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00:02

And I think, you know if there's any attention left to focus, I'm sure I'll be a target actually. Well, I don't want to have to deal with that. And I would think it would be unfortunate. We do know that gay baiting has never worked in a Houston election. Whether Kathy Whitmer as a non gay candidate was seriously gay, baited when she ran red Hofheinz, former mayor of Houston, another non gay, elected official was, was gay, baited. Chris Bell was gay, baited in this recent special election by Reverend Dixon right. And it didn't work. I think that kind of tactic gets our community out.



00:49

I do too.



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I agree with that. For those of you who were young, and perhaps were not here, when the referendum took place, you may not remember some of the things that took place and some of the brochures that were that were being distributed on the streets of Montrose. And I still have one. That was I kept it because one of the most, it shows a little girl on the front with their arms up as if she's in terror. And you open it up on the inside, and it says this is what happens if gays if if gays get rights,



01:28

it's just, I don't care about people talking about me if they tell the truth. And that's what irritates me most these kinds of pamphlets and things that they they give out at election times that just bald faced lies.



01:44

Well, let's talk a little bit about why it's important to get some someone like a nice on the city council. If you've ever been in politics, or or maybe let's work from the assumption that you've

never been in politics, because that's more likely the case. The real power and politics is not what's announced in the paper. The real power in politics is what happens at the staff meetings. The real power in politics is what happens. And the telephone calls between city council people, or between congressional representatives. That's where the power is. If you don't have someone in that position, you are essentially without power. Even if you've elected a so called friend. There are restrictions put upon a person as elected office just because of the nature of an office. And I'm going to talk about a state legislator as an example, because that's one that I'm very familiar with. If you're in the state legislature, you are bombarded by papers of all kinds. I mean, you're and you're bombarded by legislators, you're bombarded by deals all day long. You work incredibly long hours for extremely low pay. But the real power is being there. The real power is being in on the meetings, having input on the meetings being on the right committees. If you don't have someone elected to those places, you are essentially on represented even if the person is a so called friend, because in truth, what happens is they're going to have to look at what is their core constituency in the final vote? What is their core constituency? If you remember when we had the vote for and for ENDA, even Sheila Jackson Lee ended up voting not present. Because she couldn't afford she felt to vote for it. Right. Right. That's the essence of what it comes down to. You have to have somebody in the position, who knows what their core constituency is, and can vote it. Okay, that's the importance of getting somebody like a nice on the city council. It puts a lesbian person in, let me rephrase that it puts a competent person who happens to be lesbian. In the city council chambers, it gives us a place at the table, it gives us place at the table. It gives us a place at the staff meetings. It gives a place where the papers are exchanged, and the discussions are are ongoing. It gives us a place where they go off to dinner and have their discussions or whatever it is that however they're conducting their business. It gives us an inside spot. We are no longer on represented right



04:43

now. This is not to say that a nice is going to represent all gay and lesbian people and no one else so good. That's true. You know, it's the old romanovski and Phillips line. You know, gay people can't agree on anything for more than a minute. in it if that lie, oh, yeah, right. But but but the better point is that she is going to serve all the people. She has to prove she



05:11

first of all, she's running for an at large position. Yes. Now, I want to talk about about what it's like to try and be representative for minute when I was on Lowell Weicker staff. One of the hard parts about being in a staff position was that you got hit with 100 different views and every subject all day long. The people of Kingwood are gonna have a very different view on the stadium than the downtown merchants are going to go. You betcha. The people on the east side are going to have a very different view about schools than people on the west side who predominantly send their kids to private school. And theoretically, it is an it would be a nice job to represent all those diverse views, not just gays and lesbians. I could foresee a time perhaps aka and several times when she may vote against what many gays and lesbians would want. Because that's part of what her job would be. That's not going to be popular. No, that that's, but that's what it takes. She's



06:18

gonna get some heat from that. Sure she will.



06:20

When Harvey Milk was in city council, he voted against the voted against things. And he heard it. You can imagine being a city councilman in San Francisco, if you don't walk this party line, they're gonna tear your heart out.



06:32

But I tried. The reason Harvey got elected is because he built coalitions. He, he worked with labor, he worked with the Asians, he worked with the blacks, he worked with different groups because he was not supported by the gay community of San Francisco when he was running.



