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people, talk, transgender, lesbian, phyllis, called, gender, gay, transgendered, houston, transgenders, aggies, caucus, year, working, term, article, tonight, means, transgender community

SPEAKERS

Jimmy Carper, Michael Crawford, Sarah Dipalma

Jimmy Carper 00:08

The following program contains language or images of a frank or sensitive nature, which may be considered objectionable by some listener discretion is advised. Oh yes, you tuned into after hours a continuing tradition on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of after hours is ready to bring you news, interviews and music geared for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people. Hear it after hours, we may be diverse, but we have one thing in common. We are all out of the closet and urge everyone to come out of their closets. That means standing up for yourself, taking responsibility for your own life and being proud of who you are. Realistically, we know not everyone can do that because of a wage job or frame of mind. That's okay. We're here for you too. So sit back, relax, and enjoy this week's edition of after our. Had no Hello Houston and welcome to after hours a continuing tradition on KPFT Houston, and KEOS College Station Bryan. That's 90.1 and 89.1 fm. With me tonight is

Sarah Dipalma 02:24

Sarah dipalma. Ah, how are you doing, folks? Hello, Aggies.

Jimmy Carper 02:28

Hey, yeah. Out there in ke OS keep eating our stuff.

Sarah Dipalma 02:34

It's right one Aggie to a bunch of Aggies. Howdy. And they'll know what that means. That's as traditional as a traditional welcome on the campus of Texas a&m. Oh,

Jimmy Carper 02:44

we have we've talked about the campus and how clean it is right?

S

Sarah Dipalma 02:47

And all of that, where they're going to be there. They might be a little busy. They have graduations. Whoa, I say that's that graduation in a town the size of college station is incredible. It's like this the descending of the locusts? I can imagine.

J

Jimmy Carper 03:00

Yeah. Because Mom and Dad's and all the families.

S

Sarah Dipalma 03:05

And they don't have that many hotels. So it's a very interesting weekend up there.

J

Jimmy Carper 03:09

Well, it's a very interesting week here too, because we are right in the middle of Marathon. We do this three times a year. Traditionally, we have done it three times a year. I know we it just seems we were here yesterday doing it. But that was a little special one. This is a regular one.

S

Sarah Dipalma 03:26

Well, and is it I think just about everyone knows from having read the newspaper or if you've heard on on this station before. We are all public broadcast stations are being threatened with a cut and funding. Oh,

J

Jimmy Carper 03:38

it's it's real now. 12% this year, 17%. Next year? Well, you know, overall, that's like 30 to 40%.

S

Sarah Dipalma 03:48

And the thing about this particular station, is we are the answer to Rush Limbaugh. You know, I don't know that this show tonight we're going to be talking about many different issues, some of which may be very controversial. Oh, I hope so. You're not ever going to hear Rush Limbaugh talk about them. You're not going to hear Oliver North. Talk about them or no, this station is we are really the only voice in Houston that replies to these people. So if you think it's important that there be a public answer, a public voice, someone who stands up to these people, then that's us. That's KPFT

J Jimmy Carper 04:24
then you should call 5265738 or 526 KPFT and pledge your support of after hours and KPFT

S Sarah Dipalma 04:36
you know what I like to start something different, a little bit different, actually. Actually, my wife partner suggested this. Let's try something different in a night and she suggested we call us Let's buy a drink for KPFT. Okay, and the idea is you take the price of one of the drinks that you are going to use tonight and donate it to the station.

J Jimmy Carper 04:57
Hey, that's simple another if If all the queers in this town did that, we wouldn't have to do another marathon for three years to realize this, because our yearly budget is only \$400,000.

S Sarah Dipalma 05:11
Well, I think everybody thinks they have to donate like a million dollars or something, or they've got us donate \$150 Oh, no, we'll take that. But but let's try that tonight. Donate a drink to KPFT. If you're going to spend \$5 to \$7 for a drink, say that last five or \$7? And let's give it to KPFT. Sure. That's,

J Jimmy Carper 05:30
that's easy enough. Yeah.

S Sarah Dipalma 05:32
I think Oh, and by the way, we do have other premiums. Oh, yes, we

J Jimmy Carper 05:35
do. For \$35. We have the program guide that will that's being printed up as we speak. And \$60 is a brand new designed t shirt for color with the KPFT on it and 90.1 FM or a ceramic mug for \$60. Now for \$90. You can have a T shirt and a mug, or two mugs and two T shirts. And for \$150 we have the ever lovely KPFT tote bag. Yes, it's a really huge one and it's in black. And that's really nice.

