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Thu, Dec 22, 2022 3:46PM

32:39

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

binet, family, gay community, realize, bisexual, fit, sense, sudden, love, september, gay, child, jimmy, queer, lesbian, place, hear, lover, choice, talking

SPEAKERS

Speaker 2, Jimmy Carper, Speaker 3, Gigi

G Gigi 00:01

You know, and that's where I get a lot of the strength.

S Speaker 2 00:04

That's, that's what family is.

G Gigi 00:06

Yeah. It's being able to support each other. And I think the other side and this kind of comes from the leather community is s&m.

S Speaker 2 00:21

How does that fit in? I knew you'd eventually get around. Oh, yeah.

G Gigi 00:27

Of course. For me, s&m was one of the one of the most therapeutic things that we got into. Really? Yeah. Because for the first time in my life as a kid, I couldn't say, Stop. That's right. And I was beaten. I mean, if today, I had been beaten in that shape, you know, children's protected sort of rights would have been in there. I don't know how evaded it back then. I don't even know if they existed back then. But, you know, now, all of a sudden, I have control. Yeah, you know, I can say, and it was one of the most and, you know, I remember the, one of my first episodes, I had a boyfriend once it was real into this. And, and it was one of the most powerful experiences in my life, because all of a sudden, I could say, hey, ease off a bit. And, as I realize,

you know, during that time period, I was reliving some of my childhood. And all of a sudden coming to terms with what I've experienced back then, and regain the control that I never had as a child.

 Speaker 2 01:52

Oh, that's interesting.

 Gigi 01:55

So, in a sense, it gave me this new freedom of all of sudden, I could look back and say, wow, you know, even though those things happen, I can move beyond.

 Speaker 2 02:13

Yeah, yeah. You don't have to be imprisoned by what has happened, then?

 Gigi 02:20

Kind of ironic, but in bondage, I found freedom.

 Speaker 2 02:27

Something like that. Yeah.

 Gigi 02:30

To me, that's, that's part of, you know, my life's always been full of our ironic situations. I mean, here's a minister that that's supposed to be preaching, love and salvation and imprison me. I mean, well, I mean, in the family, as in a sense of prisoner, you know, I can leave it. I couldn't get help outside of it, I can get protection from it. You know, I was pretty much, you know, even though there weren't chains on the door, I was pretty much locked in, you know. And, through this community, I found the freedom.

 Speaker 2 03:27

So what does, like, the family choice or, you know, binet mean.

 Gigi 03:35

Binet, to me is a very it's something I'm very committed to, you know, it's something I believe in so deeply. Because I know there's a lot of people that are, are caught up in relationships

where they haven't told their lover. They're in as much bondage as I was as a child in some ways. You know, they can't come out. Or because of their jobs, or because of this or because of that. It may be a prisoner of their own making to some degree. But I see binet as an educational support group that can help people become free.

 Speaker 2 04:24

I don't know. I don't know what it is about the power or whatever, that it's just a group of people in a room together. You know, it's just, it's, it's a really, it's just yeah, it's just really neat experience. You go in there and you're just accepted for what and who you are. And that's it.

 Gigi 04:44

I think it's that power spoke of when that family took me in that then unconditional acceptance.

 Speaker 2 04:51

Yeah, nobody has any expectations of when you're, you know, you're not supposed to fit something rather you're not supposed to fulfill their-.

 Gigi 05:02

Preconceived notion right? Yeah. All right.

 Speaker 2 05:04

I mean, somehow blood relation, I don't know what it is about. You have to fit their little wishes somehow or another that they are vicariously living through you. I don't know what or something like you're supposed to produce them grandchildren and all this other kind of happy stuff. I don't know what you mean, somewhere down the line, I guess you end up? You know, I don't know if who disappoints who? You know?

