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Fri, Feb 24, 2023 9:30AM 46:55

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

people, transsexual, lesbian, book, gay, call, ftm, pledge, community, barbie, houston, hear, person, gender dysphoria, support, station, montrose, money, gender, member

SPEAKERS

Michelle Meyers, Jimmy Carper, Sarah DePalma



00:01

mostly as a kind of a gratification for sexual fantasies, it's not so much a thing that I want to do out in public, although that that has also happened. Yeah, and at one point in my life in my 20s, I did consider sex reassignment for myself, and I think, decided against it for a couple of reasons. One is well, one is that the process itself didn't seem to me to be very satisfactory, and I was really worried about winding up with a body that wouldn't function sexually. There was absolutely no support for doing that, then I would have been even more isolated than I was already. And I think also my gender dysphoria was not severe enough to kind of carry me through that difficult process. And so, you know, I mean, as a therapist, in my private practice, I frequently see people who have issues with, with feeling uncomfortable with our society's ideas of being a real man or real woman. And I always encourage people to look for the least traumatic adjustment that's possible for them to lead happy lives and feel like they're consistent inside and outside. And that's what I basically decided to do for myself, I decided I could manage my gender dysphoria with sexual role playing with cross dressing, with having this male persona who I would sometimes occupy, and that I also needed to do some work on being able to embrace my female persona, and be more comfortable with her. So I kind of think of myself as a psychic hermaphrodite



Sarah DePalma 01:37

is I just found that so very interesting. I'm also very active in the s&m world. And I find so many people in who were into s&m, who have had similar experiences. In I find that actually, they're here in Houston, there's a huge number of transgender people involved. And to a large extent, it's because it's a world where gender doesn't matter so much.



02:00

But that's true in San Francisco too. Certainly, there are people in the leather community who are anti transsexual, and who who really embrace gender stereotypes. And I tend not to spend a lot of time with those folks. Although I think that, you know, they're in drag every bit as much

as the rest of us, really. But yeah, I think that what happens with SM is, first of all, there's this notion that the sexuality ought to be consensual, and that, that whatever you do is based on honest communication and negotiation about what it is that you really want, even if it seems very forbidden. And that gives permission, I think, for gender issues to come out along with other desires. And then there's also this idea that you can roleplay parts of yourself that you would normally not want to be to be out and about. And through that process, I think many people come to be more comfortable with alternative expressions of gender. Well,

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Sarah DePalma 02:57

we've made a fairly similar discussion like that on the show. And so it's interesting to hear it confirmed by a person that I sort of considered really considered to be an expert. I was really interested in the chapter that you had about the first wave of, of transgendered people. And I was especially interested in the stories that you told about Christine Jorgensen. I was familiar with who she was, but I had no idea what a hard life she had. Right? And I'm

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sure that even in her autobiography, she doesn't lay out everything. I think that I just Yeah, I have to admit that I feel special empathy with Christine, I think it may come from my experience with being out as a lesbian in a really hostile time when you know, you can't, you basically can't do anything because you have to be afraid of other people's disapproval and even violence. You know, going to the store is an ordeal buying stamps is an ordeal, you know, using a public phone is terrible. And I think that was really her experience that she quickly became so notoriously she had absolutely no privacy, and that everything she did was scrutinized with a great deal of malice and ridicule. And yet through it all, she really held her head up and behaved with so much dignity and just remained very centered in her own sense of who she was. And what was important to her. That I admire her a great deal. I think that kind of activism demands a kind of courage and a kind of moral fiber that a lot of us aren't capable of, you know, and we owe Christine Jorgensen quite a lot.

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She's She had to have been tougher than I was to have a family friend out her to the press, and then essentially just ruined her life. And yet she survived at all. I just found that story, just incredibly compelling.

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especially poignant to me as the fact that really all Christine Jorgensen wanted was to be a housewife. You know, she didn't want to be an entertainer, she didn't want to be in the headlines. She wanted to find somebody special and settle down and have a very 50s kind of suburban lifestyle. And really, because of the notoriety that surrounded her, any man who showed her any romantic or even friendly attention, suffered horrendous penalties. I mean, the two men who she was romantically associated with in the press both wound up losing their jobs and suffering a great deal of ridicule and discrimination. So, you know, she's kind of in that

horrible position of, of having to protect the people that she might have loved from herself, because by having contact with them, she would bring ruin upon them were rather, the society at large would bring ruin upon them. So I just, you know, I don't know how she managed with that level of loneliness. It must have been very hard.

