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SPEAKERS

Michelle, Sarah DePalma, Jimmy Carper

 Sarah DePalma 00:00

You're going to get what you have, right? But it was kind of disappointing to me. In some respects, I guess I expected more

 00:09
empathy,

 Sarah DePalma 00:12

more willingness to learn. I think that's what it was. And Mindy, and I've talked about it in the next class, they're gonna give me a little bit more time, you know, for ally only had 20 minutes, and you couldn't do it in 20 minutes.

 Jimmy Carper 00:23

A lot of those for a lot of those folks, you could have been from Mars, a lot

 Sarah DePalma 00:27

of them thought I was from Mars, let me tell you, they just didn't get it just

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right. Right, it's just totally out of their comprehension. So they'll go home, and they'll think ~~about it. And you know, in the next couple of weeks, and some of them may not even~~ of it

about it. And you know, in the next couple of weeks, and some of them may get part of it.

 S Sarah DePalma 00:43

Well, I specifically talk to them about things like recognition of relationships. For example, it may very well be that the spouse that you're dealing with, they may very well be legally married, you need to know that it may very well be an emergency, you need to understand these things. Because you may be called in on a domestic dispute. Your life could be at stake could be at stake if you don't get this, you need to get it right. And it was I had the distinct sense that I just talked right over the heads of everybody in the class. So my next time that I have to go back out there, again, is in February, and I'm going to change my presentation in and I'm going to simplify it drastically. Sounds like you need to I went out there when the ABCs Yeah, I went out there under the impression that it was like as if I was going to talk to a college class. And it wasn't that at all. So I'm, I'm really going to restructure it. And I'm going to make it much more simple and much more basic. No, you should do because they were far more interested in my relationship with Laurie than they were with anything else.

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We said, remember that? A couple of months ago, we did the panel discussion with Danielle and some other folks. And I called it the ABCs of trans and transgender one on one. That's right, you got to make like copies of that and hand them out and say Here, take this home and listen to

 S Sarah DePalma 02:06

I actually will probably use it as a guideline of which subjects to cover. Yeah, because it was that good. It was that good. And it was that basic. Yeah. Now on the opposite side of the coin, Danielle and I were invited to go to University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. And we were speaking to a class full of professional assistance. In this case, they were medical assistants. And we're also speaking to a class at in Edinburg, Texas. And so we went down there to talk to them about transgenders and transgenders in medical care. It was the exact opposite of police academy. Of course, these were college students. But the questions were pointed. They were online fact. They seem to understand what we had to say. Dr. Cole had made a presentation earlier to them. So I followed Dr. Cole, it was a much different thing. One of the things that was very interesting as I had gotten up and talked about how many transsexuals get objectified, when they get in as particularly in an emergency room situation. The doctors will turn around say, Hey, everybody, come check this one. She's got tits in a

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and a dick, in several of

 S Sarah DePalma 03:19

the people who came up to me afterwards said, I've been in emergency rooms and seen that

happen. And they wanted to talk about that they wanted to know if they see it happening again, who do they call and again, my number. Good. I say call me I'll take care of it. I was explained to some US folks may remember that. About a year, maybe a year and a half ago, we had Wendy Allen and Denise cop on the show. And one of the things they talked about was there was a study that was done the they went down as openly transsexual open transactions and tried to donate blood. And the Red Cross wouldn't take it. In the person that I spoke to in the Red Cross had said, Well, the reason we can't take it is because you're classified as being promiscuous, like, I guess like gay men or something. And we all kind of went, huh? Well, I recently found that what had happened, they they it was based on a study was based on a study of 600 transsexuals in prison.



04:15

Oh, brother,



S Sarah DePalma 04:16

so on that basis, they decided that transsexuals are promiscuous and can't donate blood and brother and I kind of went,



J Jimmy Carper 04:25

huh, well, you're now and you're fighting the other the stereotype of the transsexual hooker. Well,



S Sarah DePalma 04:32

that's right. And when I talked to the class about it, it was the very first thing I had to talk about. Because it was the it was the first question that came up. Well, and somebody had said, Well, you know, isn't it true that a lot of transsexuals are prostitutes? And I kind of looked at Dr. Cole like a boy here we go. And you look at them and say,



04:48

I for people who have never seen you, yeah, you look like a middle aged Italian woman.



S Sarah DePalma 04:54

I get it. I get it all the time, which is fine by me. I'll take it. Yeah.