06:50

First of all, let's talk about the gay lesbian community for a minute. One of the things that I was I was kind of surprised at when we were out collecting signatures was the number of gay and lesbian people. When we mentioned it when he was a nice Parker, they said, Who? That's unbelievable to me. Well, there's Jamie Dimon, there's a whole generation of people who will come along behind us who have really not been very politically active. What they know about it is what little they've written the voice. Right? Yes. And they don't know. For the most part these they were much younger, but they're voters. So they count these voters? Yes. I think it's a myth to think that people are going to vote for an Easter egg blue, because they are gay or lesbian. They may or may not get it, you know, who knows? What, who knows, first of all, whether they would know who knows that what they know anything about our background, who knows if they would care. So if you're if you're running for city council position, you have to be able to build those coalitions that you were talking about. It means she's going to have to be able to build a coalition with LULAC. She's going to have to be able to build a coalition with Juden Boni and his folks in the Fifth Ward. She's going to have to be able to build a coalition with Helen Huey as much as I dislike that woman God. And, and yes, she may even have to, if she's elected, she may have to build coalitions with folks like Rob moss backer. Here's a guy who's into the gay and lesbian Political Caucus, at least he's honest enough to say, No, I won't vote for your rights. While she does work for him. She does well, in a manner of speaking, yeah. But you shouldn't be enemy and we're speaking. But what you see the point that I'm making here is about is about. There's a saying that politics is the art of the possible. And that's true. One of the things that Bob Dole really was very good at Bob Dole was a good deal builder. Bob Dole knew how to draw coalition's together. Unfortunately, they almost always worked against them. But he knew how to build coalition's together, he was very, very effective at that. That was what he did well that Newt Gingrich has not learned to do. And if it needs is going to be effective, it means that she may sometimes have to make friends with people that we may some of us in the community may have to hold her knows that. Well, I'm doing it already. But we really need to support the middle class. We really do. We need to go out. It's very early. So she's still in the process of gathering signatures. If you can gathers for signature enough signatures, she doesn't have to pay her way into the ballot. Okay. The next step will be organizing, and fundraising. Fundraising is where it gets real tough, because we're talking about political action

committees, PACs. Well, we all know, what PACs can do ask Bill Clinton, about taking money from certain Asians, oops. Fundraising is a real tough issue. That means she's going to have to go out and work with all these folks. And she's going to have to be able to hit him off money. That means she's going to have to show she's a serious candidate, not just a gay, lesbian candidate. And this is tough. Yes, this is real tough. And yet as of right now, there is no one declared in her district to run against her. Now, is that likely to change? Sure. Oh, yeah, sure. When a city council race is open, especially one that's at large, you can figure in a city this size, you're going to draw some minority candidates, you may draw some candidates from Kingwood. It's very likely she might enter with anywhere from eight to 10 candidates. That's the importance of getting out first. And that's what she's trying to do. What would it mean to the Houston community if we get her elected? For one thing, we finally I think we finally erased the history of the referendum, we finally get that monkey off our back. Number two, we finally can prove that Houston is a diverse city. And then in Houston, no matter what you are, if you're competent, you can be elected. Yes. And she certainly is compact. She certainly is. And finally, it would prove that we have become a major city. There are there are openly city open city council members in there have been in Boston have been San Francisco one just recently was elected in Dallas. First there were some questions about whether anyone knew this person was gay until after the election. But it would be a boost for the city, a boost for the lesbian and gay community. It would be good for all of us. Yes. So I want to stress to you that even if you don't consider yourself to be an activist, you can. You can volunteer to look envelopes. You can contribute money, you can help gather signatures. At the very least you can get off your rear register to vote and vote. Because this is coming up in an election year. It doesn't look like linear is going to get to run for mayor. So it could be a fairly strong turnout. If that's the case, if it actually make it that much tougher to win. So I want to stress to you now get out there Her name is Denise Parker. It makes a difference if you participate. It really does does it really does. What you got what do you have, we



12:21

have a piece of music that we need to play. Same set with there's a guy out there named Ken, who lives in the Montrose and he wanted to hear some Melissa Etheridge and he wanted to dedicate it to his honey who just happens to be the Fredo fat back. Fine. Whatever. Hey, you know, I'll just read the big boy writes down you know,



12:50

yeah, okay. We'll leave it at that.