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Sarah DePalma 05:56

I was very impressed, too, that you really went out of your way to include the early female to male transsexuals. And that must have been very hard to research.

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06:06

Actually, I was really lucky because I got to speak with Jason Cromwell, who's an anthropologist in Seattle, who is a transgendered man. And Jason gave me a lot of information about early literature on FTM. Since So, without his help, I might not have been able to track those books down beyond that most of the work is was out of print. So it took a bit of a struggle to kind of track it down and be able to talk about it in the book.

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Sarah DePalma 06:34

I know I've gone looking for some of it in the past for various, I do a lot of public speaking, and I've had to go looking for it. And I found that the research and early female to male transsexuals, is almost non existent. And so I was really impressed that you turn that stuff up,

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it is really hard to find. And thank goodness, what's happening now is that transsexual men are becoming much more organized, much more visible, they're creating a public record of their culture. And that that kind of activity is just so important, because it makes it easier for new people to find the community and to find themselves.

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Sarah DePalma 07:10

Yeah, wonderful, wonderful history in there of Baghdad, Lu Solomon, a person that I got to get to meet once. And I tell tell the audience a little bit about what you find out Lou Sullivan, they may not even be aware of who he is.

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Well, loose. Sullivan is probably the father of the FTM community in a way. There have certainly been transsexual men, practically since Christine Jorgensen time, but they didn't really leave a public record. And they didn't do a lot of community organizing. And I think that the reason why Lou became an activist has a lot to do with the fact that he was a gay man. And he came out during the 70s, when there was a tremendous amount of gay activism. And so I think he

transferred that kind of political act activity into his own life. And when he created the FTM support group here in San Francisco, Lou was really always very clear that that group had to be open to everybody, whether they just were thinking about this, whether they crossed draft, whether they wanted to take hormones, or, you know, actually go all the way and have the surgery. And he was just had a remarkable personality, he was always able to be open with other people to be warm and positive. And to really nurture a community even though once again, on a private level, his romantic and sexual life. Well, was frequently pretty deprived, you know. And I think it takes a great kind of individual to be that warm and loving toward other people when they're often lonely themselves. And Lee produced a manual for female to male cross dressers that's still people are using the Ingersoll Gender Center in Seattle distributes it. And his group continues today, and is the oldest and largest group of its kind. There's certainly some online resources that rival it in size. But, you know, it's through FTM International, that conference has finally started happening. So yeah, I did not know Lou well, but I did get the opportunity to meet him. And we corresponded over the years, and I was one of the people who encouraged him to form FTM. And so you know, in supporting him and doing that, so it was very sad for me when he passed away several years ago, of AIDS. He contracted it at a time when not a lot was known about the disease.

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Sarah DePalma 09:43

I was very interested in one of the chapters that you talked about, and with the gender scientists, and we've talked a lot about Harry pinjaman. But it was, so to speak, but we had Cheryl chase on the show last week. You can she talked a little bit about about Dr. Money, but she didn't really go into detail wants to tell the audience a little bit about about who he was, because I think he's really central to a lot of the transphobia that has developed.



10:13

Like a lot of the people who are gender scientists. John Money is very much a double edged sword on the one hand, we have to credit him with being adventurous enough to establish the one of the first gender identity clinics in the United States at Johns Hopkins. And until money did that it was virtually impossible for transsexuals to get surgery in the United States people had to go to Europe or to Morocco. And that certainly was a pioneering effort. On the other hand, Manny's approach to sexuality is basically that of a medical doctor and a forensic expert. He sees his point of view, I think, is almost as extreme as Richard Minecraft Ebbinghaus is a Victorian sexologist who who published a horrendous and very sex negative book about variation. I think that money has have a lot of arrogance, he comes from the position of because He is the doctor the doctor knows best. And his view of sexual variation is that it's basically pathological and that it's up to the doctor to do what he can to assist the poor, deluded transsexual. Basically, this is a mentally ill population. And, you know, I just I have a lot of trouble with him. From the standpoint also of an FM person because his his point of view about FM is just ridiculously distorted. He really connects it with all kinds of stuff destructive and violent behavior that has nothing to do with consenting activities between responsible adults and so John many gets quite a little spanking in my book.



