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Mon, Jan 23, 2023 2:07PM 44:09

## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

people, disability, life, child, disabled, point, listening, hurts, houston, walk, rejected, rejection, problem, wheelchair, hand, kennedys, mentally, leg, tom, pain

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00:01

\$1,000 But I insisted on it. And after a while, I got to the point saying, wait a minute, I don't really care, you know? Because they would make my hand hurt. Terrible, you know, but a worm just tried to get over to guilty. Yeah. I think that those that people with something like that do that feeling that all they're looking at me what this or that. And I have a terrible time holding money in my left hand. But terrible time holding money. Matter of fact, just just this evening, somebody gave me changed for dollar with four quarters and I dropped one penny put it in my left hand, and I dropped the quarter on the floor, you know, and I just laughed about it saying I have a hard time moving money.



00:55

Are you left handed or right hand from right hand? Okay, well then.



00:58

Yeah. But it hasn't hurt my my solo sexualized? Well, thank you,



01:06

you know, if both arms both hands were amputated, I'm sure that we as gay men could find a way to masturbate.



01:14

Yeah, they have machines out there.



01:20

But, but socially, what happened to you?



01:24

It still, I have to admit that it still affects my social life. It really does. Matter of fact, I met somebody here not too long ago, that I liked real well. And I still do. But I still have a feeling. You know. And so when I, when I meeting, I do have a tendency to put my hand in my pocket. To try to keep it here.



01:56

Which is stupid. When when I was a teenager I used to wear I very aware rarely ever wore shorts, because I didn't want people to see the braces on my legs. Which I no longer,



02:10

you know, have no and I think I've seen you in long pants once



02:14

i Yeah, you know, it's, I have sort of gone the other extreme this point because it's taken me a long time. And part of that is a result of the other subject that we've talked about. On this radio, my ex



02:37

you where you say relationships in



02:39

abusive relationship, and part of one of the things that kept me in that was feeling like a freak.



02:46


This was the best you could get done when no one else would want you. Yeah,





02:50


yeah. And I and, you know, at this point, and it took me getting out of that relationship, and on with my life, you know, I was already an openly gay man, at this point. And you know, everybody knew that. But to, you know, to wear the shorts, to not caring to get to the point of, of not caring whether people looked at my legs. I mean, you know, they stare at me made matches that

 03:23  
you have pretty nicely.


 03:27  
Yeah, my hairy little


 03:27  
Yes. Then yes. You don't fit in well, for the second half of this year. Won't bears on the body.

 03:36  
But it's just, I've, I've, I've gotten to this point where yes, I I worry about I sometimes care what people think of what I look like, but not nearly to the extent that I did when I was younger. It's now it's a thing of, okay, if you're gonna stare, I'm gonna give you something to stare at. Okay. And, you know, they see me walking down the street, you know, zipping my music, listening to my music, and people smile at me now. And it's like, hey, that's cool. No, no. And those piano and you know, if you see me walking down the street and you want to stop and say hello to me, say hello. I will stop long enough to hold a conversation

 04:33  
after the description we gave anyone will know who you are immediately. Got it now, Tom, you've been out a long time.

 04:41  
I've been well. Absolutely out of the closet. No going back 10 years. Okay, since I was 22.

 04:51  
Tom was dragged screaming and kicking out of the closet. I believe it was 1975 with the first Pride Parade. In Houston, Ray Hill conned you into going and before you knew there, you were out of the clouds

 05:07  
killed him. But since then Ray is one of the most loved and cared people that I know. He is truly a brother in spirit and in heart, you know?



05:24

Did you did you coming out where they're coming out in 1975 is a lot different than coming out in 2000. So the things that you learned about coming out, did that help you with with your loss of your fingers and your your yourself?



05:43

Because, because then back then you had to reach a point where I don't really give a damn if you if you know I'm out. Okay. And that also works. I think that that people that do cloud the closet, have this have this thought I am who I am. And To hell with you if you don't like



06:06

it. There you go. Okay. It's kind of a more honest way to feel.



06:12

Yeah, yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Be be who you are. Yeah. and to hell with the rest of you. No.



06:21

No, Bobby, on one hand. There's nothing he can do to hide his disability.



06:28

At least not while I'm.



06:30

Yeah. You can put your hand in your pocket. Yeah.



06:33

Now, also.



06:36

But eventually, you got to take that handout.



06:39

Yeah. And also, from coming out to the closet, which was a very dangerous time. Oh, yeah. Houston, Texas.