J Jimmy Carper 04:58

And you know you're a stent. hang up, there's a dry look like a hooker.

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Sarah DePalma 05:03

Well, but it gave me an opportunity to talk about transgendered street kids and to talk about some of the why they were going to see why they're out in the street. Yes. And I think a big, big, big deal. Yeah. And it brought, I think it brought that issue into focus for them because they weren't aware of how it is that this happens, right. And I left with a distinct sense that these were people who really got an education. Danielle got up and she talked about female to male transsexuals. The reason why Danielle was doing it guys was because y'all couldn't get off work. Otherwise, we would have we really wanted to have the guy and we made a special point to saying to him, Look, you're seeing two white women here. But there are lots of people of color. Lots of people from other ethnic groups don't mistake it don't make the mistake of thinking we are what transgenders are, because it's not true.

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Oh, that's, I wish you could have had enough to m, we

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Sarah DePalma 05:55

really wanted one in the tribe. People had to work for living. Yeah, doggone it. And so they couldn't go figure because I really would like to have had one of the guys there. I don't feel qualified to present the issues. And Danielle did as good a job as she could. But I think would have been a lot more effective coming from God. Sure. All in all, I thought that went very well. Dr. Cole seemed, seemed very pleased. There were a lot of people who came up to us after class with very, very good questions. There were a vn yells, and she had had her operation, talked about the surgical part of being transsexual. And there were some very, very good questions about that. And the issues came up about, well, suppose I suspect the person's transsexual. How do I? How do I ask them? You know, maybe there's a medical issue here, we need to know. Yeah, and it did come up because I had so many transsexuals would not be honest with the doctors and telling them, which to me was insane.

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06:55

I know we've covered that. Yeah.

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Sarah DePalma 06:57

And my response to them was just be honest, hey, look, I don't mean to offend you. I don't want you to take this badly. But for our medical records, it's important if we know, are you a transsexual? That's it. And I think under that circumstance, nearly everyone will tell you the truth,

 Jimmy Carper 07:12

especially if they're in an emergency situation, if they're really, really sick or hurt or something, don't you think?

 Sarah DePalma 07:18

I think they're insane. If they don't, their lives depend on it. Yeah. But it was a much different setting in the police academy. And it was interesting, because those cable occurred within a few days of each other.

 Jimmy Carper 07:32

Well, was it a point of the Police Academy had to be there and the others didn't or what?

 Sarah DePalma 07:45

No, this was required for this class to maybe it's just a difference in educational level. Maybe that's it, you know, that maybe part of it. Also, I think there's kind of an ethic in the police department very much like the military. One of the people got up and asked the officer who was with us very specifically and said, Aren't you afraid by being friends with gays? The people will think you are. But it was a legitimate point to ask. Because it also points told me what the fear is in the community. Sure. And in the police community, they're afraid of being known as that sell themselves. To which the office who said well, there may very well be gay and lesbian students in this class. And they all kind of looked around, it was very well done. They all kind of looked around isn't like well, I wonder what you wanted. It must be that dyke with the short hair over there. Yeah. Which was kind of interesting. So that was, that was pretty interesting stuff. Um, a couple of other things we want to the hate crimes Forum was held by the actually, It's Time Texas was a co sponsor, along with several other groups. And with the National Gay Lesbian Taskforce. Very, very interesting. And one of the things that I think is come out of that, I think it may finally at long last be possible for transgenders and the H GOP CT to cooperate on some common issues, hate crimes being the number one on the list. That would be nice. Yeah, it would be fabulous.

 09:21

I am meant to be educational or or political, or

 Sarah DePalma 09:26

basically, they're asking people to come forward and tell their stories. Okay. And as we all know, that's not easy to get. GE the

 Jimmy Carper 09:34

switchboard didn't know a thing about it. Really?

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Sarah DePalma 09:39

Oh, that's interesting. I wonder how that happened.

J

Jimmy Carper 09:41

I don't know since we run the hate crimes hotline. Hmm, not good.