12:11

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no one else would in talking about things that no one else would dare talk about, and bring you the news that no one else could. Our programs are in response to our community. We offer a diverse selection of programming. Our community is made up of many cultures and so is our programming. If you like what you hear in support community radio KPFT Please call now at 713-526-5738 that 71352 6k P F T



12:51

yes, you're listening to after hours queer radio with attitude right here on KPFT Houston, and ke O 's College Station, we are the sound of Texas, and we are in our Summer Fest.



Sarah DePalma 13:05

We are in onsets, right? That's right, Summer Fest is not marathoning I have to get used to that right Summer Fest. And you know, our phones are not ringing,



13:12

are we? Yeah, they're not? Well, people are listening to pat. That's why That's why we need to interrupt her to remind people to give us a call at 526-573-8526 KPFT. With their pledge of support.



Sarah DePalma 13:26

There's nowhere else you're going to go and hear this kind of programs. We guarantee you.



13:30

You're listening to this program, but we'd like you to be a member of this station. And to do that, we need \$35 for mu or more. And Michelle is here with a wonderful announcement.



Michelle Meyers 13:44

Well, I like to teach people about mathematics. Okay. Okay, here we go. How can you turn \$35 into \$85? How can you turn \$60 into 110 Or just call KPFT and activate your membership. The number to call is 713-526-5738. That's 526 KPFT. Four, if you activate your membership at the \$35 level, I will match that with an additional 25. And the company that I work for matches my 25 with another 25. And so that's how you convert 35 to 85 or 60 to 110 or if you want to get more we'll continue to match that \$50 additional now, this radio station KPFT is part of the Pacific network. It brings you this show and it brings you many other shows like lesbian and gay voices on Friday evenings at 8pm followed on Friday evenings with the prison show. There's a there's a program that is really helping families stay together families that are in the most desperate of Sir Come stances were one of the primary members of the family is in prison road.

And their children and their wives and their mothers get on and have an opportunity to talk to him. In the morning, when you're driving to work. At eight o'clock, you can listen to the BBC, and hear news from an international perspective. The program that I love is democracy. Now, I'm Amy Goodman. Or you can listen to the living room with Eric Penske. And then always in the evening, at 630. You we have Pacific news. It goes on for half an hour. And for all of you out there who are really technology types, this technology bites on Wednesday with Jay Lee and his gang. Yeah. And they I actually listen, I don't understand. But I listen.



15:51

I know, I do, too. I love to listen to I have no earthly idea what these guys are talking about.



Michelle Meyers 15:57

So you have this biatch and you bought it and everything, and what should I be doing with it? And they say, well, first of all, you should have done that. But now that you have it, and then they tell the person what to do. There you go. And it's really very informative. Yes. And I think it's I think it's a laugh



Sarah DePalma 16:15

sounds like me with a car. Sounds like me with a car.



Michelle Meyers 16:20

So there are many things that you can listen to the diversity and the inclusion that you get. And this radio station is something that we all should support.



16:31

And we want you to be a member of KPFT and after hours, activate your membership by \$5 is is what it will take. Have



Sarah DePalma 16:41

you seen the new bumper stickers they're doing for this for this drive? No, they are really cool looking. It looks just like a Texas license. Oh,



16:48

yes, sir. Yes, yes. Yes. Yeah, that KPFT on it was

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Sarah DePalma 16:51

KPFT. And it was a this is the best bumper sticker they've done yet.

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16:55

And you'll have no kidding. You can get one for your basic \$35 membership. Pledge for \$60. We have a T shirt or a mouse pad or a mug three different things. As thank you gifts, right? You get your choice. Yeah. And the t shirt is it has the KPFT license plate logo on it. Oh, is that right? Yes, the t shirt has

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Sarah DePalma 17:18

no kidding, folks, you really ought to see these bumper stickers and these shirts, they look wonderful. It really does look like a Texas license plates. Really neat. Yeah, yeah.