S Sarah Dipalma 06:14
You can tote a lot of drinks.

J Jimmy Carper 06:18

In fact, yes, you can take your T shirts and mugs and stuff them all in your KPFT bag. And you know, hey, great.

S Sarah Dipalma 06:25

You're on your way to the gym to become body beautiful. Well, this is the thing for you. And don't forget, we have what's called an instant membership. If you charge your pledge for \$35 or more on a credit card, then you get a special bonus. And I like this idea. It's an instant member it's called it's a bumper sticker. Yeah. Now, you know, I think I have a cool idea for these bumper stickers I pledge to become an instant members take your bumper sticker and put it over top of a rush limbaugh sticker in a mall somewhere. Okay,

J Jimmy Carper 06:55

you know, I mean, see if they even notice

S Sarah Dipalma 06:57

Yeah, put a tip I had. We had some bumper stickers that said I'm transgender and I vote and I was telling everybody take them out to the mall and put them over the Rush Limbaugh stickers of Oliver North's stickers they notice when you just picture Mommy What is trans she's Andrew what is it used to say ditto head did

J Jimmy Carper 07:22

you and we take American Express can't Express, MasterCard, Visa. And we now take discover they finally did it. They've been promising for months and months and months. But we now take discover.

S Sarah Dipalma 07:36

That's right. So you have no excuse. We know you have plastic Philander isn't gonna say he doesn't have plastic.

J Jimmy Carper 07:42

Oh, and it's so cool. You know, it's really easy. Give us the plastic and we get the money right away. You don't have to worry about sending a cheque in another week or so when you get the bill and all of that. And you get the bumper sticker.

S

Sarah Dipalma 07:54

That's right, which you can use creatively. If you don't want to put it on your own car, which of course you could. Yeah. Well, let's talk about what we're going to do on the show tonight.

J

Jimmy Carper 08:02

What are we going to do on the show? Well, first of all, we

S

Sarah Dipalma 08:05

have a guest on tape by the name of Phyllis fry. Oh, Phyllis Randolph her. Yes. The one with the hat. Yes. Now there are a lot of people in Houston who think they know Phyllis, actually, they they know about her. They've met her and they've seen the public, Phyllis. They've seen the hard driving filters. They've seen the Phyllis who is as always talking

J

Jimmy Carper 08:30

about that T word in every group in this town.

S

Sarah Dipalma 08:34

That's we're going to talk about that tonight, too. But tonight, you're also going to get to hear Phyllis the person. One of the reasons I really wanted to do this interview with her, in addition to the fact that the Transgender Law conference is coming up in June is that I've known Phyllis a long time. And I've talked to her about this before. One of the things about being an activist is sometimes you stop being seen as a person. You're not You're seen as role model. You're seen as a politician. You're seen as a lot of things we can't repeat on the air. But but you're not seen as a person. No, you're you're seeing something other than a purse something other than Yes. And I thought it was important tonight for people to get to meet Phyllis in that sense. And also with us tonight on table with de McKellar. Oh Nadine McKellar IS THE BOARD SECRETARY FOR spectrum 95. She is also a non a the only non attorney on the board of directors of the Transgender Law conference. Oh, and she'll be talking about her trip to Helsinki, Finland, which she took on behalf of the Transgender Law conference. And what she learned about transgender is in Europe. Oh, so I think that was very interesting. And it seems to me that as long as we're going to have Phyllis on the show, it was time we talked about political inclusion, and I do mean transgendered political inclusion. So we're going to talk about several different things. First of all, we're going to talk about the article that appeared and outsmart

J

Jimmy Carper 09:59

Oh, Oh, yes, I've read that that was disturbing to me.



S

Sarah Dipalma 10:04

Well, we're going to talk about it, I have written to reply which will be appearing in outsmart, which, probably on Wednesday or Thursday, there also be several other letters that were written by members of the community and one solicited by the way, while I

J

Jimmy Carper 10:19

decided that rather than me shoot my mouth off, I'd let somebody like Harvey Milk. Talk about,

S

Sarah Dipalma 10:27

I'm really looking forward to that. Okay. We also want to talk about something that says, we're gonna be talking about the law conference, I want to talk about something called the gender Bill of Rights. Now, we're talking about that a little bit, but not in full. Tonight, we're going to talk about the transgender caucus, which probably not many people even know exists. You're right. What we thought, well, the transgender caucus is is for the first time ever, all the transgender organizations in the city of Houston are working together on putting together resolutions for Spectrum 95. Oh, and I mean, really, all the organizations, it was really something to see the group, a group of drag queens sitting next to members from the Tri Yes, sorority and working together.