12:53

Okay, can hear it? Yeah, Melissa Etheridge come to my window for can and the Fredo fat back.



13:04

I like I love this. I love the boyfriends name don't know anything about the boyfriend but I love the nickname.



13:08

I think it's time we gave away something.



13:12

I'm always in favor of giving away things.



13:15

In connection with the the gay and lesbian Film Festival, we were going to have some some goodies over the next few weeks to give away some books and CDs. And this week, I have a CD to give away for the movie all over me, which is currently playing at the River Oaks three over on West gray. Okay, yeah, all over me is the story about two teenage girls coming of age. And one girl is in love with the other. And the other girl has a boyfriend.



13:51

Oh, that's a complication. That's it. That's an interesting twist on the old love train. There



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are more complications because the girl who is in love with the other girl also has a friend. Okay, male friend, who happens to be Pat Briggs, who's the lead singer of psychotic, which we play. Interesting on after hours. So anyway, there's some interesting music it's a lot of rock and punk Babes in Toyland has has a cut on here on a the Franco Sleater. Can Kenny which we've played on this. In fact, I played this cut. It's a great cut. This is a real rockin dyke band. And the name of the song is I want to be your Joey Ramone. Oh yeah, the murmurs have a cut. Squeezebox days, the Geraldine fibbers. Up, up, up, up, up, up, up up and Patti Smith group.



14:52

I think it's Penny smite isn't it? Patty Smyth? Yeah, I think so.



14:57

Well, it's with an eye these days. It used to be with Why,



15:00

AB - another file - a different version altogether

on, maybe it's a different person altogether.

15:03

Anyway, anyway, it's a great CD. And we're gonna give it out to the fifth caller that calls here at 526-573-8526 KPFT. If you're the fifth caller, I'm gonna give you this CD. all over me. Call now, as in free right now big Roy is waiting for your calls five to 6573852 6k P ft. And you're listening to after hours on KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station.

15:39

Okay, the phones are ringing, you better hurry up. Okay, well, while the phones are ringing, while we're waiting to give away the CD. Let's let's pick up where we left off on the last show. Okay, the last show of last show that we did, we taught we spent a good deal of time talking about issues of shame and guilt We sure did. And that drew a very, very strong audience reaction. I have heard from several people in our community about this about the show, I understand that you were hearing about it for a couple of weeks afterwards, from photo work. I hope it was favorable. It was very cheerful. And I've been debating well how to what to backup, the whole idea behind that show. And behind what I'm trying to do for the next few shows, is I want to talk about some issues that have to do with how you can live your life in a positive manner. And of course, shame and guilt is is was right at the top of the list. But as a background, tonight, I was wanting to use something called the The International Bill of gender rights. Now this is something that is put together by the Transgender Law conference here in Houston. And we have used bits and pieces of it before but I wanted to use it tonight because this is right in line with the idea of living your life positively. Being positively transgendered, as I like to call it. The first one of these is that you have the right to define gender identity. That's a show in itself. No kidding, that's a show in itself.

17:23

How many definitions aren't there?

17:25

Well, a bunch, my own version of gender identity is is that gender is a continuum of behaviors. You have the right to decide where you fit on that continuum, you have the right to live your life as you choose to be a crossdresser or not to be a transsexual, or not to be a post surgical transsexual, or not to be anything that you choose. But you have the right to define it. Society does not have the right to assign it.

18:02

I see it is even broader than that. Because there are very masculine men and very feminine men and very masculine women and very feminine women, their their their sexual orientation, having nothing to do with it.



