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SPEAKERS

Jimmy Carper, Gigi, Roy McCarthy, Michelle



Michelle 00:01

And maybe the bisexuality, you say, didn't work this way so much for you. But some of the other people talked about that their bisexuality in a sense, help them see their spirituality in a different way. You know, so like you say, the both and right, in sexuality and in spirituality.



00:21

Absolutely. Absolutely. And I think that this isn't something that's this book necessarily explored in great depth. But I do think that there's something about one's lineage, one's heritage, that's very compelling. That plant seeds very deep within us. And that if there are ways for us to find how to be there, and I think this is particularly true of tribal traditions, and I consider Judaism a tribal tradition, because it does both have the cultural and the religious, the spiritual components. There's something in the bloodline. And I think because there's been so much missionary work around Christianity, it's less true, perhaps of Christianity. I think that's silly, I guess. But I also think you're correct, or and I also interact, almost all of the people in this book talked about and the people I speak with, talk about how there's this kind of interplay back and forth, of how their bisexuality informs their spiritual life, spiritual life in forms of bisexuality. And sometimes I think it's a little hard to get this in the abstract. If it's okay, I had, there are a couple examples I wanted to give Sure, from my tradition, and I can certainly speak to other traditions as well. But in Judaism, we just saw this is over SHA, this is the day of wrath. It's called Sabbath and English. And at the end of Shabbos, there's a ritual called have dolla. And it happens after sundown after the time of the Sabbath is over. And it's a ritual that acknowledges the separation of the day of holiness from the rest of the week. And what's so amazing to me about this ritual, is that it is able to celebrate and acknowledge this distinction between to others and the rest of the week. And at the same time, the ritual object that's used to represent this is a candle with at least three wicks, representing the intersection of holiness and the mundane. So it's ritualizing both separation and integration at the same time. I think an exquisitely by sexual rituals. Yeah,



Michelle 02:17



MICHELLE 02:47

it does. It's, again, that both and type thing in their



02:53

exams. And there's also a period at the moment of the half dollar moment, which is when you're sitting kind of between the worlds between the day of rest and holiness, and the mundaneness of the week. And so there's this moment of living in in between, which is also an amazing thing to celebrate. There are many Native American and other indigenous traditions that also celebrate the in between this, I



Michelle 03:21

was just gonna say that sounds like a very bisexual thing. You know, the idea of kind of straddling two worlds or living between



03:29

worlds is that the gara of West Africa and the Two Spirit tradition and Native American traditions. So when I say that we find ourselves in a safe practice, I that's kind of what I mean that there are these principles. And often rituals, then they celebrate, and honor the very thing about us as bisexuals that we often feel so misunderstood about, you know, that being that living in the in between that living in the both and so that's one example as to another example that I love to share with people is when I do my readings, I start the readings off with the prayer, the same prayer that starts off every communal experience of prayer in Judaism, and that the words are very simple. And in Hebrew, it's matovu. Oh, hola, hola. Yaakov Myskina Taha Israel in English. What that means is, How lovely are you tempted to take up your sacred spaces yesterday? It seems like what does this have to do with bisexuality? I'm wondering. On its face, what we're taught is that that prayer is basically something that we say, to acknowledge that we're praying with others and community. So we're looking at each other and saying how lovely we are. And we're not praying in solitary by ourselves, which is very nice, but it still doesn't have anything to do with bisexuality? The deeper more mystical meaning that I've been taught? Is that the first part of the phrase, how lovely Are you tends to take up refers to the patriarch and the Jewish tradition and the Hebrew Scriptures take up before he wrestles with an angel. After him, he has that wrestling experience. Most people in our culture and our Christocentric culture know that his name matches and he becomes Yes, right. Which means God wrestler. So the first part of the prayer says, How lovely are your attempts, Jacob, Jacob, before you know God, you dwell in a tense, kind of mundane, but it's lovely. And then the next clause, your sacred places? Yes, right. Now, once you wrestle with God, you dwell in a sacred place. Oh, that's nice, which is nice. But what's most compelling about that, and what, why it speaks to me and my, my experience as a bisexual, is that how lovely speaks about both both your tent when you don't know God, and your sacred place, when you do know, God, they're both lovely. So, for me, and I think, for all human beings who are really deeply on a spiritual path, there are times when we feel closer to God. And when we feel very far away, just the natural ebb and flow of life. Both of those are lovely, both of those are okay. And the both and again, it is being embraced and this prayer that we say every time we come together, and communal worship. So that's another example, kind of very specific of