J

Jimmy Carper 11:08

Whoa. So I can't imagine that. And we need to go in that into detail, because I'm sure most people sitting out there. Don't understand. So no problem which

S

Sarah Dipalma 11:21

we'll also talk about the hate crimes bill, we'll talk about what happened to the named slash gender change bill in the legislature. And one of the things that occurred to me as weird as I was preparing for the show, I was listening to some of the tapes. And the last several shows we've done. We've had interviews after interview after interview, but we haven't really talked much about the local community. Yeah, you're right. So tonight, we're going to talk about local stuff. Okay. We're also of course, we're going to have the interview with Phyllis and with the McKellar. But we're going to talk about community news tonight. Okay, community things. And of course, we're going to be asking for your money.

J

Jimmy Carper 11:53

Yes, we are. And that number is 5265738. We'll be Oh, just kind of popping in throughout the evening, to talk about why your donation to KPFT is very, very important.

S

Sarah Dipalma 12:10

And I will point out to those of you who are in the transgender community and are listening this evening, this is still the only show in the country, which in openly transgendered person addresses issues for the transgender community. You're right. There is a show that will be starting in Boston in July that finally been that is that has been finalized. But as of right now, we're still the only one we are in just that basis alone. This show at the very least is worthy of your support. Yeah. We're going to be talking about issues tonight, that affect every one of you. We've had Kate Bornstein on the show and then Martine Rothblatt on the show. We've had nationally known people, so you know, buy a drink for KPFT There you go buy a drink for for this show. And let's make these phones ring. Okay.

J

Jimmy Carper 12:57

Before we go to a piece of music, we have a special guest in the control room right now, even as we speak, Michael Crawford who used to be associated with this show, but I don't know how to his hissy fit and left him it's now he's

M

Michael Crawford 13:11

back. Are you saying that? I'm a bit No. Okay. Okay, because I'm not. Oh, anymore.

J

Jimmy Carper 13:19

Actually. Now, Michael, you are Michael.

M

Michael Crawford 13:23

And I am special. Yeah. Okay. I'm actually I'm kind of here hanging out. But I did want to comment on something that Sarah said a little earlier, Sarah department that is about that article and outsmart it's still carpenter. That's all you need to know. That's why it was not all that all that it could be. Don't carpenters over, he's tired. Who cares if he's a Harvard educated lawyer.

J

Jimmy Carper 13:46

And that that's an opinion by a guest on the show. Not necessarily, but maybe the opinion of the hosts and the management at KPFA.

M

Michael Crawford 13:58

I'd like to say I just dropped by to get you guys in trouble again. Thank you. You're welcome. Also, Sarah was talking about diversity in the so called Community. I'm hoping that means that in addition to talking about transgendered issue, transgender people of color, will be included in the discussion and talked about as well, because usually when people talk about inclusion and people like Dale carpenter and others, what they generally mean is a diversity of white men.

Okay, and I'm sorry, but I'm completely and totally over it. I happen to be here with the white guide, who's way cute. Yes, he is. Yeah. So but I'm just over just seeing white faces everywhere. So people of color come out. Transgender people of color, definitely come Absolutely. And it's not just simply a point of being included but also having influence. So I'm pretty much over

J Jimmy Carper 14:55

the witness. And let me tell you, what, from the other side of it, I'm on the board. of directors of the gay and lesbian switchboard and we have spent years begging for people of color to be on the board to be members of the switchboard because it's, it's damn hard to be white and try to represent everybody. It's can't be done.