18:17

Well, sexual orientation is a whole different thing in itself. I mean, who you choose as a love object has nothing to do with how you feel. But what does that mean to be a man? What does it mean to be a woman? That's right? That's right. The way the way the Transgender Law conference is worded is they say, all human beings carry within themselves an ever unfolding idea of who they are and what they are capable of achieving. The individual's sense of self is not determined by chromosomal sex, genitalia, assigned birth sex, or initial gender role. Well, society doesn't believe that. And this is a major area where guilt and shame comes from. The idea that you have the right to define your gender idea flies in the face of everything that is taught to us doesn't about gender. Oh, yes, from the very second that you were born, and they were put a pink blanket on you or a blue blanket on you. You're sent off on this nice little path and away you go. Problem. No one gave you any input on this. You know, the parents have all these wonderful ideas and article in today's paper about the expectations of parents, you know, for Mother's Day and the expectations of new moms. I didn't hear read one mom who said they expected their child to grow up gay or lesbian, not one. I didn't say wouldn't read one more mom who said they thought their child might grow up and be transsexual. I'll bet you didn't. Hmm. So that must mean we have to make our own place in society because it doesn't fit does gender expectations. Hmm. Wait a minute. Now we just say we have the right to define it. Yes, we do. That hard. It is hard. That's real hard,



20:03

but you're the only person you are.



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It is one of the things that has that, that I heard from people was they say, well, basically their guilt and shame was coming from the idea that they were different. What is that to be guilty about? Exactly? Nothing. In fact,



20:21

it's it's hard to get over it though.



20:26

Yeah. Oh, I can't think of much. That's much harder than that. Do we have a winner on the CD? Oh, we



20:30

should do? Oh, good. Chuck and his then.



20:35

Well, I think you're gonna love that CD. I was looking at the music on it. That's good stuff.



20:38

Yeah, it really is good stuff.



20:40

The idea that you can define



20:41

took a lot I wanted to keep it.



20:45

Jimmy was in here Pong. It's a you know, and I thought it's gonna stick to his fingers. I know it is. The idea that you can define your own gender identity is tough. It flies in the face of everything society teaches, but you got to have the courage to do it. Yeah. I mean, that's all there is to it. You got to have the courage to do it. That ties into the next thing that's on their list is the right to free expression of gender identity. It's okay to be a bulldog. Okay to Be a Femi one. It's okay to be a an effeminate man. It's okay to be Charlotte mailstore. That's right. You know, it's okay to be a a transsexual, it's okay to be straight. Hello, yeah, that's right. I said it's okay to be straight is. You see, that's one of the biggest problems I'm really convinced. People I've never understood. You talk to straight person, you'll say to them. Well, when you were born, did you did you decide to be straight? Well, no. Why would you think someone chose to be transsexual or or gay or a crossdresser? Why would you think that? Well, because straights normal. Now, well, not a lot of people, not for a lot of people. And you know, normal is, whatever the majority say it is at that time. It hasn't been that way all through history. If you read history, normal has been redefined a zillion times in different cultures. That's a real dangerous word. Normal. I'm still figuring out what it means. Exactly. Normal for a woman in Iran. Normal for a woman in Kuwait. Normal for a woman in Afghanistan, normal for a woman in Southern California. Gee, they're not anywhere close.



22:43

They might as well be from different planets.



22:44

Exactly. So So what is normal? Well, normal is being defined by the culture. Does that mean the

culture is right? No, it means their majority and they get to enforce it. That's what it means. Now that flies in the face of everything you're taught, so you're saying okay, now Sarah, first of all, you said I can I'm gonna fly in the face of society, because I'm gonna, I'm gonna define my own gender identity. Nevermind that I was born with one set of genitals. And if I turn out to be something else, that's okay. Yep. I'm gonna tell you. Yep. Hello. So I'm gonna tell you, and now Okay. Yep. And then they say, Well, no, Sarah, you're gonna tell us it's okay. To be an effeminate man. Yep, yep. Yep, sure is. I know it's going to be hard growing up. If you're, you're a teenager in high school and you're effeminate, you're probably going to get beat up behind a locker room one night. I can understand that you're gonna come out of it feeling chained? You're gonna feel guilty. But

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get over it, or you're going to just feel powerless, powerless.