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Sarah DePalma 09:46

While talking to Clarence Bagley about it because he was responsible for the publicity. Um, it was very interesting. I have talked to I spent a good time to the amount of time today talking to Phyllis Frey. What had happened and was after the seminar, I had an opportunity to speak with a couple of political leaders there. And I'm going to say something I'm going to repeat what they said, because I happen to believe it's true. They said flatly, they do not believe that any bill, which has the words, gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered is ever going to pass in the Texas Legislature, period. It doesn't matter whether it's a hate crimes bill, in education bill of veterans bill in a bill, it is never going to pass, then they're done. Okay. Now, I point this out, because for the last three, I guess, maybe four sessions, the Lesbian Gay rights lobby has been been saying we must have a laundry list, you know, when no discrimination on the basis of gender, ethnicity and all that kind of stuff. And what legislators have been saying both at the national at the state level is they're sick of the laundry list stuff. They won't vote it, they won't pass it. So I talked with Phyllis Brock today, we talked for more almost an hour on this. And she has agreed to talk to the gay taskforce to lavender law in within her own group in the Transgender Law conference. And we're what we're going to start looking for is we're going to see if we can find, or if we can't find it, we'll create it legal, legal language that would provide hate crimes coverage, without a laundry list, a generic hate crimes bill, so to speak. Shouldn't we have that anyway? Well, yes, we should. But no one has come forward with it. Now, it seems to me this is like the most obvious thing, you know,

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yes. But you know what, when you make a law like that, then the lawyers come through and say, well, it may cover this, but it doesn't cover that. And they go to courts to define it.

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Sarah DePalma 12:01

It turns out there's a trick to that. And Phyllis and I talk about it today? And the answer is, it's called the legislative history. In other words, when we go in to get the bill done, so when we can get the courage to actually find such a bill, and the hearings that are being done on legislation. We need to be into the legislative history of the bill that the intent of the legislation was to cover. X y&z groups, make sure women transgenders, gay and lesbians get mentioned

as part of the legislative history. Because if the case comes up, like you talk about and it goes to appeal, the appeal courts look at the legislative intent. What did they mean, in the designing of the bill?

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Michelle 12:48

Do you have a shell? When you say legislative history? I don't quite understand what you mean by that. Is this when you when you're discussing in committee,

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Sarah DePalma 12:59

or Yeah, except not only in committee when you present a bill a mix, but maybe actually tell it talk a little bit about how the process works? First of all, you let's assume for a moment that you found a piece of legislation that you think will work. First of all, you got to find the right language for it. So typically, you're going to send it to the language committee on the state legislature, they actually have people, that's what they do. And they put it into a legislative format, because they don't use it has to be in a specific format to be voted on and it's verbal or illegal. The constitute Texas Constitution demands it. Okay? Well, once you do that, then you have to be then you stake and you start to shop it around. You have to find legislators who are willing to sponsor it. Now, if they're willing to sponsor it, what they do is they take it to what's called a calendaring committee. Probably the most powerful committee in any legislative data body because they decide which bills get heard, and lashed out. Yeah, yeah. And more importantly, what committee it gets sent to. That's a key thing. If a bill like a hate crimes bill gets sent to a committee that's being headed by a conservative, Republican, or finished, if it gets sent to a committee, where moderates are willing to at least listen to what we have, we have to say, that's entirely different. Okay, who your sponsor is matters. As much as I've loved gloves. Deborah Dannenberg, I probably would not ask her to sponsor another hate crimes bill, because she wears a bull's eye on her head. Right now in anything Deborah Danvers sponsors means target practice. So you need to find somebody who is at least not a target. So in other words, you need to find someone who's like well enough that the bill will come up in plain English. Okay. Yeah. But

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then there are committee hearings. She has to get through. It

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Sarah DePalma 14:50

won't matter right now. She's such a target. If you if she came up with a bill would say we're in favor God, mother country and apple pie. The Republicans will bottle committee will never see the light of day. Okay, so you got to have the right committee. Okay. Now, assuming that that you could, the next step is to go in you lobby those committee members, you have to make them aware of what the bill is and how it works. And it is not effective. If only one person goes to do it, we can tell you that from experience. If only I go and go and talk about transgender

issues, legislators conclude, I am the transgender community. So it's very important that when we go we go showing all of our diversity. We have to have people of color, we have to have the guys. It's not it's not enough for just me to go.

 Michelle 15:40

Okay, bye. Okay, so now we so far has edited this become history. Yeah,

 Sarah DePalma 15:45

no, now this is where it starts. Now you go to committee, and the committee allows you a hearing. Now, the last time we did this, Phyllis, I'm trying to think of any interior Frederick's in San Antonio, and I went, and we were told going in that the vote was probably nine to nothing against us. At the end, we each made about a 10 minute presentation about the need for, um, we went on behalf of the name change bill. When we left, the vote was 72 in our favor. More importantly, everything that we said about the intent of the bill. Okay, the need for the bill, and why it would be important is all on the record.