06:46

Yes, it was



06:48

a kid. I remember. I remember. Shaffer today. I'm in brothers being beat up on the street. Yeah. Cops driving by and waving. Yeah. Okay. I recall, I remember that. And also, it was, it was during that time, after, after I'd come out that, that I was fired from the job while walking out the door after being fired. Because the police told him who I was. I was hit with a board from behind, and therefore seizures have developed from that. So but, but but, but just being honest with yourself, and that is the most important. It's that is really what freedom is, is to be who you are. Because if you can't if you can't be free with yourself, then how how can you didn't expect others to, to, to help you with that?



07:56

And to some extent for myself, I I know there are some things that I still have difficulty doing. Yeah, like I'm asking people out. Yeah. Because and I never get asked out Yes, I could do that. I could say to somebody,



08:23

I don't know why. Because I mean, you're a hot looking guys as far as I'm concerned. Thank you.



08:28

But I find I find it Yes, I could say it to somebody else.



08:37

Whitney is here and she feels really really high



08:48

the the Yeah. I just thought right. It's just it's just a thing of I know where I was going with this

was that if that just once. It would be nice for somebody to ask me for somebody to look at me. Look, look at me as the person I am. I hear endless you know, endlessly I hear people tell me how attractive they think I am as a person. You know, what an interesting person Yeah. What? You know how how great it is to hold a conversation with me and a lot of these people are gay men. A lot of these men are single gay men. And you still don't get asked that not once. I'd okay



09:49

okay, Bobby's looking for action here. 7135265738526 KPFT No, no, no,



09:59

I I've, I've discovered that I, you know, I couldn't even ask another disabled person who I find very attractive.



10:11

You did? No, I



10:12

didn't ask him out. Oh, okay. No, I did write a poem about it. Oh, yeah. I did write a poem about him. And, you know, I find him incredibly attractive, incredibly interesting. But, you know, it's like,



10:28

just can't do it. Well, you know, I don't think your disability is the thing that is stopping you from doing that. Because I've always had that problem, you know, of asking people out, you know, it's that fear of rejection. That's what it is. And you're afraid that it's



10:45

gonna be because of your disability? Yeah, yeah. And



10:49

maybe it's just because he doesn't like you.



10:57

That's the thing, though. What, what is it about all of those people who have said all those nice things about me? And who fought and who have even said they find me attractive and interesting and yada, yada, yada, they're married. And, and, you know, you know, I? They don't they don't ever say, I don't think I think there's a lot of people out there. I think there's an awful lot of people out there who do not see disabled



11:32

people. That's not true. And I remember 15 years ago, there was this guy who hung out at Jr's he's in a wheelchair, and he was so good looking. And I, you know, I, it. I wanted to ask him out, I was still married, but you know, I did. But, you know, my thought was like, He's gonna think I'm just some perv who wants, you know, to go to bed with him because he's disabled.



12:04

Yeah, and, you know, and I'm sure there are some people out there who have that sort of twist. Yeah. But I



12:13

bet check the internet, you'll find a lot of them



12:15

if you you know. I, I think that they're, you know, I equally think there are people out there who just don't see us as sexual.



12:29

Yes, you're right. I mean, you're absolutely correct. You know,



12:33

I had a sex life for four years, you know. And, you know, it would be nice to have that, again, despite the fact that one of my other problems is I'm HIV positive. Well, you know, it's just, it would just be nice. To Jackie Thorne



12:50

has come in here and I'm wondering, I mean, she's, you know, she walked in and sat down, put the headphones on, I'm so I'm so okay. She's got something to add to this. What's the deal?



13:00

Okay. Some of you may know that. I'm also a member of the Royal Sovereign imperial court of the single star. Yes. And my counterpart for the last two years is JJ Fulton. He came here



13:13

tonight, if I could.



13:16

Who is also disabled he has he's one leg in one leg and is in a wheelchair, and he hopped around and uses crutches and so forth. Okay. But he is also the webmaster and one of the founders of an organization known as APL to queer able queer. And yeah, and this was basically basically his, his attitude is, hey, we can do anything anybody else can do you know, just because I'm missing a leg, you know, fine. You know, there may be some, you know, some minor things that I can't do, but it doesn't have a damn thing to do with my mom with my head. You're absolutely right. I really think sometimes where the problem lies with people who are handicapped whatever their handicap may be, is they they fear rejection and God knows we all fear regret Hell yeah. And but sometimes we think well, yeah, oh, God, you know, because I've got a handicap I'm going to be rejected even more so than you know that if I didn't, you know, and,



14:14

ya know, and, you know, i It's me, too. It's like, oh, I'm poor game of man. I don't want you know, I like to ask this nice looking guy out, but he's gonna reject me and I'm gonna feel bad. And you feeling that? Oh, I'm, you know, the straight crossdresser. And if I ask a woman out, then she's not going to want to go out with me because I'm a crossdresser. And you know, it's just gone on and on and on. Where does it end?