how I find myself, just kind of in the patterns of the religion, which is one of the most compelling parts of a safe practice the pattern, that's what kind of becomes a practice. What helps us become comfortable, and kind of building that ongoing relationship with God.

M

Michelle 07:06

And it's, it's there in the religion, you know, as you were saying that you can find these ideas of spirituality, it's already right there.



07:17

Right. Right. Right. And there are many people in the book who've gone who've decided to make new ritual, which was also wonderful, like Robin Renee, whose music you just played. And the piece in this book, she's the one who identifies by the way, as it boots al pagan, and she's bad having changing her alter, from having I think it's from having two candles to one.

M

Michelle 07:44

Oh, yeah, I remember that. Yeah, the two, the Goddess and the god joining together as one, right. So there's some there's some stuff in Christianity, too. Everyone talks about God as being this big patriarchal image. And my sister and I were just talking about this, my sister's a minister. And so we're just talking about this, that she says when she says God, even when she's praying to God, you know, Our Father who art in heaven, she never really imagines a big, macho, patriarchal kind of dude. And there's a lot of stuff in the Bible that you can read in is God being a very feminine nurturing, you know, what people call the goddess now. And so you can find that, you know, we're talking about fundamentalism doesn't allow that reading of, you know, fundamentalist, not necessarily just Christianity. But fundamentalism in any religion is very rigid and very formal, and won't allow that reading. But a lot of people in these essays tend to find those cracks and find those other interpretations. So,



08:42

in fact, in Judaism, it's actually very complicated the imagery of God, Judaism, it's a very, very strict tradition to imagine God, anything anthropomorphic? Or is any, any image at all, that is intended to be a mystery far beyond our capacity to understand or grasp. Certainly not a male human being. Yeah. And certainly intended to embrace and encompass both masculine and feminine male, female, everything in between and everything beyond. And in Christianity, of course, is the Trinity. You know, which is a very complex kind of conception of God certainly not monolithic.



09:27

Bill, did you have a question?



09:29

Yeah. I was reading in the book that you're an activist and I was wanting you to comment on the Hebrew concept of tikkun olam and repairing the world because I thought what a great motivator for doing that, for being an activist I wanted I think it'd be good for the public to, to hear about that.



09:49

Too. Coulomb is probably one of the principles of Judaism that has gotten most exposure. I mean, that has gone beyond kind of the the walls of the day. This community these days partly missed the magazine to Kuhn and Michael Lerner's work, but partly is becoming part of pop common parlance which is, which is really lovely. But the principle as you say, is one of repairing the world. And the basic idea is that we are all obligated every one of us to participate in that project of repairing the world, that none of us can abstain from that that we're at, we're commanded to do that. And so the to the cultural norm, even for Jews who are not religious is to be very activist and to be to do work in opposition to discrimination and in support of liberation struggles.



Gigi 10:46

And for those that don't know Deb, she's very active in the bisexual community wants to talk a little bit about your involvement with by net USA.



