs and, you know, my friends and I go, you know, more than once in a while. And, you know, I still haven't met anybody, you know, worthwhile. Oh, but I have met really good friends. And you know, and that's the way to start. You know, Friendship is the way to relationships. I mean, a one night stand doesn't really make it for me so. And that's the only thing you will be getting at a club. And those who are not safe.



20:20

Where do you see hang out? In Brian? Where do y'all usually hang out? Well, aside from Lobo, because every time I go,



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we're at the University of Houston. So you know, global, it's our group. And we met there we meet, they're on Thursdays at seven o'clock social work building. And if you're a you've age student, if you're gay, please come. We need members, not that our membership is low. But

you know, and active members,



20:50

the thing sexually active?



20:54

No, no, no, no, no, we are not easy. If you're coming to the group for other reasons, other than, you know, awareness, or just to be with people that are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered, then, you know, don't come. We're not sex, hookers, or anything like that. And while we also have our friends that we've met through, you know, universities or, you know, mutual friends that we have a little



21:20

club, actually, prior to global, I didn't really have that little niche in the gay community. And, you know, I met Francisco at the gay and lesbian leadership training, but actually, I global, I got a chance to kind of meet people my age. And, you know, actually, Sandy was the first person, I actually really got a chance to talk to there. And we talked for like, three hours, and we just, like, hit it off. And it's gonna be been, you know, really great friends since but it really gave me that, that feeling of, I guess, kind of empowerment, knowing that I am, you know, not the only person out there. And there's other people like me, we're all different cultures, different ages, and, you know, this, you know, being with, I guess, you know, I was always, you know, was, you know, either being, you know, other white people in high school, or being Jewish and, you know, part of different groups, but this group, you know, as, I never had that, you know, I guess Sandy kind of touched on earlier in high school, like, you know, I guess I was able to, you know, kind of blend a little better. So people never really, you know, harassed me or gave me that stuff. But I always felt, I guess, guilty or shamed that, you know, I saw a lot of my friends that, you know, I knew they were, they're gay, and we talked about it, and we knew about each other, but I never got the same harassment that they did. So, you know, hearing Sandy and what he went through, it's like, I guess my hurt was not being able to say, This is who I was, or taking a guy to prom, or, you know, later on looking back that I wish I would be able to have the, you know, the willpower to bring it up earlier. But, you know, now being part of global and, you know, I've empowered myself and learn to help empower other people to be you know, who you are, and be happy with yourself. Plus,



22:55

we're very active in other groups in that community. And that's one of the things that I really enjoyed about global that it, it made me more aware of what's out there, like Houston need to very gear and we have a lot of groups. We have the gay and lesbian community center. We also have the Colby project, we also have varying Memorial Church, which also has a lot of gay oriented programs that are really good. Also, Brian did an internship in a Montrose counseling Counseling Center. And it was really empowering for him. And you know, we've also volunteer for it, and respirators campaign when he was running. And you know, that really, and we meet

people through the stuff that we do. I mean, they're groups, they're gay groups at every university in the city. I mean, we have friends at the University of Houston downtown, which has a gay group, the alpha lambdas, and also the rice pride group. They're also very active in a community. And, you know, there's a lot going on, and, you know, there's a lot of us doing our stuff. And I wish sometimes we can be a little more appreciated by those other groups that are out there. And I don't want to mention names, but, you know, there's a lot of young people that are active, but because we're young, we, you know, we're branded, it's like, No, the only thing you want to do is club and have fun. And that's not true.



24:17

I mean, there's a lot of groups. Actually, there's just an also had



24:23

a hat, but a mission had somebody would kill



24:27

Kevin David Carroll would definitely go after that hat. But that I mean, that's another fine group. That does some great work. I just actually got a call from a friend of mine in DC to sponsor an event that's going on for our youth group up in DC and always happy to do that. Just because it's I mean, you know, it's a part of a community that often gets overlooked or people don't take the interest in. So talking about U of H and global and what's going on what's going on, y'all have



25:01

gala squareness, we were in this week coming up.



25:05

Well, every, every year, every semester, we try to get together as a gay community at the university and try to empower ourselves and also teach people about what we are and what we do. And, you know, what we want the university to be. So we're going to try to use a gay awareness, which is from an attempt to the 14th, to, you know, pick fliers around. And, you know, in our, what we're trying to do is just write flyers saying, are you aware that and use you know, so and so it's good, and, you know, or, or that, you know, two out of 10 people are gay, lesbian, or bisexual or had experienced, you know, a gay relationships in their lives, you know, you know, a lot of facts out there, so that people would know that, you know, that there's a lot of stuff going on. And also, most of the most last semester, we had a really good coming out week. And that's exactly what we tried to do at the university, you still people that were gay, we're happy being gay, we don't want to change and we want people to accept us and new age, it's a really accepting school. But they could do much more for us. If if, if we had more support.