 Michelle 16:29

Okay, okay. That No, and that's the beginning.

 Sarah DePalma 16:33

legislative history right. Now, let's assume the committee says yes, and they pass this bill out of committee. Now it goes out to the full House or the full Senate for a hearing. And in Texas, typically, it has to go through three of these. So what will happen is it goes out to the floor the first time, and there's discussion on the floor, what the legislators say about the bill, what they say about the intent of the bill, and most importantly, who the bill is designed to cover is what an appeals court would look at if it went to a court. Okay. Okay. That's what the US Supreme Court does when they decide what's constitutional, what isn't. Okay. Now, let's say you get through the first hearing. That's where it really gets tough. Maybe it goes to the floor. And this is why it's important that we have a generic hate crimes bill. Because if we put out a bill that says, Well, this bill is specifically aimed at including gays, lesbians and transgenderers, bend over and kiss your rear goodbye, because this bill is over. If on the other hand, we go with a generic bill that says, Well, yes, it would cover those people. But it it covers women, it covers the elderly, it covers the disabled. How do you vote down? It's a no and it's an all or nothing, Bill. That's a completely different story. It's the presentation you make to the legislators. Okay. Well, the letter is a legislator really going to go back home and say, Well, I voted against the hate crimes bill that would have protected women not appear she plans to get reelected. They're not true. Are they gonna go home and say I voted against the hate crimes bill that would have protected the disabled?

 18:16

I don't think so. I don't think so either.

I DON T THINK SO. I DON T THINK SO either.

 S Sarah DePalma 18:19

That's why That's why I'm saying the language of the bill needs to be generic. And it has to be written in such a way that even though the legislators may not like some parts of the bill, there are enough parts of it that are good. They may hold their nose, but they'll vote for. Okay. Now, that's the theory. And that's been done in other states. But we don't have the language that we would need right now to get that done in Texas. So what I've asked Phyllis, to do, is to find it. And Phyllis, you know, loves a challenge. Oh, yes. No, she's going to creating change next week, which is a National Gay Lesbian Taskforce,

 J Jimmy Carper 18:59

that that's one of the most important conferences that we have

 S Sarah DePalma 19:04

in what she's going to do. She said, she's going to go and talk to their legal staff and say, Look, you probably have this in your database. Does such language exists anywhere? And if it does, can we get a copy of it? That's the first thing we need to know is does it exist? Now if it doesn't, that means it's going to be that much tougher, because then what'll happen is we're going to need either eclip or lavender law, or both, to create language. Now, I've told Phyllis, that I would be willing to pioneer this bill in Texas could very well be a test case. If it worked here, it could be the model to be used throughout the rest of the country. So this is no this is an important thing that we're trying to do in if we can get it. One other thing we have to have, it has to be a bill prosecutors will you So, one of the things what we found, you know, you heard Scott, say this at the meeting, yes. And it's true. Prosecutors don't like hate crimes bills, because it gives the defense one more thing to shoot down to make their client look better. So if we draft this bill, it has to be user friendly. It has to enhance current penalties. But it has to be user friendly, so that he prosecutor will use the doggone thing hate crimes on the books that no one uses is of no value. So

 M Michelle 20:30

it has to be something that helps them get their convictions, or at least helps them in enhances advances.

 S Sarah DePalma 20:38

So this is a big challenge. I don't know at this point, whether it's even possible, that's what we're going to find out. eclip is going to look into it villas essential as lavender law to look into it. It may be a couple of months before we know if we can actually find that language. I've already told Phyllis and I talked about it tonight with Jessica Xavier tonight. In fact, from from inside America. Now I've told them both. I'm willing to pioneer this bill. And I'm willing to take

this into the state legislature and see what happens. Now, having said that, I have not talked to Diane Hardy Garcia yet, or the Lesbian Gay rights lobby, I have no idea what they're going to think about the bill, I'm certainly going to ask them to join it. If they do they do and if they don't, they don't. But I don't think their bill is going anywhere. If we've gotten hurt on Wednesday, well, if we've got the alternative, then we're going to be the one that's going to get past good. So we're gonna keep our fingers crossed. I didn't mean get off on a tangent about that. Because there are a lot of people in the community who think that having a hate crimes bill is basically symbolic. It probably is not, I have a lot of legal values,

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Jimmy Carper 21:51

not symbolic, and I don't think we need it and we need it desperately. There are too many queers being murdered.