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Yeah. That's an important point. Jim, I'm glad you brought that up. Because people confuse being powerless. being frustrated with being shamed. The fact that you are powerless is not something to be ashamed of. It's something to work in a fixing. And that's, I guess that's what differentiates an activist from a victim. In that sense, a victim says Well, I guess there's nothing I can do about it. And activist says you'll have to kill me before all surrender. Yeah,

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I think that's a good Yeah. You know, that's, that's close to it. Yeah. That's

24:21

really close to it. And I understand that, that for 90% of the people they're going to say well, that we're woodworking comes from because it's going to be easier to acquiesce. And it's much tougher to say no, wait a minute, I have a right to these things. But why if things do not change if you don't fight for what you believe, Thomas Jefferson said it and it's true. Freedom means nothing if you don't demand it. It was true the day he said it, it's true now. This is KPFT 90.1 in Houston and ke o s at 9.1 College Station

24:58

for you. This is after hours. core radio with attitude

25:01

is looked up and said, oops, don't want to be in trouble here. Okay, now the next thing the right to secure and retain employment and receive just compensation. That's right. Okay. Now this is

a big one. It's a big one, this is a real big one. Okay? It's not hard enough that you're going to have to try and define your own gender identity. And try and unlearn the things that you've been taught, perhaps in your church, you've been taught in your schools, you've been taught by your society. And it's not tough enough, it might take you a lifetime to do it. And it's not tough enough, that you're going to have the right to be a feminine or Bush, or something in between, or androgynous or bisexual. But now you're going to turn around and say, I have the right to do those things. And I have the right to secure job, too.



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And why not? What does that mean, if your ability to do the job, I should think would be enhanced if you can be yourself.



26:03

Try and sell that to an employer. Try and sell that to an employer. That's, that's, that's a real tough one. Yes, you have the right to secure and retain employment. You also have the right to that kind of legislation. And you have the right to go fight for it. And you have the right to go lobby for it. You have the right to send letters to your legislators. You have the right stuff envelopes. Very nice. Parker. Okay. Yes, you do have a right to these things. But rights mean nothing. If you do not take them on yourself. You cannot secure a right by thinking that your neighbor's going to do it. That's not a right. That's a cop out. That I knew nobody likes to hear it. I know. Because it's really hard to do it. Sure it is. And much easier to sit at home. And and minute along with your life. Yeah. And this is it. This is the kind of an issue that this is why people why organizations like GCTC, don't invite me to come speak. Because because they are they like to think of themselves as primarily a social group. And if I come to speak, I'm going to talk to them about these kinds of things. Right? And say parties are good. That's nice. But suppose you're a wreck on the way home? Wouldn't you like to know the EMTs are going to take as good care of you as they would if it was their daughter? Wouldn't you like to know that? If you're stopped by the police, you won't be harassed and beaten up on an island dark alley somewhere? It wouldn't be? Wouldn't you know that if you were a crossdresser, and you got recognized in an elevator that it wasn't going to cost you your job? What has cross-dressing to do with your being able to do your job? Well, nothing. So don't you deserve the right to live your life? Without fear of loss of job? Of course he did. Now then, how are you going to get it? means you have to earn it, you do no one in this society will hand you squat. If you want it, then sister get off your duff and fight for it.



28:12

And what does that mean? What do you have to do to do that?



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You know, it's as little as going out to vote. It is little do that. It's as little as finding out which candidates believe the gays and lesbians have the right to an equal to equal employment and voting for those candidates. It can be as little as that. That's once every two years. Gee, that's

real hard. You know, it can be as little as making other people aware of gay and lesbian friendly people and making sure they go to vote. You know, if you know something, and you can get through to other people go, Hey, terrific. You just multiplied your own influence, believe it or not, you just became an activist. You know, it can be that little, it's not that we're saying to you, you should go run out and join the Geraldo tomorrow and say, Hey, I demand my rights. It does mean that you should probably send a check to the law conference or transsexual minister, or or that, you know that you should contact de McKellar and say, hey, what can I do to help stuff envelopes? Yeah, that's what it means.



29:24

Yeah, stuff. But the other thing of just getting people to vote, that's all it takes. It means you have to care. It's unbelievable how few people vote in this country in any election and the more people that you get to vote. I mean, you're really pushing the percentages up.



29:44

I don't understand. Yes, well, yes, I do to me take that back. In. So in one sense, I understand the apathy that people feel toward their voter and toward their, toward politicians. It is hard to pick up the newspaper any given day and not read about some politician in some scandal somewhere.



30:06

Oh, absolutely. And it's a sort of like it's the worst career move you could make in many cases, because who believes a politician?



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Would you like to be viewed as being lower than used car salesman? Become a politician?