 Gigi 05:32

Yeah. Well, one of the things I see buying it dang is being a major support for people that that, you know, don't know where to turn. Don't know where to go. Because I know I was in that situation for long enough. And I think that's the heart of border buying it is to be there for people to help them find whatever path is right for them. Because, you know, realize, when I realized how much I did not fit into my family, and how much I did not fit into this society in many ways. I realized, well, there's got to be a place for me. And there's got to be others like me, and kindred spirits out there, that are going through similar things. And I think the whole thing behind my wanting to start buying it was to bring people together to where we can find strength and power together. And share and learn and in, you know, from, from early on,

we're taught that we're supposed to boy meets girl has 2.5 Kids and gets halfway married and he lives happily ever after. And if you're a male, you're supposed to get into the three big sports. And if you're female, you're supposed to be Doris Day or-.

 Speaker 2 07:01

A school teacher or whatever the big, but-.

 Gigi 07:08

What about people that don't fit this particular mold? Where do they go, you know, and that's what binance about. It's being where you can go if you're different.

 Speaker 2 07:18

And it's a different group.

 Gigi 07:19

Let me know it is diversity. Yeah. Well, starting with me, I mean, I'm about as diverse as you can get. And most people in binet don't pack anything that may.

 Speaker 2 07:35

Be some try. Some try, I'm sure.

 Gigi 07:46

But anyway, we are loving family and each other for who we are. And I think that's the power of buying it. That's the power of what we're about. I think Jimmy just fell over. Sorry, Jimmy.

 Jimmy Carper 08:10

I think generally, generally, what you're talking about is gender bending. And and how gender is just a social construct, has nothing to do with how people really are.

 Gigi 08:24

I think that's part of it. But I think it's just being different, in any sense, tends to make you an outcast and society. And I think that's, that's even at a deeper level. That's what I'm talking about is that, you know, if you're different, there's a place for you. Even the greater society and

most families aren't going going to be accepting. There's a family of choice in that family of choices, accepting whether it's in the gay community or the bisexual community. It's out there.

J Jimmy Carper 09:01

And there really are a lot of bisexual people. I mean, it's-.

G Gigi 09:06

And I don't want to limit this just there's a lot of gays that goes through the same funds, assaults solstice in the gay community. You know, this isn't a bi gay issue. It's a queer issue. It's a being different issue. And there's a place for you if you're different.

J Jimmy Carper 09:27

Yeah, that's what that's what queer means different. Yeah.

S Speaker 2 09:31

Even though you may have, you know, the family of choice. That doesn't mean you avoid problems. May stuff comes up. People get mad at one another yell and scream just like any other.

J Jimmy Carper 09:44

Oh, it's the same. It's the same thing. Absolutely. The same thing. You know, I'm going through it right now with a very good friend of mine, who, you know, God found the lover and went running off to the hinterlands. You know, when I You know, his friends are not going to hear from him for six months. And it's going to be, you know, like the same thing in his last several relationships in six months. So give us a call, and we'll go down there and move him back and be, you know, comfort him. And you know, so we're all mad at him right now. And that's what happens when we get mad at each other.

G Gigi 10:24

Well, anger, in and of itself is not a bad emotion.

J Jimmy Carper 10:27

It's a good emotion. It's very good. Yeah.

G Gigi 10:32

It's what you do with it.

J Jimmy Carper 10:33

It's because we're all different. And we've none of us all think alike. Yeah, so we're gonna disagree.

G Gigi 10:39

And I see that it's a healthy process, or it can be an unhealthy process, depending on how its expressed. That's right. That's right. And if it's Express, you know, what I've found is in the queer community, people get angry with me all the time. I mean, believe me. People get freaked out by me when I walked through the groceries.

S Speaker 2 11:04

Shorts, I can understand.

G Gigi 11:06

Oh, yes. I think Jimmy is starting to believe in Mad somehow have this magical ability to levitate my shorts in place. No, I

J Jimmy Carper 11:17

know, I don't know how to stay on.

S Speaker 2 11:19

Like the tiny shorts have received my life but

J Jimmy Carper 11:27

okay, get get back to your subject. Keep it clean bars.