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Sarah DePalma 21:57

One of the things that we'll have to have to and this is going to be hard to get when we go to a legislature and say to them, Look, we need a hate crimes bill. The first thing they're gonna say to us is, prove it. Where are your victims? Right? We're gonna we have to have people willing to tell their story.

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Michelle 22:20

There are a lot of stories tone, when saying

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22:22

there's a lot of statistics,

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Sarah DePalma 22:24

but I get up the other night. And what I say was absolutely true. I know of 60 hate crimes that have been committed against transgender people in Texas in the last five years, not one of whom has given me permission to use their story,

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Michelle 22:39

right? Yeah, I know, we get I mean more to Roberta stood up and talk. Yes, she did talk to us on to patrol. And she's been to the police. And after doing it over and over and over again, people give up, because they don't get anywhere. And somehow we have to keep them telling their story. And getting this information to where, where it will do some good.





Saran DePalma 23:09

Something I need to work with you on and to work with tats on is I had a good, very nice conversation with Chris Bell afterwards. And one of the things I had mentioned to Chris Bell is that the people in the transgender community are scared to death of the police department. And he said, why? And so I told him, Scott, and not Scott, but Chris Bell has said if we can if we will write a report about this issue. If we will present it to his office, he will take our our points to the police department and say to them, what can we do about this. So something I need to work with you on to work with cats on and work with GCTC on and



Michelle 23:48

to patrol because what we Q patrol does, when we run into anyone in the community who feels that they're a victim of a hate crime. We tried to get them at least to talk to the folks at the Montrose Counseling Center. And so every month when I send in the Q patrol reports to HPD. I also send a copy of that to the monitors Counseling Center, along with another report on any contact that we've had with people who have tried to report crime, right? So it wouldn't exist. It's very hard to get people to even tell us in this



Sarah DePalma 24:33

instance, this is specific and to do with the police in our dealings with the police. And here's a case where now the opportunity has been presented to us and now we need to follow up with it and I'll talk with you about it later. But this is an opportunity now that if we can put together a report. Here's a city councilman saying I'm willing to take your concerns to the police first time that's ever happened that I know of. So some Good things are happening here locally, and it's reflective of things happening nationally. The Gay Lesbian taskforce has become very, very inclusive, I think as everybody knows, as much as I have beaten up, thanks to Carrie Lobell, thanks to Carrie LaBelle. As much as I've beaten up on the Human Rights Campaign. They are working very closely with gender PAC, which is a national lobbying group on behalf of transgenders. They are working with them very closely on the hate crimes issues. And just recently, they went up on Capitol Hill, with a number of transgendered people speaking to legislators on this issue, specifically, in looking at what can be done at a federal level, to make sure that transgenders get included. So for as much as I beat up in the HRC, I have to give credit where credit's due, and they have lived up to their end of the bargain on this one. Which is, which is kind of nice to see. So some very good things are happening at the national level. Very good things are starting to happen at the state level. I talked with Jessica Xavier tonight and told her officially that yes, I'm going to pick up so It's Time Texas, the first of the year. You never heard a more happy person your whole life. Because she says Does that mean you'll come back and help me nationally? And I sort of hemmed and hawed and say, Well, yeah, I will. So so it means she wasn't you have to carry the whole load for the No. But um, there are some good things. One of the things I want to give some credit here for a minute. Two years ago, when I went to the HG LPC, and talk to them about transgender inclusion. There were three transgender people there, which I was one. And Wendy and Denise, for the other two. We couldn't get anyone to pay attention to us because it was easy to blow us off. We're at the hate crimes event the other night, there were what eight or 10 transgendered people,



Michelle 26:52

at least Yes. Oh, there were Yeah, at least that many. And

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Sarah DePalma 26:55

the whole attitude was different. All of a sudden, it's not just Sara. And I want to pass out some flowers, the tats for the work that they have been doing. This is an organization that has come a mile 10 mile. And one of the things is they are not afraid to show up at these meetings anymore. And I think it's the best sign of maturity I've seen in the community since I've been here. So I want to pass out a bouquet because I think tats really deserves it. You know, I didn't have to get down and speak Viola speak alone. Danielle went with me. Vanessa has been practically living and nice Parker's headquarters. Oh, I know, I know it. Now. ratable. the transgender community has really turned out in key areas. And I think it's just another example of something we've talked about on this show about how transgenders in the gay lesbian community need to get over themselves. Yes.