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Michelle Meyers 17:26

And remember, we have the new math here. \$35 becomes any fine \$60 becomes 110 It's

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Sarah DePalma 17:34

it's \$6 and get a new a new music sampler CD. It \$90 You get two T shirts or when CD Ks. And in \$120 You get to go out with Jimmy No, not at \$120 you get a new music sampler CD well in for 150 You get it go out with me. No no, no.

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17:57

150 is that fabulous? Briefcase. Oh, that is so fine. I haven't seen it. Oh, it's a really wonderful it's it's it's a canvas briefcase with the strap for shoulder strap. Oh, news. And in fact, it is so large. You could use it for like a weekend getaway stuff in it.

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Sarah DePalma 18:16


If you're looking for a condo get this.


M

Michelle Meyers 18:20


Let me talk about the \$60 \$60 may sound like a lot of money. But what you can do is you can pay that \$60 With electronic funds transfer. That's right. EFI dollars among I forgot.




 Sarah DePalma 18:35
I know \$60 is only 16 cents a day. But you can


 Michelle Meyers 18:39
get it taken out of your account automatically at only \$5 a month. Now that makes that number sound a lot easier to do you bet a lot easier to accomplish your membership here at KPFT.


 Sarah DePalma 18:56
Am I spent more than five bucks in the bars tonight. Kim I in


 18:59
fact our leader our leadership circle member is on EFT and that turns out to be like I think \$45 a month or something. Yeah.

 Michelle Meyers 19:10
So it's it's the way to do it. I contribute with EFT it's great.

 19:17
And it's great for the station too, because it helps in in their budgeting and they know that they're going to get a certain amount on a monthly basis and it helps in operating expenses. So you're doing the station the favor by putting your pledge on EFT also,

 Michelle Meyers 19:34
and you're doing yourself a favor,

 19:36
you bet and because you become a member, not just a listener.

 19:41
And you know, for those of you out there in the transgender community, you think well gee, you know, 60 bucks is a lot of money. I guarantee you probably spent five bucks on a lipstick you wore to the dinner tonight. You know, I mean, I mean really, that's what it comes down to here. You spend five bucks on the drinks that you had, oh yeah, you can spend \$5 a month to

keep KPFT in The station on the air. I mean, that's the truth of it really, really is the truth. We always say this during the mirror bird during the fun fast. I'll get used to this Summerfest Sarfraz. Yeah, and work because lord knows we're having fun. If but the fact of the matter is, you're not going to contribute the money because you want the premiums, chances are you can get on target and get briefcase for a lot less than \$150. There you go, you're going to do it because you want the station to stay on the air. You want to hear programs, you want to hear gay, lesbian voices. You want to hear this program, you want to hear Democracy Now you want to hear Mary in the morning, you want to hear the blue shows you want to hear Pickens swinging, well



20:38

go pick up the phone and dial 526573852 6k PFT.



Sarah DePalma 20:47

And you know, Jimmy, I had people last time we did one of these I had somebody call me and say, but you know, that stuff is really annoying. You know, it's like listening to a mattress mat commercial. That's the point boys and girls, we only come to you what, three, four times, times a year. That's it, and we come to you and we say, Look, you can leave, you can either pony up for the station's one of two ways. One is you can you can pay for the advertising, with every single product that you buy anywhere. Or you we can be upfront about it. Like we aren't say, Look, we need your money, stay on the gear, we come to you now we're asking for your money, we won't bother you again for months. Come on, which would you prefer? You're going to pay one way or the other, why not give it to the station that genuinely is community oriented, not profit oriented.



21:37

And remember that during this show, and this show only your your pledge of support can be increased by \$50. Through Michelle, I like



Sarah DePalma 21:49

to get a return like that in my 401k



21:53

Your \$35 pledge becomes \$85 for the station, and your \$60 pledge becomes 110 and etc, etc, etc. Now, let's go back to pat. Okay, pack Olivia,



Sarah DePalma 22:08

we're gonna pick up the interview right where we left off, okay. And I was really impressed with

that. Because I have argued for a long time, I felt like John McCain was largely responsible for a lot of the transphobia that has developed in the medical community. And I've always sort of pointed a finger at him. Cheryl Chase described him as the guy who stands next to a moving river and yells slow down mountain.