M Michael Crawford 15:18

And particularly say for example, you're talking to a Latino youth, you know, from the barrio. That's right. And being white and from Montrose, you're not going to be fully capable of being able to identify, I do think that there is a new group actually, for African American lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people call the African American Gay, Lesbian and Gay Alliance, which actually, I want to do an interview with the executive director, and we'll run it on your show. Cool. Isn't it? Great for me to tell you that? Yes. I think that that will open up possibilities for more inclusion by people of color and having more people of color involved. What I have been pleased to say, at least over the last several weeks was that there are more people of color who are involved, and I know I'm taking up your time. No, no, no, no, no. Oh, well, great. Thanks. No,

J Jimmy Carper 16:09

I'm just

M Michael Crawford 16:10

thinking, okay. And I think that, I mean, like, I'm working with the output project now. Yeah. Which is a model along the lines of the Southwest voter registration project, except that it's aimed solely at queer people. And it's about voter registration and education, and how important it is exactly. Because, you know, if we all go and vote, it's a lot easier, for example, for us to influence someone like Rodney Ellis, who is great on our issues than it would be for us to pull in someone like Warren Chisholm, who sucks. And I don't mean stuck in a good way. I and I brought that up to say, yeah, that what's probably going to be happening in the future is that the African American gay group will be working with the Advo project specifically to register African American queer voters

J Jimmy Carper 17:02

now. Now out vote is a project of the it's LPC

M

Michael Crawford 17:07

started by the OPC. But it says separate entity. Oh, it's gonna be 501 C three tactic that

J

Jimmy Carper 17:13

Oh, okay. I was under the impression that it was part of Hg LPC, especially when started this didn't show right. The information I had.

M

Michael Crawford 17:22

And it's but it has to be separate, because what the caucus does, you can have nonprofit tax status to do. Okay, and so we're going to be non nonprofit 501 C three, meaning you can give us your money. And then when it comes time for you to do your tax return, you can say I donate this to a nonprofit. Okay.

J

Jimmy Carper 17:41

I actually I'm kind of happy to see that out vote is not part of HDL PC. I don't know. It just

M

Michael Crawford 17:49

it just Yeah. I mean, the caucus has the ability cleaner to me something Yeah. And we have to be real clean. Otherwise, we could get in big trouble. But the caucus is more about endorsing candidates and helping them get a lead right. Whereas the ABA project is totally nonpartisan. It's just get your ass out and vote exactly who you vote for way. Yeah, just we need we need the queer vote. Yeah, and actually right now our Mr. meetings and stuff. Yeah. The very next meeting is actually on Wednesday, May 17. It's going to be at seven o'clock at the caucus meeting space which Oh, alternate. Yeah. And all upstairs from emos. Exactly. emos where people are writing stuff down. Me. Okay. And that's going to be Wednesday. That's also going to be when they begin the election for the board of directors. So if you're interested in that you should come out. Yeah. Also, our voter registration drive, the spring edition begins next Saturday, and we're going to be registering voters from 12 Noon to 6pm. At the Walgreens on Montrose, oh, and between four and six, Sarah is just finding this out, but you can see Sarah and myself there. Sarah G. Sarah Gutierrez. Yes. Volunteers me this way. It's only because I love you. Okay, where? At the Walgreens on Monday, Oh, okay. Walgreens and Montrose, sterile will be there from four to six with me. Cool. But people are going to be there from noon to 6pm. And for other future locations, you can check out the queer publication

J

Jimmy Carper 19:26

and we'll be talking about it on this show. Groovy. Cool. Thanks for coming. Thank you. I want to go to a piece of music and it's it's something that I heard on one of the big stations 104 You know that one kind of I don't know where it is but you know that they've got some maybe not

know, that one kind of, I don't know where it is, but you know that they've got some maybe not quite out of the closet DJs over there. I don't know what you might call them. You know, not that anybody's ever seen them hanging out at at J RS or anything? Hey, you know, what do I what am I talking about? But it's by a straight woman. Well, mostly straight woman, Jill Sobule. But it's a great song and it's about gender confusion or just a bisexual Outlook or just how about we like people for their personalities rather than their plumbing. You know,

S

Sarah Dipalma 20:29

what, what a concept what?

J

Jimmy Carper 20:34

And it's called, I kissed a girl named Jill Sobule. I kissed a girl and Sara G was telling me that this is getting airplay on MTV, as well as the big commercial stations.

S

Sarah Dipalma 20:54

She said in the video, Fabio is the husband. Yeah. Okay.

J

Jimmy Carper 21:00

And Jill, and whoever plays the next door neighbor ended up playing footsies under the picnic table.

