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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

people, hate crimes legislation, bisexual, usa, gay, bisexuality, monogamous, texas, issue, big, laws, violence, transgender community, nebraska, hate, homophobic, stereotypes, john, disease, national

## SPEAKERS

Gigi, Jimmy Carper, Ray Hill

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 Ray Hill 00:01

nor any other. I mean, I mean, I've had to wrestle in my work with who is worthy and who is not. This

 Jimmy Carper 00:09

is a man who's who's made the apology. He's offering his hand. We've got to do so.

 Ray Hill 00:15

I mean, I think I think I think that we are prepared to do something we were prepared to listen. And those of you who wish to communicate with John he put his address on the paper. John Buice can be written to John buys Jo NBU. Ice. inmate number 630496630496. Win unit wy, in in IE, when unit wy in in IE. Huntsville, Texas 77349 Huntsville, Texas 7734. I consider John my friend. And if you want to write him a scathing accusatory letter he's he's grown up in Epping Handelman. If you want to ride him, and establish some kind of communication with him, he will be glad to hear from supporters as well. I think it's a very brave move for him to have done. But I think that's where John has brought himself it's part of his growing thing. I've been thinking about this all week, because I had the letter I know it's kind of hard to ignore it.

 Jimmy Carper 01:55

No, I can't ignore it. And I still don't know where I stand. It's, it's I have very conflicting emotions.

 Ray Hill 02:03

Let me share with you some early of experiences for me in an essay that I wrote concerning hate crimes legislation, which will probably show up in Texas triangle hate crime legislation comma who hurts Murray Hill. One of the earliest images in my memory is that of a bunch of boys from cloverleaf in Channelview. Skinning dipping in a band of carpenters by one of the smaller boys started giving head to the others. There was some excitement about the unforeseen opportunity and many avail themselves. As the crown thinned. One of the bigger boys attacked and beat up the service provider. I was a little bigger than the assailant and intervened to protect the kid biped his minor wounds and went with him to the relative safety of the neighborhood. The irony here is that the assailant now sits on death row awaiting execution, he's gay, and his face and body bear the scars of many homophobic attacks, and a life of trailer house parks, jails and prison. The crime for which he awaits execution was something that happened when he was drunk and high, and therefore stupid and in need of one more 12 Pack. His original act of homophobic violence had no justification except a passing scripture in Leviticus that he heard over and over again, in his Pentecostal church. He did not know the kid he attacked. The queer he feared and hated, was the one that had not yet emerged from within himself. In the ensuing years, I have lost many friends, including two of my former companions to violence. I've spent many hours beside hospital beds holding weak grasps of those struggling to stay alive and more hours next to coffins. Do not accuse me of not caring about the victims of violence. Few others have seen more of that than I. I've also gone out of my way to talk to and listen to those who commit hate motivated crimes of violence. I've been in a unique position to do that because of my efforts to reform Texas prisons, and the criminal justice system as a whole. What I have learned from them is that most certainly not all but most are scared gay people trying to stay closeted enough to survive in a hostile anti gay environment in which they live. Those who are not gay are confused in their sexuality or gender and seeking acceptance for non standard A expressions of sexuality or gender. There has been little research done on the perpetrators of hate violence. So my empirical observations are about all I have to help my understanding. I find it comforting that the research there is does not conflict with my observations. The bottom line on hate crime legislation, including gay, lesbian, transgendered people, is that it is a form of revenge that we want to do to ourselves. Support for hate crimes legislation seemed more related to gay lesbian, transgendered self loathing, like the hate crimes themselves. I've given a lot of thought to criminal justice policy and to the laws that drive that policy. The hammer is too big enforcement, prosecution and judgment are too unsophisticated to consider all the facts much less all of the nuances of each case. I'm opposed to capital punishment. hate crimes legislation adds 12 offenses to the list of reasons to execute people. All of them have been specifically ruled inappropriate for executions by the United States Supreme Court. In previous cases, hate crimes legislation presumes that the Texas legislature can override the decision to the United States Supreme Court. And the idea that those in a class of criminals motivated by hate and prejudice may be treated differently from others with different motivations. committing the same acts under the law is flawed under the principle of equal justice. Equal justice under the law, are the words carved over the front door of the United States Supreme Court. If those words are not important, isn't it reasonable that they would have chosen other words for a building that appears to be ready to last for a very long time? I suspect that due to the overwhelming blind support of hate crimes legislation, it will pass in Texas and many other states. The very wealthy people charged under those laws will have expensive lawyers and their cases will get go get overturned on constitutional grounds. While the poor will pay the higher personal prize for punishment under Popular, but unprincipled lumps, there's one more hazard. Hate Crimes convictions may be the pride of homophobic, racist, sexist cultures, like jails, churches and prisons. Why should we make anyone a hero and a victim in a society where they live for an unthinkable act of hate and cowardice? Hate crime legislation is not well thought out. There has been no open and general debate as to whether or not such legislation should be a priority of our reform efforts. It