22:32

Yeah, exactly. Exactly. Yeah. I, I mean, like I said, he is sort of this, this ambiguous presence, because he has been a pioneering figure. I mean, he and Richard Green, co edited an anthology that did a great deal to make medical professionals more aware of gender dysphoria. And so while we have to recognize that he did open up a lot of discourse on the topic, I think his basic values around it are so skewed that I just can't consider him really an ally of the community.



23:11

I'll be really interesting because I tied that together with this your last chapter with Chapter Seven about trashing the clinic and burning down the beauty parlor, which I thought was just fabulous. And you were talking there about some of the activists of which I have been one who have been trying to get that medical model torn down. Now, I was really impressed, because that took some work to come up with the fact that's becoming such an issue.



23:36

Yeah. Well, you know, it is becoming an issue because people like Ricky and Wilkins, and people like Phyllis fry, you know, and many, many other activists have really decided it's time to kick back, you know, their, their position is I'm flexible, I pay my taxes. I want a job like anybody else, I want a place to live. I don't want to get beaten up or harassed, and I'm not going to take this anymore. And so yeah, really the credit for making these kinds of issues visible goes to people who do things like show up at courtrooms where there are cases legal cases that involve violence against transgender people, you know, who could go to the national lobbying day and say to our senators and House of Representatives members, hello, I'm a transsexual, I live in your district and I vote, lobby National Gay organizations and say you need to include us in your civil rights legislation. You know, those are the folks who are just on the frontlines doing so much. You know, I just have great admiration for their courage.



Sarah DePalma 24:44

Ricky Wilkins and I have spoken many times because we are both believers in that we'd like to we would like to see the whole issue of gender dysphoria as a as a mental health issue done away with, we're tired of being called diseased You're mentally ill. And of course, that's a huge controversy in the community. But I thought you did a real good job of covering that.



25:07

Well thank you. I mean my main fear is that if all those diagnostic categories are removed

well, thank you. I mean, my main fear is that if all those diagnostic categories are removed from the DSM four, which is the the manual that mental health professionals used to apply diagnostic labels to their so called cases. My fear is that if all of that material is removed, that then doctors are left with no rationale to give people hormones and surgery. And see right now kind of there's this carefully constructed rationale for making sex reassignment available. I totally agree with you that that it would be very important to remove the stigma of mental illness from transsexuality. Just on a practical level though, knowing how the medical establishment works. I'm wondering what what we could put in place of this that would still make it possible for people to continue to receive hormones and if they want to get their surgery? That's a question that hasn't really been answered yet. And I know Ricky is a brilliant person and a tireless activist, but we've also discussed this anything that reassures me? Me, doctors are essentially pretty conservative, and they also need to cover their own decisions like anybody else does. And so, yeah, anyway, that's the dilemma. That's the heart of the dilemma.



26:29

When you put it very concisely I like that. We you, you talked about in the book about the backlash in in feminism. And I happen to note and Nancy Burkholder, and some of the other people that revolve that and Jessica Xavier, of who's now the Director of it's time, America, succeeded me because I had been the director, so I know them very well. But for those who have not heard of Janice Freeman wants to tell a little bit about who she is.



26:56

Janice Raymond is just a little Hitler. I'm sorry. deplorable person who I just, you know, actually, this was the most difficult chapter of the book for me to write because it meant that I had to go and read again, Janice Raymond's book and also a couple of other anti transsexual works in the feminist theory canon. And reading hate literature is just dispiriting. I mean, I would, I would read 20 pages and then I would literally have to go take a shower. That is really what her book The transsexual Empire is, it's a piece of hate literature, she manages to connect transsexuality with, accuses male to female, transsexual transsexuals, of being rapists of being somehow connected with Nazism of being masochist, God forbid. And it's just as the relentless avalanche of misinformation and bigotry. And yet, you know, still this book is in print and many young lesbians and many feminists who are not gay, pick up this book, and they assume that this is sort of the only position you can take that this is this is feminism dictum on transsexual women. And so I just felt like it was very important to deconstruct it and to give her several back from the knuckle. You know, I'm not really sure why it is that she has this little chance that she's got. But I suspect it comes out of her background as a as a CEO of a sociology student, and, and someone who is basically recycling Christian morality in the guise of feminism.