30:22

Exactly. People expect you to be a criminal.



30:26

Exactly. Okay. Now, the reality is that most I say most legislators, and I've known hundreds of them over the years are hard working people who genuinely want to do a good job. I don't care what you read in the papers. Those are the exceptions, not the rule. As much as I dislike Tom DeLay being my congressperson, I'll say this. He's done a very good job of representing his constituents, which are white and wealthy. You know, the fact of the matter is that most members or legislatures aren't whether state or federal level, work very hard. Congressman, I people will point to their salaries and say, well, they make all this money. Yeah, they have to

maintain a residence in Washington, DC, the most expensive city in the country. And they have to maintain a residence in their local district, they have to fly back and forth. Yes, they might get frequent flyer miles, they still have to keep their kids in schools, they still have to maintain a family life, oh, by the way, and you have to work about 12 to 14 hour days, including weekends. And they have to be able to willing to accept the fact that they will be viewed as being lower than slime in the bottom of an aquarium, and that the very people who elect them will badmouth them every day they're in office, well, gee, what a great job. Where do I go to sign up for this?

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You have to be born with the love of politics, I think,

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well, you have to have a real strong sense of self. And you can't be easily disillusioned. But what, but the point here is, if you want these rights, sitting back and being in the closet isn't the way to get it. On the other hand, going on national television is probably not the way either. Now let's tie this back to what we talked about, forget for a second Yes. One of the things that we mentioned on the last show was that people who are in deep shame, or in deep guilt, are very likely to avoid being associated with other transgendered people. And if they do become associated with them, they are likely to want to do it on a party basis. In other words, they're going to want to party, they are not going to want to do anything. That's serious, quote, unquote. Because if you're in shame, if you feel bad about yourself, you probably don't think you deserve any rights. I don't think that's the slightest bit different than women who think they deserve to be beaten. It's precisely the same thing. It's that guilt, that shame, that lack of sense of who you are. That's that that part of you that says, I'm bad, I don't deserve these things. That isn't it boys and girls, that, isn't it, it leads nowhere. It is not the answer, that leads to alcoholism, it leads to depression. It leads to abuse of hormones, it leads to drug use, this is not the answer. feeling bad about yourself will get you nowhere, period. The answer is to associate yourself with people who do feel good about themselves. That means you're going to have a role, it means you're going to have to go find them because they can't find you. That means you have to come out of your bedroom sometime, whether you do in female clothes or not, and find some place where you can meet other people who will lead you in the good direction. You may not you may not be able to do to even so much is write a letter to a state legislator for 10 years. But if you never start you never get there. Just that simple. The next thing that we don't want to talk about is the right to control and change your own body. Now, that's a tough one. You're going to see you're going to see your therapist. It's a matter of degrees, isn't it? Well, yes, but you're going to see your therapist. Okay. And the therapist has the position of authority. The therapist is in charge. The therapist has the information and the therapist tells you what's expected timeout. That's where you got to draw the line. If it's therapist says to you, well, here's what's normally done, you need to look at the therapist and say, I didn't ask what was normally done. I want to do what's right for me. That's tough, okay? That's real tough. You can't have a therapist who's going to say, well, you know, all of my patients end up going for surgery, you're not all his patients, you're you. Okay, you do not have to do anything that you don't want to do. If you end up deciding that you don't want surgery, then don't do it. If you decide that you are a crossdresser, and not a transsexual, then be a good crossdresser and enjoy your life. But don't let a therapist tell you what to do. And don't let

anyone goad you into doing things. I've been at numerous transgendered meetings, where, where I've heard people say, Well, you know, I went to such and such a surgeon, and you should go there too. Don't let people make those decisions for you, you have the right to control and change your body, you have the right not to be dictated to by anyone, it is your life. These are your decisions, you have the right to them, don't be beaten out of them. I mean, once again, that means you're gonna have to learn to stand up for yourself. Some of these are big steps, some of these small steps, but they are all issues of self esteem. If you're in guilt and shame, you can't do any of these, you're going to have to learn how to deal with that. And that was the whole point of the last show. Alright, something else to talk about. Here you have the right to competent medical care. There was a there have been a couple of incidents of transgender people who have ended up in the hospital, who have basically been made to be how can I put this examples where essentially doctors have been Collins's career, take a look at the transsexual, oh, yelled across the emergency room.