S

Sarah Dipalma 21:05

I want to go back to what Michael Crawford was talking about to get for a second about the outcome. Yeah, the the person who's organizing that has made it a special point to be transgender, inclusive. Oh, and I have promised him that I will show up at the meeting on 17th. And I would encourage any of you who are transgendered. If you'd like more information, you give us a call here at the station. We'll pass this along. Sure. They're making a special point to include us, we need to show up and let them know we appreciate it. You bet. Yeah. For all we're going to be talking about with inclusion and such. You know, we haven't had the phones ring yet. No, we

J

Jimmy Carper 21:39

haven't. We I don't

S

Sarah Dipalma 21:41

understand that.

J Jimmy Carper 21:42

And that number is 5265738 for your pledge of support to KPFT. And after hours.

S Sarah Dipalma 21:50

Let me read you something out of today's Houston Chronicle. Maybe we can get your attention a little bit. The House and Senate negotiators agreed Friday to cut public broadcasting by nearly 12% Next year, and 17% in 1997. Well, gee, that means Rush Limbaugh gets to talk that much more with that fewer that many fewer voices responding. That doesn't sound too good. No, it does not. Last year as democratic led Congress had approved spending increases to 312 million. But the Democrat, the Republicans are threatening to cut spending to zero. Now, we're not trying to scare you. I'm just trying to make a point. Unless you want to simply surrender the airwaves to the far right. You need to need to start supporting his folks because we're the last voices of resistance left.

J Jimmy Carper 22:49

Yeah. And I want to remind listeners out there that it costs right around \$50 an hour to run this radio station that's like the, I think, five or six paid staff who actually work here, and they work like crazy for very little pay. That's right. That's right. And there's over 100 volunteer programmers that really that make this station go 24 hours a day and we could not be paid for this six people on the staff who actually administer it. We're not getting we're volunteers we don't get paid to do now. So most of the money goes to HL, NP, and rentals for the tower and all of that kind of stuff. And like fresh air said the things that the more Now you might think you can afford to become a KPFT you might think you cannot afford it's not as costly as you might think. Think of what you bought over the last month dinner for two runs 135 bucks. Movie tickets, seven bucks, ah, a weekly magazine subscriptions could cost over \$60 You know, for the magazines that you take every easily. Yeah. CDs cost? What? 10 \$15 apiece? That's right. Yeah. Daily newspaper subscriptions about 25 bucks a month. When you look at what you spend on other forms of entertainment, doesn't KPFT fit into your budget.

S Sarah Dipalma 24:21

You know, they their premiums prices go from 35 to 60 to 90 to \$150 but you know if you want to buy a drink for KPFT you want to pledge \$10 There you know what we'll take the \$10 You bet \$10 buys a roll of stamps. 10 \$10 will go a long way with volunteer staff.

J Jimmy Carper 24:40

It sure will.

S Sarah Dipalma 24:41

So get on the phone that number is 5265738 or if you spell better than you count yeah it is five to 6k P ft and Aggies I know you can remember those numbers. Don't we have a one 800 Number for Aggies I don't know

J Jimmy Carper 24:56

we we have had that in the past it Usually 1-800-526-5738 If not, then you know, another dollar on, you know, for the phone

S Sarah Dipalma 25:08

now I call I know that with my with the exception of me Aggies in money go together. So I know, I know that you can pledge to us. Okay. Well, okay, let's talk about, let's talk about this article. Okay. Okay. Now, first of all, if you're in College Station, perhaps you have not seen the article. The magazine is called out smart. And it's a very good magazine. It is a magazine for the heat. It's that says it's for Houston's gay and lesbian monthly magazine. And it is that it does a very good article and the publisher over there, his name is Greg Zhu is a very, very nice guy. Oh, yeah. Now the article is about transgender political inclusion. Now, let me stop right there and explain what that is. transgendered people, and I'll explain what transgendered people are in a minute. If you don't know, transgendered people have hit a point in their political development, shall we say, where they have reached the point of saying to the gay and lesbian community who they have worked with, for more well over a decade, we want to be included in your organizations. And because we feel like we have been sold out politically in the past in various places, we want you to put it in writing. In other words, we want our names someplace where we know you can't sell us out. And the particular case, for example, of Houston, gay lesbian Political Caucus, we would like to see it put into the mission statement of the H GOP say, in the case of other organizations, we would like to see transgender in the name. And there is there is considerable resistance to this. And I'll explain why in a little bit. But that's what in a nutshell, that's what transgender inclusion is, we want to be included in the gay lesbian political organizations. That's a fairly simple concept,

J Jimmy Carper 27:12

or yet well, yes, it's very simple. I tried to think of all the lesbians who worked in in now. And then remember about 1015 20 whenever that was, that the people who were in charge of now looked around what we have lesbians here and sold them out in a heartbeat. You bet. Exactly. And how did how, how did you feel as a lesbian, when that happened? How did you feel as a person when that happened, when you heard about it, when have people working for the cause, and then be the kick kicked in the teeth?