10:57

I've been involved with by net for eight years I was my net is the national bisexual network. And in the oldest and largest, most enduring national bisexual political group, the other will actually older national by group is the bisexual Resource Center, which is a clearinghouse and more than education institutions. But I've been involved as I said, for eight years, I was a national coordinator for five of those years. We had a very decentralized structure. So I wasn't the national coordinator. I was a this are one of several. And I spent a lot of that time working because I live in Washington, DC, I've done a lot of lobbying. I've worked with a lot of the nationalists been engaged groups like the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and GLAAD and glisten and you know, all the alphabet soup. I've actually trained three or four of these national organizations on by phobia and how to combat it and how to be more by inclusive. That on the national policy roundtable, which is the policy strategic body, we're representatives of all the national queer groups that I also facilitate the national religious leadership roundtable, which is a consortium of groups like integrity and MCC and dignity and also the welcoming traditions and like more light Presbyterians and this one's concerned, meeting in an effort to amplify the voice of the pro GLBT voice of faith activists. So I've done a really broad range of work. Yeah, thanks for asking. I also am not a single issue activists right now, the most compelling work I do is on the living wage campaign on Curry County, because I think economic oppression is integrally connected to every other kind of oppression and all need to be addressed. Yeah,





12:56

we need to stop for a second,



Jimmy Carper 12:58

I need to jump in here and let everyone know that they are listening to after hours queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station.



Gigi 13:12

I wanted to kind of jump in and kind of look at, you know, what is the relationship between sexual orientation and spiritual development? And is spiritual development different for beis?



13:28

I think it's such an amazing question. And part of why it's amazing is because if you talk to 30 bisexuals, like you have in this book, everyone has a unique story. And so I think there is no one intersection, no one type of relationship. But what I will say is, I don't know, I always forget the four stages. But M Scott Peck, who wrote the road less traveled, also wrote a wonderful book called Peace community building in peace. And in that he talks about the stages of spiritual development. The first stage kind of being the beginner phase, is the literal or text driven exclusively text driven or fundamentalist flavor. And then the highest level of development is this four levels is what he would call the mystical level, where you move beyond text and into personal relationship with God and into an experience of God and use text. And, you know, holy scriptures can certainly guide and inform you or not what the religion is about. And so I think that's a beautiful framework for spiritual development. And what I would say about bisexuals and I think this is also very true of intersex than transgendered people who I think naturally have more in common with bisexual people than the three of us do. Lesbian A people because of the complexity and intersection and both handedness. But I think for all these categories of people, the complexity of identity calls us to a higher level of consciousness about who we are, and how we are in a world, because we're so marginalized. And so, to the extent that we seek to be self loving and self aware, we, in my experience, cultivate a much higher level of clarity, and about ourselves, and also a much higher degree of compassion for others who are different. And clarity and compassion, have very deep superficial developmental principles as well. So I see that the challenge is put before us as people who are on the margins, augment and support us in our spiritual development. And help folks move I think, more to that higher level of development to Scott and Scott Peck and maybe in a more in a quicker way, in a more intense way, or maybe in a more, almost miss out of necessity.



Michelle 16:14

Yeah, I was just gonna say, you know, with heterosexuals, they're the mainstream and, you know, religions, the mainstream religions, speak to them, you know, that's, they're assuming everybody's heterosexual and stuff like that. Gay people, gay and lesbian people are not so of course, they're coming at it from a different point of view. But still, it's we're talking about the both and versus the either or, and so it's kind of almost a flip, they still have that, that the main

framework is there, and then just kick out, you know, Leviticus or whatever. But then for the bisexuals and transgenders, then there's also well, but you know, and then there's an IT, and then just sort of, since we have to, you know, in our sexuality is so fluid, we have to kind of get a grasp on that, that we start saying, I think once you start realizing that your sexuality starts being fluid, then everything just kind of falls to pieces, you know, the boundaries start fuzzing on everything and gender boundaries, what's that? What's male? What's female, you know, and religion. What's that? And so I think all the boundaries start fuzzing and it's Laterano know if I should say easier, but I think that tends to happen more often with bisexuals and transgender people than with people who've never had to face the blurring of boundaries, you know, much less with the gay and lesbian people and then even less with heterosexual people. Although it can happen, you know, my sister is always talking about stuff like that blurring boundaries, and as we said, with the god goddess, image and stuff like that.