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27:51

And along those lines, I've got a little something here from a magazine called fab, which is out of Canada. That's FA

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Sarah DePalma 28:00

b not f ag right.

J

Jimmy Carper 28:06

It's one of those last page things you know how that, you know, it's kind of an opinion piece by bad Brad Fraser. And he says, I came out in the late 70s at a club in Edmonton called flashback. the now defunct Club was legendary to anyone who was even vaguely cool who ever visited Edmonton. It was to my queer young mind the most wonderful place on Earth. It was a place that allowed me to be me encourage eccentricity, and nonconformity, and allow everyone in Edmonton minuscule gay community, gay men, lesbians, transsexuals, bys, drag queens and queer envious straight Club kids to party together. We were all a community of outsiders claiming not only our right to interact, where and with whom we wanted, but also our right to look out for and protect one another. I look back at those days now with with more than a little of nostalgia. Well, over the last two decades, we have made tremendous strides in the struggle for equal rights and acceptance for gay people in our society. We have also divided ourselves into progressively smaller subgroups, which makes me wonder if the advances we've made are as profound as they should be, by this point in our homo history. Since the early 80s, I we have seen the liberal agenda diluted and frequently defeated by the much more consolidated conservative element. This is entirely our own fault. Instead of pulling together, instead of creating a force that is undeniably in its numbers and the intensity of our demands. We've allowed ourselves to be divided by words and labels, many of them foisted on us by the straight conservative world. Absolutely, we are no longer the gay community. We are the gay, lesbian,

transgendered bisexual alternative gay friendly HIV infected HIV, a fact that queers who want to get married queers who want to be in the army, conservative liberal community. This division

 Michelle 30:18

of our county, what's the acronym for that?

 30:20

This division of our community is bullshit.

 Sarah DePalma 30:23

Thank you.

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It is also counterproductive and we're all fools to have allowed it to happen. Absolutely. It's high time we put our infighting, our qualifying of issues and our fear of one another's differences behind us. We are not working for the rights of lesbians, or gay men, or queer youth or transsexuals, or drag queens, or muscle clones, or sensitive artists, or people who look and act just like straight people happen to be homosexual. We are working for the right for all people to marry or not the right to serve our country or not the right to be outrageous or not the right to love who we want to when we want to without fear of violence or discrimination, the right to be whoever we are, and still be afforded the same privileges as any other law abiding, constructive member of society. We are not fighting for gay rights, we are fighting for human rights.

 Michelle 31:24

Amen.

 Sarah DePalma 31:26

I'm in favor of that, that says, Why is that and like not just totally obvious, why

 31:32

don't people get this? You

 Sarah DePalma 31:34

know, and it was a you know,

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I think a lot of it is that we're, we feel protected when we're within our own special lives. Kind. I read a quote, we said this about, you know, people in Pasadena and people Memorial and people in Kingwood.

 Jimmy Carper 31:54

And so that's how we have become divided. I

 Sarah DePalma 31:58

read a quote from Coretta Scott King, she's been under a lot of heat from people within her own community for speaking up on behalf of our rights. And she had a great line. She said, if you're in favor of human rights, how can you be against rights for anyone? There you go. And I thought, well that's a pretty good source. We can live with that. Before I know you wanted to do some alphabet soup. Oh, and so why don't you go ahead and do that? Oh, yeah.

 Michelle 32:32

For the transgender community, there are a lot of different organizations that are in the area, and I just wanted to mention a few of them and explain a little bit about what they do about particularly give you phone numbers or ways to contact these. The first one I'd like to mention is the Gulf Coast. transgender community GCTC. This group is an umbrella group, it handles and has as members. Everyone from the transgender community be they cross dressers drag queens, transsexuals, it makes no difference. And it's kind of like the entry group into the transgender community. They meet once a month on the second Saturday of the month. But more importantly, on the first and third Thursday, at chances at seven o'clock. They have a discussion group or screening group or whatever you want to call it. And you can just show up, or you can call area code 713780 GCTC. That's 7804282. Also, there is a group called Helping cross dressers anonymous. And, as the name implies, there's a little bit here similar to what one might do.

 Sarah DePalma 34:05

And a program trying to cure you of cross dressing.