G Gigi 11:36

We're, we're working at it, it's hard for me to keep it back play. But anyway, the whole family of choice thing to me is, it is a family. I mean, it's it's a family of, of it's, it has all the components. That's supposed to be in a family. You know, there is love there. You know, I've had mentors,

father figures mother figures that have taught me and helped me grow and given me guidance, through this family of choice. I've had brothers and sisters that have that have given me direction. I remember one time I went to, to one of the festivals right after the pride parade. And I don't even know the name of the speaker. I just remember sitting back and hearing her talk. Sometimes we get messages from from, from unusual sources, but but all of a sudden, I saw this sparkle in her eye. And she was talking about the lesbian community and pride. And I forget exactly what all was said, but but all of a sudden, I realize from this that, you know, if you're not okay with who you are, you know.

 S Speaker 2 13:10

How do you expect other people to accept you if you kill yourself?

 G Gigi 13:14

And all of a sudden I kind of started getting the first thing things of what gay pride was all about. It's self acceptance. You know, it's it's being because because there was a time period when I was ashamed of being bisexual. You know, I thought, God nobody's gonna like me. You know, wasn't ashamed in the sense of I felt bad when I was doing it? Never. But there were times when I felt bad because I thought other people's judgments were going to come down on me from being bisexual. In fact, many times you know, from both the gay community and the strike community. I had someone get into my face about at one time. Well, I don't like bisexuals. And you know, you just are ended up processes. Sooner or later you realize you're gay. And it really you know, the hatred I saw this, this kind of like, how can you betray the gay community by calling yourself bisexual? You know, you just need to make the switch. Either way. You're stuck somewhere halfway in between. It's like, you know, no, I am bisexual. And I'm proud of being bisexual. And all of a sudden that whole message came to me and as the sense of being proud for who you are taking pride for who you are.

 S Speaker 2 14:58

So how do you get rid of have all this anger and bitterness that is bound to be there from growing up and having all these experiences,

 G Gigi 15:12

Some of that I still struggle with, from time to time. Not a whole lot anymore, but some. But I think a big part of it is, you know, I've learned how to love and trust those family members for who and what they are, you know, from a distance. And I think part of it for me was just realizing that, you know, just like I didn't choose to be a part of that family, they certainly didn't choose to have me be a part of their it was a you know, cosmic joke or something. I kind of got landed in where is the worst possible fit there was and, and all hell broke loose from then on. And then it's in a funny sort of sense, you know, you may call it justification or whatever you want to call it, but for but for to me, somewhere in that I found the sense of peace. You know, I thought, you know, they are, who they are, they can live their lives the way they want to, I'm who I am. And it was just a bad fit from the start. And finding where I fit is always been kind of

a quest I've been on, and I'm still not sure you know, I'm still searching in the sense of, you know, who I want to be and what I want to be when I grow up, kind of, I've left social work. Because I know that I don't fit there right now. You know, there may come a day when I come back to, if I do, it's gonna be in the gay community. But it's it's or the queer community. You know, I've realized that I can no longer work in the straight world. You know, my last days are over now with that. I may have to for a while. Yeah. But I know where I want to work is in the gay community, where your community to me that's my whole life is moved in that direction. That's where I fit in. That's where I feel I belong. And it's from that sense of fit. That, to me, is kind of helped me move beyond what once happened. I mean, believe me, there's times when, when I had a pretty vivid imagination and, and imagined all twisted kind of things I could do to my family to get even. But then, at some point, I learned that, you know, aren't I just stooping back down to their level to to try to express hatred with hatred. To come back to hatred with hatred is not the answer for me. To me, and I think part of it is, you know, the sense of wonder and enjoy that I've gotten from from lovers. And knowing where I fit in realizing, to love and to be a part of another person's life, to share my life with that other person. That's, that's where I'm happy. And in that world-.

 Speaker 2 18:52

That takes a lot of trust, a lot of trust, I mean, to put to put your feelings out there, again, you know, I mean, knowing that the person could easily stomp all over you and all that kind of stuff.

 Gigi 19:07

But, and that's once again, comes from the heart. And it's, it's that sense of pride. Pride is really believing in yourself. For who you are saying, I'm good for who I am.

 Speaker 2 19:27

You're good for who you are. Okay.