Sarah DePalma 28:41

I wasn't aware that she was at the that she had theology back on that's interesting,



28:45

from a theological institution, and most of her subsequent work has been on medical ethics.

And she's extremely conservative on issues like artificial reproduction, and assisted insemination. And

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Sarah DePalma 29:00

how odd for a feminist Well, she's

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29:02

basically an unreconstructed Catholic from everything I can

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Sarah DePalma 29:08

tell. That does explain a lot.

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29:12

And I think that that really it's possible with people like her to search for too complicated an explanation of their behavior.

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Sarah DePalma 29:21

I thought you really did a great job in that chapter because it is hard to discuss people like Janice Freeman in still remain lucid

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29:32

actually unkind because I think that when we are afraid of people who are different from ourselves, we tend to see them through biased eyes. And I'm sure that from where she's sitting, all of the nasty things she had to say, sounded perfectly true, but I have seen transsexual women in the lesbian community come under incredibly fierce attack and almost to a woman they respond with a lot With dignity and with a lot of calm, you know, they don't respond and kind they don't lash out. And I don't, I just can't I don't get why there's this level of fear and hostility. I mean, I, I just see transsexual women as being folks who have gone through some very difficult stuff in their life, who are trying to have the same things in life that I or any other woman would want. And they feel like they're sisters to me, you know, certainly their life history is not identical to mine, but we have enough in common that we can really share. And frequently I think transsexual women are very politically aware of what the issues are facing us. So I don't know. I'm just really baffled by Raymond's hatred. And I find it really encouraging to feel like in the younger generation, some of this stuff is changing.

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Sarah DePalma 30:51

Well, I hope we, there's all the time we've gotten this first segment, and we've barely scratched the surface. If you can stay, we'll do another 20. Another few. Another few minutes, I'd be happy to. All right. Well, thank you very much. This is Sarah DePalma. And I'm with Pat Khalifa, author of a book I highly recommend called *Sex Changes the Politics of Transgenderism*. And we'll be back for another segment in a few minutes.



31:17

Oh, yeah, that's good.



Sarah DePalma 31:19

In as I had told everyone earlier, although the book says the politics of sex change. This is not a book about politics, right. This is a book about the growth of the community. It's about her own personal experience with the transgender community. It is a book about how transgenders relate to gay lesbian society to straight society as a whole. Very, very interesting stuff. In Pat Cleef, he told a wonderful little story about her and her Barbie doll. And I wanted to repeat at least part of that story, because I thought this was pretty great stuff. Okay, let me see if I can find out where I put that thing here.



Jimmy Carper 31:56

And while you're doing that, I want to remind people that they can call us at 526-573-8526 KPFT with their pledge of support for after hours and KPFT. And to remind them that their pledge of \$35 or more will be increased by \$50, because of Michelle Meyers, who's going to any any pledge of \$35 or more, she's going to match with 25 and her company will match that. So your \$35 pledge will become 85. And that really means a lot to us here at after hours. So give that give us that call five to 65738 and then a couple of minutes. Michelle, and big Roy will be here with the news.



Sarah DePalma 32:48

This is out of Pac leafy his book, transsexuals challenge our ideas of right and wrong, politically correct and politically incorrect. Mental health and mental dysfunction. If we have a sense of rightness about ourselves as men or women, gender outlaws scramble it, gender dysphoria, even someone else's literally gets us by the short hairs where we live between our legs you got you got it. When such visceral responses are ignored, they surfaced in other ways. I trust the investigator who outlines his or her own biases much more than the expert who compulsively exclude the personal element from his or her prescriptions and explanations in the matter of sexuality. Because we understand so little that any claim to authority is premature. And this is her story here. This works springs from my own profound discomfort with social sex role conditioning. As a small child, I rarely wanted to wear dresses, unless of course they were glamorous or slinky. My family tells a story about a confrontation I had with my father one Christmas Day, when I was upset about being given girls toys. He told me that if I wanted to have boys toys, I would have to have a penis once and I informed him that I once had one, but had it removed with a closed pin. So much for feminist claims that penis envy does not exist.