is an emotional issue. And the human desire for getting even is overwhelming. I was just hoping that we, as a people could see through the rhetoric and rise above the more violent urges we dislike in others. Thank you very much, Jamie. You're welcome.

J Jimmy Carper 08:34

I've got a piece of music, you know me. And it's for John. And I want to tell him that I want to hang around for the day when I can feel this. I'm somewhat there that I can feel this song. I'm not there yet. And I know our community is not there yet. But we may get there in time. John, this is for you. Patrick arena, from his new new album, nightcap, Johnny Angel. And later on in the show after JG after GG I've got some something from Roger that I wanted to talk about also, and a special song bear. So we're right now.

G Gigi 09:44

Wow, we've got someone on hold. Do we now? Yes, Marcela with Binah. US okay. And when we put her on all these gadgets we have to do it press that one Hello teller on

J Jimmy Carper 10:08

the air after hours. Oh, good.

G Gigi 10:11

And I want to introduce you to our producer Jimmy Carper. He's with me tonight. Hello,

10:17

that's me. Hi, Jimmy. How you doing? Okay, now

J Jimmy Carper 10:20

where are you? I don't know how to ask, Oh, my Ha, Nebraska. I've never been there. I had a cousin who was stationed in Lincoln years and years ago. And that was about all I know about Nebraska.

10:35

Well, my partner was transferred to Omaha a couple of years ago, and I had never been here before that. And so that was just that we upped and moved to Omaha. And here we are, like it. But it's not a bad place to live. It's pretty small town. But you know, they'd have that has both good and bad points. kind of missed the big city. But it's, you know, there's some there, you just have to take the joy out of the place where you are. Drew, Drew, got a good people here.

Very exciting. Lots of lots of wonderful job opportunities on the highs are really growing city, I can't even fill the jobs they have available. So that's terrific. Anyway, that, you know, of course, that became a really big issue in the recent equality begins at home stuff, because yes, we did, because Nebraska does not protect gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender people from being fired on the job. And so that was our big issue. Yeah, so desperate for employees, and yet you want to fire us? You know? Yeah.

J Jimmy Carper 11:40

Yeah.

G Gigi 11:44

I wanted to kind of talk a little bit about my net USA. Yeah. And talk a little bit about what it is and what we do, and just a lot about what by net USA is,

12:02

by now is the only real national activist group that does, you know, real advocacy, and, you know, education on on a national level, about bisexuality, and about, you know, both also making an effort to, to educate the gay community, as well as the street community. We've done some lobbying, just all kinds of things on a national level. And we also, you know, do grassroots work through our regional organizers that lets us help groups that that, you know, areas where there are not currently organizations to get a group started there and teach people how to have a thriving group and attract membership and that kind of thing.

G Gigi 13:02

And I know that there's a lot of myths about bisexuality, and, you know, I remember reading a thing put out by by net USA on some of the myths and stereotypes on you know, anything that moves.

13:20

Yeah, well, we, we do the, the women live with the, the stereotype that we're all in full maniacs, and that we're bisexual because we just can't get enough and we want to do anything and everything at anytime.

G Gigi 13:37

And we always do it in a closet. We always do it in the closet.