 Gigi 19:31

And, I mean, that for me, that's how it worked. I mean, it's like all of a sudden, I realized, Hey, I like who I am. Bisexual. Very blood. mischievous.

 Speaker 2 19:45

The guy said, Saturday night live. That one guy he says, I'm good enough. I'm smart enough and Gosh, darn it people like me or something like that.

 Gigi 19:59

I think where it started for me was being able to look in the mirror and say, Hey, I love me.

Yeah. Well, I can love another, you know, but it took looking at that kid that was scared and, and petrified at times, and saying, Hey, I love you. Even though you went through hell, you didn't get yourself there to start with. And you've done a remarkable job to get through it.

 Speaker 2 20:30

I think Jimmy wants to take another music break.

 Gigi 20:33

Oh, okay.

 Jimmy Carper 20:34

I think it's time. I think I'm ready to and we need to wrap it up. So what I want Yeah, to do, let's see. Oh, yeah, do this one. And then I'll go to, I want to, I'm going to play some music later by Jamie Anderson, because she's going to be in town this week. Oh, cool. But right now I've got a good message song from Tom Robinson on his brand new CD, called having it both ways. It is a command line. Came out in the 60s as a gay activist. And here recently, he now has a relationship with a woman and has a child and the boyfriend. Cool. He wants to tell you about this respect, Tom Robinson, and you're hearing him on after hours queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston, and KEOS.

 Speaker 2 21:40

But I want it both ways. I want my cake and eat it too. Well, you got your cake. And all that business? Yeah.

 Gigi 21:49

And the icing on top?

 Speaker 2 21:53

That was the show that happens while the music is going on? Yeah, no, that was about it.

 Jimmy Carper 21:58

That went here. So to wrap up.

 Gigi 22:02

Yes, to wrap up, we have been talking about families, values, and then family of choice. I think the thing I really want to capture in all this is that, you know, by net, or even the gay community is family of choice. You find it in there. Sometimes you have to look a little higher. But it's there. Family of choices is a powerful force. I think it's at the roots of what made the gay community sprang forth, and gave it the power that it has. I don't think it would be here. As strong as it is. If we didn't have these family of choice values, so to speak, if we didn't reach out our hands to one another, and help each other. We've all been through a lot of discrimination. And we've been through a hell of a trip so far. We need each other to to kind of nurse some of the wounds and pick up and move on and, and, and make this world a better place to where we can love one another no matter who the other partner is, no matter what gender or no matter what clothes they wear. Right. Right. You know, what's important. And I think to sum it all up, my grandmother, one time sat down with me. And she says it doesn't matter what form love takes Love is love. Yeah. And that's what's powerful and beautiful.

J Jimmy Carper 24:02

Okay, thanks to both of you, Gigi and Jim. One more time. One more time.

G Gigi 24:10

Put in binets number. Oh yeah. 4674380.

J Jimmy Carper 24:16

Cool. Lesbian singer songwriter comic Jamie Anderson makes a Tuesday September 10. Stop over in Houston while on tour promoting her latest CD. She's going to be at the mugham. mechanicals mucky duck that's located at 2520 No 2425 Northfolk. That's kind of in the Richmond slash Kirby area. Right right around in there. For more information call 5285999. And for a sampling of what you're going to hear Tuesday this is from an older album called center of balance and it's called no closet. Yeah, Jamie Anderson, no closets. That's kind of what we advocate here. But if you're not ready to come out of your closet, we'll wait for you not a problem. A couple of things I want to bring up about what's going on. And I want to thank the listener last week that kind of turned me on to IO that's inside out a new magazine for youth. Inside Out Youth magazine, the latest issue is called Beauty is every thang, or is it and there's a great article in there about Ashley McIsaac, who is a very young fiddler, who is doing like dance music with the fiddle. It's really bizarre stuff. I can't wait to get my hands on some and listen to it. But there's there's lots of good articles in there. One I really liked was girlfriends, boyfriends, dikes, or fags and it's a lesbian, young lesbian who identifies as a fag, and looks very masculine and freaks people out and how she deals with that. That's IO Inside Out Youth magazine. And I'll tell you, you can get a one year subscription for 12 bucks. It comes out every quarter. That's four issues. And I'm gonna give you the information here INSIDE OUT magazine, make checks payable to them and send that to Inside Out mag subscriptions. Po box for 60268 That's Po box 460268, San Francisco, California 94146. You'll be glad you did. It's really a good magazine, global. That's the gay, lesbian or bisexual sexual Alliance meets at U of H at the University Center Wednesdays 4pm and 6pm. And they always have the triangle bull the ball on National Coming Out Day which is October 11. It's going to have a rally and all kinds of stuff. So get ready for that with that say and I talked to Angel and said yes, I will do it. And just let me know