37:08

Or worse, like in Chicago or EMT, people wouldn't even exist exactly to help a transgendered person,



37:17

you have the right to competent medical and professional care period. On the same time, that means if you want competent professional medical care, you can't lie to your doctor. Okay, but if you are ever made a martyr or an example, you have the right to report that doctor, you have the right to complain about that. You are no less important than any other patient that doctor has. That's exactly it. That's the bottom line. You may be a crossdresser you may be married, you may be whatever the case is, I don't care who you are, you have the right to this care. It also means you have the right to a therapist who doesn't say to you, God will heal you. You have the right to competent, professional and psychological care do you do a therapist or relationship with a therapist may be is ongoing. It may be really



38:11

hard though to to attain these things when you don't feel good about yourself.



38:18

Yeah, that's what I was just saying earlier is if you feel bad about yourself, you can't do any of this. If you're in deep, if you're really feeling bad about yourself, if you really think you're a worthless slug. There is no way you're going to talk back to a doctor. If you really feel like you are bad. I mean, you know, if you if you really think well, I you know Omicron time was was. Here's the phrase that makes me crazy. I'm just a you're not just a anything? No, hello, don't. That makes me nuts. Never Never. The best advice I ever got was from my grandfather. Grandfather said, Never let anyone else never put yourself done. Put never put yourself down. There are too many other people willing to do it for you. Okay? And that's exactly right. You do have the right to these things. But if you're feeling if you're in shame, you're not going to you're

not going to demand competent professional care. If you're really feeling bad about yourself, you're not going to demand rights in the workplace. But if you never start, you never get there. Now, something I guess I ought to bring up about all this. At any point along the way. You can stop and say, This is enough. This is as far as I can go. And no one no activist. No one has the right to say to you must go



39:49

further. Period. Exactly.



39:54

And I guess it's a good time to bring that ever since you've got to be your own person. When we talk about the right aid to freedom of expression. That's also right to say no. Okay? It's really important. It's like the freedom of religion, you know, you have the freedom of religion, You're also entitled to the right of freedom from religion. Well, you have all of these rights that we're talking about, you also have the right to freedom from activist. Okay,



40:24

I guess having a relationship with closeted Republican man. Time has taught me a few things because I know, you know, Stanley has come out of his closet somewhat, he will never come out all the way. Never. And I understand this. I do too. And it's okay. I love him anyway,



40:48

there may be good reasons why you may not be able to do many of these things. But you should do what you can do. Every one of these things that we're talking about, these are ways for you to live, positively transgendered.



41:03

You know, I wish I can tell you all out there, what it takes to be able to look in the mirror and say, I really like what I see. Because I was my middle 30s Before I was able to do it. And I don't know how it happened. It was just all of a sudden, it was just there. It wasn't



41:25

until I was a year into the hormonal process, that I was able to begin to say that even. So I don't want to mislead anybody into thinking that what anything we're saying here is easy. No, it is not easy. And I'm not leading it. I wouldn't lead anyone to believe that boy, I just woke up one morning, and I could do all this stuff. Because that's not true.



41:43

No, because I went through years of guilt and shame. Oh,



41:47

I don't think I've ever met a gay and lesbian person who didn't I know have never met a transgendered one who didn't. That's what makes all these things hard. But at the same time, if you want it pounded in your head day in, day out, but if you're going to be positively transgendered, by that, I mean, if you are going to live your life to the fullest, these are the things that you have a right to say I want and to actually get if you choose to do it. Okay, that's all we're trying. That's all I'm trying to say here. I'm not suggesting that you call up tomorrow and say, let's go on channel 13. And take on Marvin Ziggler. I am saying to you, that you do have the right to these whether you're ready to hear this or not. Remember that we've had this discussion, because there may be a time down the road, when you will feel good about yourself. And you will say I think I have the right to have something more. You need to know what that more is. And that's what we're talking about. That's that's the whole point. Now we have the right to freedom from important freedom from psychiatric diagnosis or treatment. That means if you are out there, and you don't think you want to go to a therapist, you don't have to go period. No one hits