17:52

And of course, we're all talking in generalizations as you're, as you're hinting at here. And there are certainly many are extraordinarily spiritually evolved, people of all orientations. My only point was that the complexity of our identity of our experience derives us to a degree of development more quickly, as becomes mandatory, we can't escape it, we can, we can sit back and be comfortable. Exactly, the world won't let us.



Gigi 18:25

And I'd like to kind of jump in because I know that when I was really young, my father was a minister. And I had a lot of struggles and was searching because I knew that Christianity didn't fit for me and really didn't know quite where to go and kind of gotten into paganism without a name for it and practiced it for many years without even knowing what it was. But I did it silo for a long time. And I think that you know, when you are by and you're, you know, you're very deeply in the closet, it becomes very hard to find role models or, or people that can help help you along your path. And I guess one of my questions is that, do you know of any out bisexuals who are successful spiritual leaders? And where can one find a bisexual spiritual mentor advisor?



19:28

Well, there certainly are out bisexuals in many paths, and I'll name a few. But I obviously don't know all of them. name a few and then talk about a few places people can walk. One of the authors in the book is Susan Craig who's an out bisexual Presbyterian minister, the only out by central Presbyterian minister in the country. So you know, pick up the book, and she works out in California. As she she has a pulpit and she's an amazing and wonderful person. So if that's your faith tradition, she'd be a wonderful person to connect with. I personally know at least six bisexual rabbis, but I don't know to what extent each of them is out. The one I do know who is very odd is named Jim lentinan. And she works out of California in San Francisco. Unfortunately, she's not in the book, I tried my damndest to get rabbis to write, and be either because of time constraints or because they didn't consider themselves writers or whatever. None of them ended up coming through. But I did do know that Jane lentinan is someone who's an out bisexual rabbi and the United Church of Christ just started a bisexual leadership group called by

any means necessary, bam. And I just was informed of this this week. What I think is happening, and I think that the book is part of this. Is that there there is a growing movement afoot for bisexuals. Oh, there's also a bisexual Caucus and the Unitarian Unitarians as one group that's in the book. I think that you didn't mention Jay. Amongst Unitarians, there's an LGBT group and they have a specific bisexual caucus amongst them. There's a former Unitarian minister, who's in the book, Ellen testrunner. And I'm sure there are other by Unitarian ministers. There are also in the pagan tradition, there are many bisexual areas. One person who's in the book who's, you know, well known as a bisects or bilaterally, I don't know she's well known as a bisexual is I didn't know she was by into bisexual circle she's most most folks now. I think in other circles, I'm not so sure. Raven caldera maybe many people know as you said, many have not yet heard of him. He does amazing work. I have done some work with a covenant of the Goddess, which is a great resource for pagans have to say in their leadership, there are hordes of bisexuals, everything and out. Alison Harlow, there's just so many so many bisexual leaders in the pagan world.

M

Michelle 22:22

I've noticed that connection that even non pagan people in this book talked about at least you know, maybe going through that as part of a stage in their spirituality or drawing on the pagan tradition. There's I don't know what it is with pagans and bisexuals, but there is definitely some sort of a strong link in there.



22:42

True and you know, this is random, who knows I'm not big, I'm not going to use typically like verifiable numbers. But I think a good third of the pagan community might identify as bisexual, which is obviously very, very high. And I'm not sure what the connection is, except perhaps it is the seeking for the more mystical traditions. Were in this country, at least at this part. As fringes paganism is for some, if you're if you're an activist if you work moving leftist circles, if not, it's fairly commonly known. And it's much more overtly mystical. Yeah, yeah, there are mystical traditions, certainly, in Christianity and in Judaism. And I'm, I'm personally learning more and getting more involved in understanding and practicing in the Kabbalistic traditions and Judaism. But I think it's harder to ask this though. And I think that if again, if you look at Scott and Scott that kind of four part development and spirituality with mysticism being at the top I that's what I would say, then when most people to paganism, but I believe I guess,

M

Michelle 23:56

or the goddess God tradition that's really big. And so maybe because the people Hunter, no gods that you worship are both male and female. I don't know maybe that has something to do with it to draw for bisexuals.