S Sarah Dipalma 27:46

Well, that's where we are now. And so what I want to do is I'm going to start at the beginning, if you're a new listener to the show, these terms may may, you may not have thought about these terms. This way, if you're a regular listener to the show, I hope you'll forgive us going over the same

J Jimmy Carper 28:01

name. As a matter of fact, somebody came up to me the other day and said, you know, transgender, transsexual, what's the difference? And, you know, just when they hit me with it that way, I, my brain wasn't functioning.

S Sarah Dipalma 28:17

Alright, let's start out with some definitions here. Okay, the day that you're born, a doctor takes a look at you and they either do or don't see a penis. Okay? And on the basis of your biology, you are given name of male or female, that biology is called your sex. Okay? Okay. So biologists sex is biology. Okay? Now gender is the set of behaviors that society expects of you. Because you have been labeled labeled is being one sex, or the other. So understand you're supposed to behave so understand sexes, biology, gender is all the behaviors that come out of having been called one sex or another purely a social construct purely a social construct that what what is considered a man, quote, unquote, in America is far different than what would be expected of a man in Pakistan or Indian. So we're talking about gender gender is, is a social construct. Okay, now, here's I want to go over with one more term, the acting out of these behaviors is called gender expression. So in other words, what kind of man are you? Are you one of these? Are you a new age man, the kind of a man who can cry easily? Are you a strong silent type? Are you a butch dyke? Are you a femme lesbian? What are you that's gender expression. Okay, so so far, so good. One more term? Well, I

J Jimmy Carper 29:53

think gay man should be able to understand that because we talk about getting down to our female outside and knowing you know and trying, you know in doing drag and doing all of this kind of stuff we kind of week we have explored our feminine side. Let's let's face it Yeah, no matter how Butch we look on the outside

S Sarah Dipalma 30:15

it's it's interesting now one of the things that it has become became very apparent as I read the article and outsmart there are a group of people in this community who were afraid of being labeled a sissy. And I'm proud of it was there are many people who are scared to death of it in transgenders represent the worst of that. Oh, transgenders represent everything that they fear about themselves being labeled sissies, so we have to go,

J Jimmy Carper 30:48

that's incredible. When you're secure in your own sexuality, it doesn't matter who's what

S Sarah Dipalma 30:53

the key phrase there is secure in your sexuality. If you have internalized homophobia, then maybe you're not so secure. I say. So. Okay, one other term that I want to talk about here, and that's sexual orientation. Sexual orientation has to do with your affectional orientation, who you are attracted to. Oh, okay. Okay. That is not the same as gender? Oh, no, no, no. Well, many people don't understand that. And it's the most common question I get everywhere I go, is, well, what does gender have to do with sexual orientation? And the answer is nothing. That's right. Absolutely nothing. sex and sexual orientation and gender are not the same. Gender is a series of behaviors, that that is expected of you because you are called male or female. Sexual orientation is who you are

J

Jimmy Carper 31:42

attracted to. That's right. And that that doesn't change no matter what really doesn't?

S

Sarah Dipalma 31:46

No, it doesn't. Okay, now, the first. One of the first points that I wanted to make then, is that now that we're in, in this respect, gay and lesbian people are really gender outlaws. Oh, yeah. They're gender outlaws. Because by the mere fact that you love a person of the same sex, you are violating every gender code society has ever said. Remember, all those things you had when you were growing up? You know, big boys don't cry. Yeah. You know, boys play football and girls play without? Yeah. And women grow up to be sexually attracted to men and men grow up to be sexually attracted to women. Wrong, wrong. Wrong. In the minute that you're say wrong, you have violated the gender code. That's right. So ladies and gentlemen, if you are gay and lesbian or bisexual, bisexual, that's right. You are a gender outlaw. In that respect, you are, in many ways, trans gendered, transgendered, meaning that you cross the boundaries of societal expectations of gender? Hello? Hello. Why is that a hard idea to get? It's not one person who wrote this article, clearly. Oh, yeah, that person, and it has clearly is from members in the Houston gay lesbian Political Caucus, and I'll be talking about that later. But they clearly have a problem with this concept. Okay, now, last time, we were on the show, I gave a definition of transgender. And I have to tell you, I got blasted by several people in the gay lesbian community who hated this definition. Just hated it. I didn't think they were included in it. I was accused of making it up. Lots of different things. So just for the record, I've read it again. Yeah,

J

Jimmy Carper 33:34

I don't recall anything that controversy. Oh, that was?