give me the information. Lambda roller skating club meets every Wednesday night. Eight to 10 at the starlight skating rink at 75 Cook road. So you don't have to worry if it's the first or third Wednesday or think every Wednesday night roller skating. Coming up. September 21 Is the Houston women's festival that's on a Saturday from 1pm to midnight. Get it? Garden in the heights 3926 Fagan. Now listen to the people who are going to be there, the cow patties. That's a Texas musical comedy experience. Diana Jones you've heard her. Her her music right here on after hours. Nancy Scott outrageous. The group that used to be the Fred's Nancy Ford, the fabulous Nancy Ford, the Nancy bite me Ford girls with guitars, Lavasa, Ralston, Ruffin, Leslie woods and a whole bunch more. That's the Houston women's festival September the 21st. I also want to remind folks that this just happens to be the ninth anniversary of After Hours. On September 6 1987, a man by the name of Buddy Johnston walked into the studio and turned the buttons on and started the first After Hours. And we've been with you ever since. And we're going to be with you for a long time to come. Pet patrol. I've got a guy here who wants to push pet patrol because those folks need money. So let's talk about it. There's a microphone right over there. Batty Bob. Hello, Miss Kitty litter. So what's Miss Kitty litter?

S

Speaker 3 29:51

They have a wonderful event over at EJ and it's on September 21. Unfortunately how bad my son's wedding He or I would have showed up for it. But it's a fabulous event and they have flawless girls that work at EJ Oh, and they raise money and right now let's tell you right now, they're hurting for money people and let's face it, our pets are our children.

J

Jimmy Carper 30:18

Yeah, they are. Yes. That your pet patrol does a lot of wonderful things with pets for people with AIDS or people with any other life threatening illness. And they they take care of the animal find it a new home, or on the other side of the coin, if-.

S

Speaker 3 30:36

They find a place for it, believe me they find a place for the child. And not only that, it's September 21. It's going to be a fabulous flawless event.

J

Jimmy Carper 30:45

Oh, in an EJS that's that's on a Ralph at Westheimer. That's around the 1700 block of Westheimer That's correct. Great, great bar DJs nice neighborhood bar but what a patio.

S

Speaker 3 30:59

I got there. I have little boys.

J

Jimmy Carper 31:01

J

Jimmy Carper 31:01

Taking your clothes off every now-.

S

Speaker 3 31:03

We will go there. So please come out people because after all, they are our children. And we need to take care of our children or cats or dogs our parents are a Guana does whatever crawls around with that. Thank you.

J

Jimmy Carper 31:19

One last thing I want to say hello to the new pastor of MCCR church. Where's his name? Oh, Reverend J. Dwayne Johnson. has come to MCCE as the permanent pastor. And we want to say goodbye to Jim Burns. Who was the interim pastor there. You have been listening to After Hours queer music, queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station. Listen to our sister show. Let's be in a gay voices heard every Thursday night eight to 10 right here at the same station. Next week, we'll have Sarah dipalma and transgendered news mixed with everything else. But right now it's Jimmy Carper.

G

Gigi 32:15

Gigi with binet, and did you realize that this is our third year?

J

Jimmy Carper 32:21

Yes. Yes. ninth year and third year for you?

G

Gigi 32:26

Yeah. Okay. And realize I looked at the tapes the other day. Yeah, that's a nice time flies.