It's alive. It was alive and well in my psyche. When I got a little older I found out the Barbie you could wear kins clothes and vice versa. Aha. And so I put Ken and Barbie is pretty as formal. tied him up with some coarse scratchy twine and stuck them back in the box. He had been kidnapped. I decided Barbie got to wear Ken suit. And he had us he and that had a series of Mad adventures with her sidekick trying to rescue can for reasons that are obvious to me. Now my mother would not invest in a second Barbie to accompany my cross dressed heroine on her missions of Derring do so the sidekick who could easily be seen as Barbie femme. Looking back through my grownup lesbian eyes was a troll doll with bright green hair. I don't think can ever got rescued and my fondness for girls with punk haircuts and primary colors now has its background. Not to mention well restrained boys in dresses I love that I thought that story was just that's everything you need to know and unite.



35:38

And now ladies and gentlemen, it's time for the after hours news. Yeah, we'll do like Stevens through it. Yeah. It's News.



35:54

Good evening. Hello, Michelle. How y'all doing?



Michelle Meyers 35:58

Oh, not too bad. I'm wondering why I can't hear anything. But I can start to because I don't have headphones on. Ah, that might have something to do with it. So what do we have tonight? Well, we



36:09

want to start off with a little bit of the darker side of the news, the only part of the dark news movie tonight. The FBI has offered a \$1 million reward this week for their for a suspect in the nation's first fatal bombing of an abortion clinic and said he was wanted in questioning for the 1996 Olympic bombing and to others in Atlanta, including a nightclub for lesbians called the other side lounge in Atlanta. They're looking for Mr. Eric Robert Randolph, and he's been included in the FBI is 10 most wanted list. And according to Attorney General Janet Reno, she says and I quote, we're here to ask the American people for their help. Wherever committed these acts might kill again, and must be brought to justice.



Michelle Meyers 37:00

Okay, so let's be on a little more upbeat note. Oh, did you know that Annie's Parker is going to be the honorary chair, Chairwoman of the Great Gatsby annual fundraiser to benefit body positive Houston Wellness Center. Great. So they believe that Parker's involvement needs credence to the importance of the Wellness Center for the HIV community. This the event that the events that are gonna occur on May 30 include cocktail, entertainment, and a silent

auction. So body positive is planning to open its Wellness Center later this month. For more information, you need to call area code 713-786-9730. That's 7869730. So it's great to see a nice openly gay city council person named to this honorary Chairwoman position.



38:10

Right and she was also a former hostess on after hours, past president to the only two time elected president of the gay and lesbian Political Caucus.



Michelle Meyers 38:21

And that was after being chairperson. For the board. Yes. Three times in a row. Wow. Amazing person.



38:34

Okay. And for those of you who may not be aware, there's a new store coming up here in the Montrose and that's, we're going to have that an HB heb Food Pantry right there at Montrose Westheimer. In that same strip center, that Eckerd and schlocky deli is at no convenience, right. And that's we're really looking forward to that. Heb usually is known for its low prices. It's not as fancy as Kroger, but that's why the prices are a little bit lower



Michelle Meyers 39:14

pass, but they are I understand that they pay pretty well for their employees.



39:18

Oh, very true. And what is also really great is that he went out of their way to find an openly gay person to be their store director. And they've got Gary would as their director of the store here in the Montrose and he started to and he does have a degree in business from Sam Houston State University. And we're really looking forward to the addition of ATB



Michelle Meyers 39:49

some more competition. Really, let's get the prices down on that.



39:55


Yeah, that's very important because there are many people here in the Montrose that live on fear are in limited income, and really do need to make every dollar scratch.