S

Sarah Dipalma 33:37

Well, first of all, let me explain to the folks out there that I didn't make this definition out. Oh, okay. This definition comes from the San Francisco Human Rights Foundation, who wrote a ordinance which protects transgendered people in San Francisco. Okay, so I didn't make this up. I didn't write it. They define transgender as an umbrella term that includes male and female cross dressers with any of those people be gay and lesbian. Yeah, all bad. transvestite. Yeah, I

bet some of those are probably gay and lesbian to female and male impersonators. All No, we don't any of those who would be gay and lesbian. Of course not. How about postoperative preoperative transsexuals? Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah, thanks. So How about how about masculine appearing women and feminine appearing men very ago knew anybody that's labeled a butch dyke or nearly queen or you know, some transgender people in the gay lesbian community. How

J Jimmy Carper 34:37

about just the drop in us? Well,

S Sarah Dipalma 34:40

yeah, if you're a gender neutral and bisexual. There you go. Now there are I have been blasted for this and I don't care. I don't care. I didn't make it up. The problem here is that there are some people in the community who don't want to be lumped with us. They don't want to be lumped with us it brings up Your own worst fears in themselves. You know, these

J Jimmy Carper 35:03

are the same people that give the give all of the speeches and give them the reasons why there shouldn't be drag queens or leather men in the gay pride parade. These are the people who want to wear a three piece suit and walked down West timer in June

S Sarah Dipalma 35:21

and say, Hey, we're just like you. Exactly. And don't you wonder how the term gay pride in that attitude goes together? I don't get it at all. Well, I sure don't. Okay, so you've got so we have a situation in Houston. That is very, very different from just about anywhere else in the country. Now, the reason that it's different is because you have Phyllis Frey and me here. Phyllis has been talking about the idea of transgender inclusion, I think, since God created water. Oh, I know it. And I think in some sense, Phyllis probably had the cart ahead of the horse. She was talking about transgender inclusion at a time in which people had no clue what transgenders were. But it's 10 years later. And I'll tell you, I ain't buying the excuse that you don't know what transgenders are anymore. Not in this town. There's a statement in the article that says, we don't know who transgenders are, and we're uncomfortable around them wrong. Well, that's tough. I don't care if you're uncomfortable. roundest 10 years later, it's time to grow up, period. First of all, I don't think it's true. I think we just established within the last few minutes the transgenders, are you, me, people, you know. And, gee, are we going to say, well, we're only going to have the straight acting, gay people included, but the transgender acting people aren't. Actually we kind of did that. And it was called the hate crimes law in Texas. There

J Jimmy Carper 36:51

you go.

S

Sarah Dipalma 36:52

We actually did that. Okay. First of all, Houston is an unusual city. We have some very, very high profile people in this city who are transgendered. Mm hmm. You've got Phyllis, you've got myself. We have a person here named Wendy Allen, for example, first transgendered person on the board of the Montrose Counseling Center. We have Denise cop who is working with the county judges, working on transgender issues and issues of transgender people in prison. We've got Dima Keller, who's the board secretary for Spectrum 95. We are out into the community. Absolutely. And it has become very interesting. What we've had. What has happened here is Houston has a battle on its hands, and it's between the assimilationist and the queers and transgenders have become the pawns in that battle.

J

Jimmy Carper 37:41

It seems that that's basically what's going on here.

S

Sarah Dipalma 37:44

Now, in my own view, assimilationist are basically the same people that we used to call classic wins. Yeah. Now they're not so closeted. What they do is they they simply have taken that attitude and they've cloaked it and velvet language. They'll say things like, we're not excluding anyone, we're simply readjusting the focus. Right, okay. I understand.