G

Gigi 24:11

I think for me as a pagan part of the draw was just earth based, the nature base. And, you know, I think one of the big things that I identified so strongly with was, you know, and I've always kind of identified sexuality in general is part of nature. And being bisexual is kind of on

always kind of identified sexuality in general is part of nature. And being bisexual is kind of on the outer fringes. But you know, it's a very, I don't know, just walking through the woods can be such a profound spiritual experience in many ways. And I think maybe it's just that, you know, I know as highly sensitive is a kid and went through hell, and I knew I was different from the word go. And I think that was Part of the appeal to me for paganism was that, ah, here's something that's a little different. It's out of the mainstream, and that kind of fit here.



25:09

Yeah, I think all those things feed into the draw. And frankly, for many people who are raised in rather strict religious settings, seeking something different was important, in order to kneel spiritually, because they couldn't find themselves in the tradition of birth, you know. So it's different enough, I think, probably had a strong appeal to a lot of people. But you also asked eg about, where one can find a spiritual mentor, a bisexual, spiritual mentor, or advisor. And, you know, while I named several names, I think, first of all, I do think if you're pagan, it's not tough, as I said, books. And, you know, check in with the covenant of the Goddess, I don't have a website for them, but I really think they're easy to find folks. And then if you're in a more mainstream tradition, check into the welcoming traditions like the more light Presbyterians I mentioned these before Lutheran is concerned. The Unitarian LGBT committee, and, and as for the bisexual leaders, they may or may not be clergy. And I don't think spiritual advisors need to be clergy. And see, you know, see what you come up with.



Gigi 26:41

And also, kind of like, it's a little bit of a plug for BiNet USA, we do have quite a resource there. And there's a lot of people in BiNet, USA that are practice very highly spiritual lives. Absolutely. And so



26:58

this book, yeah, mentoring from reading.



27:02

Definitely.



Michelle 27:04

Well, and along those lines, if I may, kind of take this in another direction, or same direction, actually. But where did this idea come from? I mean, all of a sudden, wow, there's this book on bisexuality and spirituality. Where'd that come from? Well,



27:19

the wonderful thing about this is I could tell you that it wasn't my idea. Amanda Otis Kessler,

who you mentioned earlier, actually conceived of the project, she she had the brainstorm. And she put out a few calls for submissions and got maybe 20 pieces. And at that point, said, I can't even read these because she her life was so full, overwhelming. And I was one of the authors who submitted one of those first pieces. And she and I knew each other through activist circles, although we had never worked together, she lives in Boston, I live into near DC. And I said to her, and she put out the word to all the people who had submitted and said, I don't think I'm going to be able to do this. So I called her up. And I said, Amanda, if what it takes is a co editor, I would be honored if you would be interested in working with me, because this project has got to see the light of day. When I wrote my piece I felt so it first of all, it was such an incredible experience for me. I think the practice of writing a Spiritual Autobiography is an incredible practice. And I recommended Hi, everyone. It was so moving and so important for me. And because of that, I felt like you know, the world needs to read these stories. So in addition to offering myself as a co editor, I told Amanda that if she really had to lay the project down, I would of course, be even more honored if you'd consider having me take it on. And about a month later, she called and said, Deb, I really can't do this. And I can't think of anyone else that I'd be interested in having taken over. I inherited a box of NASA and have and then I I put out my own solicitations. As you know, the book ended up with 31 Bisexual pieces and lowered by a lesbian airline and Mary Hans. And



29:22

I liked the introduction. Yeah, Mary did



29:25

a very good job. I probably had to solicit to get another 20 pieces that were ended up in a book. So I did a lot of soliciting and no damn good job of editing started, which was I have to tell you if anyone out there is the prospective editor, I was humbled by this task. I used to think editing what's the big deal? It's not like the wrote the whole book.