0 12 16



13:46

And you know, guys guys have to, you know, really face a whole lot of censure you know, and all the stereotyping that they're there, you know, carry drugs, having carry disease from from the gay to me, and



J Jimmy Carper 14:03

that's the big thing that I think that's that's a real biggie. I don't need we've got got to overcome that one.



14:10

I don't, I mean, you know, diseases is conveyed by those who are unsafe and have anything to do with their sexuality, but



G Gigi 14:19

not play a lot. I mean, I'm one of these poly people, oh, boy. But whenever I spread them, there has to be late tech. That's right.



J Jimmy Carper 14:31

No. What we do on this show is really tried to educate and one of the big things is, it doesn't matter how many times or who, how many people, it's how you do it, the vibe that the disease is caused by a germ of virus, it's a virus. And that's how it's transmitted. It's a disease. It's not anything has nothing, no relationship to orientation.



14:59

Absolutely. have absolutely any person who has unsafe sex, or who has unsafe practices and other other ways that could trans you know that we've come into contact with bodily fluids, including, you know, drug use, which is by far the majority of the people in the street community who have picked up HIV sure have gotten it through contaminated needles, not through bisexual men going out picking it up and coming home and bringing it to their wives, you know, their faithful loyal wives who don't stray with their bisexual husbands who just can't be even, you know, monogamous. Yeah, and I think it's important to note that because people are poly because they're not monogamous does not mean that they're not, you know, faithful or that they are not honoring their promises and agreements, probably people are, you know, do honor whatever agreement they have, it may be body fluid monogamy, it may be that they, you know, have other agreements about how their poly relationship for work, monogamous people, whether whatever their orientations agree to be monogamous and bisexual people can be just as monogamous. Sure, as as monosexual people,



J Jimmy Carper 16:28



Jimmy Carper 10:20

I think the straight community is really jealous. Because they, their life, their future is all planned out. You know, you get married, you have children, and you know, you're monogamous. And everyone else is free to choose the type of relationship they want to be in?



16:52

Well, and I think, you know, I try I try really hard, you know, personally not to put stereotypes because I've known a lot of straight people who didn't live their life that way, either. And I've done a lot of gay and lesbian and bisexual people who chose to have their lives be just like that, you know, mapped out, they find their one partner, and they, they get in a relationship with that person. And that's what their life is forever. I think it's scary for people whenever you don't fit into their can their boxes. And I think that's one of the reasons people find bisexuality, so scary. They didn't want to figure out what box to put up.



Gigi 17:34

Thank you kind of hit on a key word, because I've noticed that at all the conferences I've gone to, I've noticed that all the by net meetings I've ever been to, is the diversity in the acceptance of each person without having to become like that person. Right. And I think that's why I love about buying it so much. And by net USA is that, you know, it's this diverse group of people that come together, and they're respectful of everybody, no matter what their diversity is, without having to buy into it. Well, you know, it is kind of family oriented.



18:12

What when, when the recent, the fairly recent debate came up over the marriage laws and the Defense of Marriage Act within Congress. By that USA was asked for a position on on the marriage issue and a great deal of debate took place. Many of us didn't feel that marriage itself was necessarily a viable institution that was patriarchal, and, you know, all of all of the things that go with that, but the bottom line was, it's a civil rights issue, if one person has the right to get married, everybody has the right to get married. And that that was that was the bottom line for us. And I think that's the way we, we are about every issue, if one person has a right to do something or to be something or have a certain level of respect or a certain level of protection. Every citizen has that right. That's right. That's very much our attitude about virtually every issue



Gigi 19:14

brings this real place to something that sounds like a quality begin to



Jimmy Carper 19:22

that was such a smooth segue now.



19:29

Equality begins at home was the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force have decided that, you know, in looking at what has been effective in legislation, that type of thing. Really, the stuff has not not worked on a national level, there has been no national successes in protecting the rights of gay lesbian, bisexual and transgender people. But on the state level, or on the local county and city level, a great deal of success has happened and so they decided that that they would help to sponsor a week of really concentrating on, you know, issues at home in their home state. And so equality begins at home was the was born and it took place March 24. First through 27th. And I don't know about you guys in Texas, but here in Nebraska, it was a wild success. It was great.