 Michelle Meyers 40:04

Oh, that's absolutely true. That's absolutely true. We've had some questions, and I'm sure we'll continue to have questions about the gay and lesbian Film Festival. Now, that may try to lay it out for you in some kind of semblance and order. First of all, there are going to be four weekends, and each weekend is three days long. Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

 40:28

I know, you know, we had phone calls last week, and we were able to really get

 Michelle Meyers 40:33

while we get a little bit, but we weren't able to give the full story. So four weekends, three days each, the first weekend is going to be May 22 to 24th. And that's going to be at the landmark theater. For those of you who want to know what's going to play there. It's a show called I think I do I know the title, that's about all I know that then the second weekend is going to be May 29 through 31st. And that's going to be held at diverse works. There's going to be an evening of short videos on Friday.

 41:08

Why that goes to show people in the short.

 Michelle Meyers 41:12

It may well show people without insurance. There's going to be on Saturday there's going to be quack mix up video that's the queer artists collective, has put a video together. And then on Sunday, it's going to be pride divide, which is a movie followed by a panel discussion on Houston, gay and lesbian history. So that's going to be that week, we've got the details of that. And you know, diverse work.

 41:43

I'll tell you, you know, if you don't know, a whole lot about lesbian, gay history here in Houston, showing up for that one in particular would be very good, because you could learn something,

 Michelle Meyers 41:54

yes. Oh, then between June 5, and seventh, the film festival moves on to the Museum of Fine Arts. So The MFE are going to do four films. And then the week of June 12, to 14th, it moves to the rice Media Center. So you can see a lot of different films. And you can move around from place to place and a lot of people just go out and do the whole scene. And each place that films are different. But they're all gay and lesbian. For information on the film's at Landmark

Greenway theater, you can call area code 713-626-0402. That 6260402 and diverse works. That's 713228091 4x 2280914. We'll give you the other numbers and the names of the other films as we get closer to them. You can find all of this information out if you go and get out smart. And look on page 16.



43:02

Hey, you can also get it in the product guide.



Michelle Meyers 43:05

Of course, well in the prank guide, they haven't yet. Or they didn't list them all exactly where each one was going to be. They listed them kind of all together. And this breaks them up and tells you what's going to be where and when. In exact hours and times. So outsmart right now is the best guide for the gay and lesbian Film Festival that I've been able to find. I couldn't find a big ROI found it for me.



43:32

Now say this. So OutSmart is such a fantastic magazine. I'm just a big, big fan of outsmarted so professionally done, and it's free. But if you'd like to have it mailed to you subscriptions are only \$12 a year.



Michelle Meyers 43:46

Oh, yeah. That's a good idea.



43:50

That's \$1 a month. Hey, all right now, the Gay Lesbian, gay and bisexual veterans, veterans of America need your support. And they speak out for our brothers and sisters in uniform who cannot speak out for themselves. And like I said they need our support. Now who can help anyone, you do not have to be gay, lesbian or bisexual. You don't even have to be a veteran. You all that's necessary that you must believe in equal rights. Now the gay lesbian bisexual Veterans of America functions in this community to inform the neighbors that we are gay and lesbian veterans who served our country honorably and well. And they speak out for our brothers and sisters in uniform who cannot speak for themselves. And they need numbers they need people. And like I said, anyone can join gay or straight veteran or non veteran. And even if you can't join, we'd like for you to consider making a tax deductible contribution to them. They are a 501 C C three, not for profit profit organization. And you can contact them by mail at GLB VA P O box 29317 Chicago, Illinois 606 to nine that's g l B V a P O Box 29317 Chicago, Illinois, or you can call them by phone Area code 773-752-0058. That's 773-752-0058 That is gay, lesbian and bisexual Veterans of America.

M

Michelle Meyers 45:43

Sounds like a good organization coming up next Sunday morning, not tomorrow morning. But the following Sunday is the Houston age walk. This is the ninth annual walkathon or roll time and the honorary chair will be Mayor Lee Brown. This walk is benefiting the Houston area HIV AIDS education, health care, volunteer and social service program. There are 18 organizations that are benefiting from this they include the age coalition of coastal Texas H foundation Houston called 40 fives Montrose clinic marlim house, Omega house, New Hope Counseling Center etc etc, etc. For those of you who are interested in walking, or rolling, as the case may be, you may come on Sunday morning early. It's best that you get a hold of one of these punch cards and you'll get