Gigi 29:54

I'm getting the wrap up, son. But we're getting there. He flies by on the shelves. Can you tell people where to get the book?



30:05

Absolutely. You know, the best thing to do is probably to go to your local independent bookstore and ask them to order it like Lobo. Actually, they



30:14

got it on the shelves here. Some restaurants at crossroads.



30:19

Okay, have we talked to Sally over at Lobos about getting it in?



Michelle 30:23

I don't know.



30:27

The reason I encourage you to do that is because when they order it for you, they generally order a couple of copies. And so it makes it on the shelves, and it increases the visibility. So that's one option. If you are not someone who, who has the time to get away from your computer. Or if you like the idea of ordering by phone, you can order it directly from the publisher. And the publisher is continuum co N, T i n, u u n un, international. And that's all one word, i n t e r, N A, T i l N A l. And just give them a call at one 800 Number. And that's one 805 61704. And tell him the name of the book blessed by spirit, bisexual people of faith, and my name Deb Kolodny. And I'll be able to hook you up, I do encourage you to go to your local bookstore.



31:28

Well, I want to thank you for being on the show. You've always been one of my major heroes. Ever since I've met you at the national meetings, it's true.



Jimmy Carper 31:38

It's true. Talking talks about your almost every show.



Gigi 31:45

Well, you just have such a wonderful presence and just, I don't know, there's a calm about you, you walk into a room, my buddy's going nuts, and all of a sudden, it just something happens.



32:03

Thank you very much.



Gigi 32:04

But you know, you just kind of always impressed me is having this very deep feel for things and for people. And and I know you touched my life very deeply.

 Michelle 32:18

It was really wonderful to get to interview you life on my own. As we're saying very rarely does that ever get to happen with these book reviews. Thank you very much. Thanks, Deb for being on after hours. Thank you. Did I hang up now? Take good care. Bye bye.

 Jimmy Carper 32:41

Now let's go to a short piece of music. That is right in line. It's Tom Carlisle from his album follow your star. It's called. I've got joy. And you're hearing it on after hours queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station Yes, yes, Tom Carlisle's from his CD follow your star. It's I've got joy. And boy does that just kind of get you going? Doesn't it? Ah, I like that. I like that song. And there's a couple others on here. I like to and I've played follow your star which is a really nice song and it's exact. That's exactly what it's about. Don't give up your dreams. And there's a song that's been on the the top 40 ad out voice listserv is good night sweet prince. So Tom Carlisle follow your star. You can probably get that at mp3. You know, look it up. Tom Carlyle. Wow, good. Good guy even wearing across. On the religious side, yes. Anyway, by now. Yeah. Where do you meet?

 Gigi 34:04

We're meeting at the hobbit Cafe every Wednesday night from 730 till about nine ish. Okay. And it's every Wednesday, just SAS GM for binary Houston. Bringing into the room we meet and we meet separately from the rest of the restaurant. And if you want more information, you can call it's 713-467-4380. She needs to help you out here. Or you can contact

 34:43

me am I doing wrong here? Try that one. Yeah.

 Gigi 34:46

Or you can contact us@www.flash.net forward slash tilde the character by House

 34:56

he's got that down. Got it down.

 35:00

And that'll bring you to the BiNet Houston webpage.



35:04

Lots of interesting people that BiNet. Oh, yes.



35:06

And we're we've been growing by leaps and bounds. Good timing. Good, good, good. Good. Since that conference gave us a jolt we needed.



Jimmy Carper 35:17

And speaking of conferences, that's coming up again. Yeah.



Gigi 35:19

And October, October, yes. It's gonna be in Austin. And by net Austin is hosting it and planning it and they have. It is amazing. They have a committee of about 20 people putting this conference together. And they, you know, went to one there.