26:29

I can. Graduate night, it's, the campus is fairly open. But I mean, there's some things that they could respond to a lot better I remember, situation last year or the year before last, when I was asked to speak at a National Coming Out Day. It was you know what, it wasn't National Coming Out Day, it was a rally subsequent to the match the Matthew Shepard and there was anti gay



27:02

graffiti treaty and some other bathrooms,



27:06

that particularly that time, you know, when that was disturbing, I called the university to clean that up, because I was still a student at that time. On a few occasions, to a few people that are supposedly friends of mine that are in positions of power at that university. And it didn't move, and it took additional calls to



27:34

I remember



27:35

that help fund this university to get them to move and I thought that was very disturbing.



27:38

Our former president, I don't know if he mentioned name, but I will, Marian King, she. She was president at the time. And I remember, we were making so many phone calls. Because, you know, we call the precedent and told them what was happening. And you know, they were still trying to find out and you know, what was going on? I need to it took about it was it was fairly fast. I think it was a day or two for them to do it. I'm not really sure. But I know that a nice Barker, and some other people got involved as well. And it was really good, that the whole community, not just the gay community responded, you know, to what went on. It was sad that it happened, because we really had a good rally. And we're honoring Matthew Schepers memory.



28:29

What are the graffiti say? What are the graffiti say?



28:33

Die fact died, was referring



28:36

to him or just was generally.



28:38

One was never the reference. And it was,



28:44

I think it was just an idiot that have nothing better to do. But it was really sad that it happened though. Hopefully, you had nothing I'd ever happened so far. But



29:00

with big events, you have any big events planned for this year.



29:04

Right now, we'll we're going to do something for gay awareness. We're going to have some people coming to the school and talk about gay youth and the transition, you know, fact that college is your big transition, you know, if you're in high school, you will experience the hatch, you know, go through that adolescent period and and move to college. And that's where we global. That's what we tried to offer that transition into becoming an ad and now person into becoming, you know, an active individual into the political system. And, you know, we become really involved with PBA and other organizations and global is a very active group, but, you know,



29:50

we'll be working on Francisco's campaign, right,



29:54

empowering City Council,



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29:56

which was this. Sorry, put them on the spot. I'm ready to put my yard signs out, you know?

30:06

Mine still there. I used to come in every day and just so I undress

30:14

he will greet me with a happy smile. Oh my god, can I have a bigger question here? Anyway, that shouldn't be said, and I'm sorry Andrez I still have the crush though.

30:31

So how can it so wants to help our global? What can they do?

30:35

Okay, they can check out our website is www.that eh.edu/little comma bring you that I don't remember what it is, but and then global, or they can email us global that eh.edu no global ad by you that eh.edu That's an email with questions or concerns any did again office, we're going to be on the Pride Parade, we're going to hopefully we're going to have a flood we're going to have a lot of people walking. We're gonna do this with our friends at the University of Houston sea change. And they're the group for the graduate level. The School of Social Work,

31:23

support, educate and advocate change change or social work.

31:27

Yeah. And they're really great. And if any of them are listening, we love you guys.

31:31

And our meetings. Ashley, if you're looking to come to a meeting, as Sandy said earlier Thursday at 7pm and a school of social work room to 2020.

31:42

Yes. And our age range varies. So we have from 17 year olds to 32 year olds, so you're more than welcome to come and we discourage



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based on age. So if you're a student or bars



31:56

or sexual orientation or anything, we just want people to come in feel comfortable and we have developed good friendships within the supportive environment. Yeah, we're a very supportive environment. That's right.



32:10

Sounds good. Brian and Sandy, thank you for coming in for having us. We're gonna close out with a little song. And no, we're not gonna close out with a little slot. So Sandy's gonna be karaoke from the first Selena Selena song



32:31

except the car catch on you Okay, gotcha. I need my friend Eric to come in and actually sing you know all this Lena signed the gringo. Yeah, like green got Elena Gordon Santos is the algunos escuchado as well as in Espanol as well as want to know Chet Oh, actually when the AU is he dwellers and gay or going to say ah be six one see obvious exile them as XR La La Casa be happy sad bellies. Downloadable, y'all look at us. I do.



33:13

Thank you, Sandy. KPFT after Rs 90.1 FM. Join us a month from now the second Saturday of every month for the Latino segment and after hours or any other Saturday. Good night.



33:28

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