J

Jimmy Carper 38:09

Yeah. Especially if you're a lawyer, you can you can come up with these these terms

S

Sarah Dipalma 38:14

in the people who were killed in Guatemala weren't killed. They simply simply simply suffered. The permanent deprivation of human rights. Yes. Yeah. Okay. Come on. Now, let's talk about some reality here.

J

Jimmy Carper 38:25

Yeah, it's cloaking it with niceness. Like the term remember the term friendly fire, which means you got killed by your own people. Yeah. Nuclear weapons that were called peacekeepers. Yeah.

S

Sarah Dipalma 38:36

Okay. Now in the article in outsmart. There's a discussion about Parents and Friends of Lesbians and gays. And it's pretty much stated by this person. He doesn't think the transgender

Lesbians and gays. And it's pretty much stated by this person. He doesn't think the transgender people belong in PFLAG. I don't get it. Well, his argument essentially, is that if transgender people are included, it takes the focus away from homophobia. In other words, it broadens it, it dilutes the message, because the gay lesbian movement should be kept pure, it should be kept for gays and lesbians, only. Oh, otherwise, the focus, you know, if you have to talk about two subjects instead of one, then you're not concentrating your fire. Now, here's this, here's, here's the rub to this. I attended that conference. One of the things that came out of that were the number of people who came up to me and said, You know, I'd like to know more about transgendered people. We get calls all the time. See, I get calls all the time from parents of transgendered people who want to know, is there some place that they can go? Well, PFLAG is the obvious answer. As it turns out, since that since we've had this,

J Jimmy Carper 39:52

let me let me add to that. I'm with the gay and lesbian switchboard. I'm on the board I'm also on the phone When people call in, and we get calls from transgendered people all the time, we get calls from straight cross dressers. We get calls from straight people who have a relative who has AIDS and they don't know who else to call. If we, if we just focused on gay and lesbian people, we would not really be giving out the information that we should be to the mass market here.

S Sarah Dipalma 40:34

Well, the thing is that the transgender community and the gay lesbian community traditionally have worked, because we can't we suffered the same stuff,

J Jimmy Carper 40:42

Honey, we're so enmeshed that I don't know how you can tell one from the other. It was a transgender person that threw the first stone at Stonewall. I mean, let's face

S Sarah Dipalma 40:53

it. Well, I don't understand how you can separate them either. But there's certainly being an attempted that, as a lot of our being in PFLAG of the Austin group that Austin crossdressers group has swapped meetings with PFLAG PFLAG has come to the Austin crossdressers. And vice versa. In a sense, the last time I have talked to them, they are going to have several more joint meetings. We've had joint meetings in Dallas, we've had joint meetings in the valley. The only person who seemed upset by the has by our having been at PFLAG was the person who wrote the article. Now favor, they pretty interesting. Yeah, I

J Jimmy Carper 41:28

did. Okay. Well, let's

S

Sarah Dipalma 41:30

go on to a little different subject. Yeah, one of the things that that has been brought up to me several times, people will say to me, well, a lot of transgender people are straight. So they're not really like us. Let's not include them. Wait, wait, wait, wait, now let me let me get this right. Because their sexual orientation is not the same as yours, you're gonna discriminate against them? Is that what I've got now? I think that's it.

J

Jimmy Carper 41:57

Okay. As an outside person here, yeah. Okay. I'm a transgendered person who decides to change sex or not have the operation or whatever. Maybe your sexual orientation hasn't changed. So maybe now you become a lesbian.

S

Sarah Dipalma 42:23

And that's exactly right. In in, I would venture to say in 60% of the cases in which you have a male to female transsexual, yeah, in about 60% of the cases, they end up in lesbian relationships, okay, and disappear into the lesbian community. In fact, it's one of the key issues in the transgender community right now, is that we are losing several very important leaders who have found lovers and decided to disappear into the lesbian community. The ironic part to this is when we say to them, are you going to tell your lesbian friends that you're transsexual? They say, Oh, no, if we did that, they'd laugh at us. Ironic, I think. The other thing is, you take a person, if you go out to the bars tonight, there are a lot of great cross dressers and those bars. Oh, yes. Do you know what those people are folks? They're called message bearers. They go back to the straight community, and they don't discriminate, and many of them go back and they pass the message that they know gay and lesbian people. And you know what? They're darn good folks. You know why they do that? Because they're tolerated in the bars.

J

Jimmy Carper 43:29

That's right, or Charlie's? At two and three o'clock in the morning after the bars closed. There's going to be a very high percentage of people dressed differently.