35:42

People open you when you first one. When I went up to



35:45

the planning meeting, they said, I can't believe you did all this. Exactly. Exactly. Well, one quiet by myself. cracked it



35:58

was on your shoulders? Yes. Oh, it



Gigi 36:00

was. But they they are putting together quite a package from what I understand are good is going to be really awesome. And all the keynotes that came to the conference last October here in Houston are planning to come back for the Austin con.



36:16

Oh, good. DC had some really good people, Carol,



36:20

Queen and Fritz Klein, and Wayne Bryan. And I even have rumors that, Lonnie, come on who's



36:30

Oh, that would be great. That would be great.



Gigi 36:33

So she well, she said, from everything I heard about your conference, I'm gonna have to be there for the next one. I talked to her from time to time.



Jimmy Carper 36:46

Well, thank you. Thank you thought, even though we didn't do nude radio tonight. I know. We had semi nude. Yeah.



Gigi 37:00

And, you know, I do want to say once more. Yes. I think Deb is such a wonderful person. And she has, you know, if you haven't, you know, never want to get into religion in any other form. Read this book. I mean, there are some really amazing things in here. Whether it's, you know, even if it's just on your own personal self development. It doesn't even have to be spiritual or religious things. There's so much loaded into this book. I can't even begin.



Michelle 37:48

chock full of goodness.



37:49

Oh, yes. And the diversity in the back just goes from one spectrum to the other.



Jimmy Carper 37:55

Well, Jay, Bill, Gigi, thanks all of you for being on the show. And we'll see you next month. And if nice, you're hearing us you bet by Ned Houston. Now coming up after this next little bit will be after hours news and views with big Roy and Chris but we're going to do a little something in the meantime. Yes, I did this last year, and I think it should be done every year, around Fourth of July because we tend to forget about stuff like this. Talking about Independence Day. Have

you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence? Five signers. Five signers were captured by the British as traitors and tortured before they died. 12 had their homes ransacked and burned to lost their son serving in the revolution. Revolutionary Army and other had two sons captured. Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War. They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor. What kinds of men were they 24 were lawyers and jurists. 11 were merchants. Nine were farmers and large plantation owners. Men of means well educated, but they signed the Declaration of Independence, knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured. Carter Braxton of Virginia a wealthy planter and tray Under saw his ship swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts and died in rags. Thomas McKean was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. his possessions were taken from him and poverty was his reward. Vandals or soldiers looted the properties of delivery Hall climber, Walton, Gwinnett, Haywood, Rutledge and Middleton. At the Battle of Yorktown Thomas Nelson Jr. noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters, he quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt. Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife and she died within a few months, John Hurt, heart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their 13 Children fled for their lives, his fields and his grist mill relate to waste. For more than a year he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children vanished. A few weeks later, he died from exhaustion and a broken heart, Norris and Livingston suffered similar fates. Such were the stories and sacrifices of the American Revolution. These are not wild eyed rabble rousing rough, Ian's they were soft spoken men of means and education. They had security but they valued Liberty more standing tall, straight, and unwavering. They pledged for the support of this declaration, with firm reliance on the protection of the Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred honor. They gave you and me a tree, a free and independent America. The history books never told you a lot about what happened in the Revolutionary War. We didn't fight just the British. We were British subjects at the time, and we fought our own government. Some of us take these liberties so much for granted but we shouldn't. Yes, ladies and gentlemen, it is now time for KPFT news interviews with big Roy and Chris,

R

Roy McCarthy 43:33

like to welcome everyone to this week's edition of after hours news and views and we definitely have a very packed agenda for tonight. It's all hard news. And

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43:45

we don't use agenda in this community. But we'll give pat the wrong ideas about us. Okay.

R

Roy McCarthy 43:49

At any rate, Chris gets to lead off with the thing that a joint news thing that Chris and I are working on on the recent ruling from the United States Supreme Court regarding the Boy Scouts and gave



44:06

the professional term is TEAM COVERAGE brought to you on the Boy Scouts of America. Oh, there you go. And unlike that we ain't prepared. All right. For those of you who have not heard the Supreme Court ruled on Wednesday that the Boy Scouts can