 Michelle 34:09

Now, what they try to do cope with it, they're trying to cure you up the guilt and shame. There you go. They meet every Tuesday, from seven to nine at Susan Anderson's anyone who feels

that they want to discuss any gender issues are more than welcome to show up. Suzanne Anderson's is at 239 Westheimer. There is no telephone number for that group. You just show up. If you need any more information, you can call either GCTC or taps. Tau chi chapter, now we're getting into the Greek alphabet soup. The Tao chi chapter of triathletes also meets on a regular basis

 Sarah DePalma 34:57

you better tell people try Yes, yes.

 Michelle 35:02

Okay, second self of a tree,

 Sarah DePalma 35:04

try yes is a is a organization for heterosexual crossdressers and their spouses.

 Michelle 35:12

And that's one of the things that try us really does well, it works with significant others and spouses. Yes, you're right. For the heterosexual crossdresser. They have a big program there. And they have a lot of the wives who really help out with other wives on how to understand and understand what what the transgendered individuals going through, and how to cope with that yourself as a spouse. They had a hotline number, it's been converted over to their email number, and I'm getting the hotline number, but I couldn't get it tonight. I'll get it and give it off. Give it out next week. In the meantime, you can call GCTC or tat, and taps is the Texas Association for training sexual support. And it's a peer support group for for serving the emotional, social and educational needs of the transgender person, their partners, families and friends. Tatts meets twice a month, on the second and fourth Saturday of the month. You can contact taps by calling Area code 713-827-5913. Taps works with both the male to female and the female to male transsexual. That's very important. Yes. And as I've said many times, discussing transsexualism with a female to male transsexual has given me real insight into my transsexualism

 Sarah DePalma 36:59

said, the same is true for me, I have learned a lot about the meaning of gender. Yes, in also a lot about adaptation and satisfaction within life. From talking from the female to male, they are truly impressive people. Yeah,

 Michelle 37:15

you're not talking about how to put on makeup, or what to do about shoe size or anything like

that. You're talking about feelings, because that's what you have in common, right? And you will learn so much. And as I said, any of these groups can be reached by contacting either GCTC or taps GCTC 7804282, taps 82759138

S

Sarah DePalma 37:44

I want to talk for a couple of seconds about what this show has been meaning to the transgender community. When we went down to Dr. Coles recently to speak, one of the people came up to me afterwards and said, You know, I've been listening to this show for a while. She said, and my husband is a crossdresser. And she said, I thought that it absolutely meant we had to be divorced. She said, now after listening to your program, we discovered that was not true. What this show does, I think as much as anything, is we we try very hard to make sure that people learn how to like themselves. It's not an easy thing for people to do. I want to say, again, as I often do on the show, I want to say to the transgender youth out there who are listening to us tonight, I want to remind you that we as adults, know you're there that we are kind of hampered if we try to contact you, we open ourselves up to all sorts of lawsuits. That doesn't mean that we don't know you're there we do. And we care. And I would suggest to you if you're since you cannot we cannot contact you try contacting hatch.

♀

39:01

Good idea. Good idea,

S

Sarah DePalma 39:04

great idea. try contacting her and that number

♀

39:07

is 942702

S

Sarah DePalma 39:10

there is a place where you can go you want to meet some people who have learned or and who are at least are learning how how to feel pride in themselves. That's a good start. And indeed we are starting to see some transgender people go from hat to tats.

M

Michelle 39:26

There are two people who aren't who are in hatch who have also joined

♀

39:33

tak robots to right place

S

Sarah DePalma 39:34

to go that really is that kind of cross pollination that community is what this show has always believed in is what we've always preached. And I think we always will, that this is not a transgendered show. This is a show for the community that sure all of every bit of it, and I know we're running out of time so far this time I'm even gonna remember what the tagline is.

O

39:59

You've been Listening to after hours on KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station where radio with rent queer

S

Sarah DePalma 40:09

radio with major magnitude coming up

O

40:13

will not be the return of the sons of musical chairs. We have a little show here that's going to fill in for them this week called Adi, audio gang bang with a couple of guys that you may be familiar with. And since I mean with a name like that, I think I'm gonna hang around I'm making that match. You never know. You never can tell. Anyway, thanks for listening. We will be back next week in the background you've been hearing to human a strike group is doing a song called the beginning of time, which is about psychiatry in genuinely abuses of it. We'll talk more about that next week.

S

Sarah DePalma 40:58

Remember when decorum becomes repression, the only dignity free people have is to speak out. Good night John. our feature presentation