Gigi 20:26

Yeah, we had somewhere between six and 8000 people show up at the state capitol.



Jimmy Carper 20:32

Wow. Terrific. Yeah,



Gigi 20:35

we had by buying that Austin came out with this huge banner. I was running around with this by phobia makes me blue.



Jimmy Carper 20:46

Yeah, transgender community that had a good showing also. Yeah,



Gigi 20:49

I mean, and that's one of the things I've really loved about the March and the people was, you know, it was the first time I've seen in Texas where the whole queer community was represented in one mass effort to bring equality to all of us. Right. And I thought that was so cool.



Jimmy Carper 21:13

In many ways, I think that a march on the capital of your state is much more effective than a march on Washington. We've done the March on Washington, they know and, and the state you live in, you have to live under those laws. And those are the laws you perhaps want to have changed. If they don't apply to you. But

G

Gigi 21:36

people are interested in joining by net USA, what do they have to do to become a member and who can be a member?

♂

21:44

Well, anyone can be a member. We are open to membership from both by people and straight and gay allies. So

J

Jimmy Carper 21:52

I can be a member then. Yeah. Like me.

♂

21:58

Probably the easiest way. For those people who have computers, the easiest way to get you know information about by that would be to go to our website, which is [www.bi-thatusa.org](http://www.bi-thatusa.org).

J

Jimmy Carper 22:14

And wait a minute, WW, [www.bimatUSA](http://www.bimatusa.org), the i n e t U S A dot o RG o RG, okay. Whenever somebody gives one of those I, I write it down here. People at home who are listening to

♂

22:35

it, if people do not have computers, or they don't, you know, don't like to go out onto the World Wide Web, then they would need to either, you know, call us or write us both, we'd not have a toll free number at this time. Just a little outside of our financial reach. But, and of course, I can't find it, I will get it and give it to you before we

G

Gigi 23:04

well, we'd like to say that. You know, I don't think a lot of people realize this, but by net USA has no paid staff. Correct?

♂

23:13

I'm sorry, by that USA has no paid staff. No, no paid staff. It's all volunteer. Believe me. It's all.

J

Jimmy Carper 23:22

 Jimmy Carper 23.22

It's so volunteer.



23:24

It is so volunteer. We are we have we have maintained a national presence, performed national lobbying, national outreach to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community and provide support to local groups. And we do all of that through donations and through our own volunteer staff. I travel probably six or eight trips a year to speak at various conferences around the country and out of my pocket. Yeah.



J Jimmy Carper 24:03

Ouch. Well,



24:06

it's a labor of love.



J Jimmy Carper 24:08

Well, there you go.



G Gigi 24:09

And I have hoped you're gonna be coming down here for the South Central Regional Conference coming up in October.



24:17

Well, that's not currently on my my personal list of coordinators. And I believe that Ron Elwin, who is the National Coordinator who is coordinates with South Central will be coming to that conference. So one of us will be there. That'd be great. Currently.



G Gigi 24:36

People that want to become members can learn a lot more about it at the conference. Oh, yeah. Well, I have some representatives from BioNet, USA, as well as people from all over the national by saying



24:53

absolutely, absolutely. And there will be lots and lots of information available. there, and it's a terrific opportunity not only to get information about how to join, but to see what kind of people we are, what our values are, and whether we fit with the type of thing you want to see happening in your world, you know,

 Gigi 25:15

and the theme for the South Central regional conferences celebrating the bisexual family of choice. Oh, isn't that wonderful? Yes. And we're focusing a little bit, we put out a call for papers, and I'm hoping we get some people that will respond that are from either PFLAG or from people that are in relationships with bisexuals that are either gay or straight, and do some workshops on what it's like to be partnered with a bisexual. So I want this conference to

 25:50

be realized that, that in in the way our world is currently set up, very few people are part of those traditional families that we picture. I mean, that just does not represent reality. The families that most people create are very unusual these times and we don't really honor those families that people create. We don't really, you know, have a world where every family no matter what is equally valued and enriched