14:38

There. Let me add some, some, a little bit of reality to this.



14:42

Well, I have to jump in here and say, You're listening to after hours on KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station on Jimmy. Commercial. That's right. Bobby's here. Tom's here. Jackie's here and we're talking about disabilities. The physical Got one's mental ones to, to some extent. Yeah, yeah. Rainbow just wanted



15:10



to rephrase that

 15:12

I used to work with people with mental illness. Yes, I know you do that. Yes, I know you can add to this got to

 15:18

75 people who were mentally dead. Yes.

 15:21

Now I actually I cut off time. Yeah.

 15:24

Okay, on this rejection, too, okay. Probably too many people, this does seem symptom rather artificial, but to people who are who does have this problem it actually is is quite real, it may it may or may not be may be playing playing part on our mind. But nevertheless, it is real. And I think that that we ourselves have to get through that. Now, that's not to say that some kind of mental illness No, no, no, no, it no to the contrary, but to us rejection on a lot of things that we see that other people are not rejected for. Okay, because, okay, we, we in turn are rejected, therefore, rejection is a reality. And we have a tendency to link that back to ourselves.

 16:33

If you get rejected enough times, you get, you know, you get used to the idea of the possibility of being rejected, and that just makes it hurt. Well, when you know, whether it actually happens or not, when it has happened, you it just reinforces that, you know, because it has happened, I've had, you know, I actually have had people who looked at me, who, who, who were just fine with me until I stood up. And, and the minute that they suddenly walked away from the conversation,

 17:18

you know, there's a lot of gay man, there's a lot of gay men who can understand exactly what you're saying, because as soon as they say I'm HIV positive, they can, yes, yeah, that same reaction.

 17:31

I think that I think that as far as rejection overall if we're really honest with ourselves all of us

I think that I think that as far as rejection overall, if we're really honest with ourselves, all of us are afraid of rejection of one way or another. And unfortunately, the problem is compounded when there is some sort of a physical or mental disability or, you know, I mean, it might be, it might be something like, you know, say somebody was in a fire or something like that, and it has, you know, burn scars. And a lot of it had not some, it is not so much a rejection of the person themselves. It's a discomfort on the part of the person who is quotation marks rejecting them, they, you know, they may not it's, it's just a discomfort on their part. And unfortunately, we tend to personalize and internalize this. And after it happens to us several times, you know, we think well, we all will, you know, gosh, nobody, you know, nobody is willing to, you know, to have anything to do with me, and I don't think that's, I really don't think that's the problem. I think that once people get to know an individual get to know what's inside of you. Then the physical aspect of it really isn't as important.



18:46

Okay, now, Madison Avenue.



18:49

Oh, God. Don't get me started



18:53

up any gay male magazine, and all you see are these beautiful bodies, you know, toned and, and we get the idea. That's what a gay man is supposed to be. And how many of us are



19:07

like that? You know, it's the i It's the ideal. I mean, the same thing is true in the in the firm. Yeah, for females. And also, I mean, you'll help you know, even even in the gender, community, gender community, some of the magazines that we have and stuff like that. And you see these, you know, in the in the porno movies or stuff like, you see, they're absolutely gorgeous. And I mean, there's no way in hell that any of us are going to look like that. Give me a



19:34

break. We have somebody else joining in here. Pick a mic, any mic, they're all on.



19:39

And that's, you know, that's one thing we get this whole Abercrombie and Fitch. Everybody has to be a cookie cutter. Yeah, we're not. You know,





19:50

Whitney has joined and Aren't you glad we're not? And she's got to grab that mic over there. If she wants to be heard.



19:59

Can I say about fire.



20:00

Well, she's also she's also got a gift.



20:03

Yeah. Okay. Plug her in and rainbow is going to tell us something. Can you hear?



20:09

What's your name with?



20:11

Whitney? Jackie?



20:12

Jackie, Jackie Thorne talked about someone involved in a fire. Yes. Okay. In 1983 I think it was I was working the street festival. And I was painting faces as a clown. Yes. And a little girl came up to me and she wanted her face painted. All through that little route, you know, up and down. Westheimer she had a scarred face because she was involved in a fire in a fire or a boat accident it was because I found out all the store if I know it was store, but I painted her up as a clown, white face, the eyes and everything. And when she was done, she could walk through that Westheimer street festival without anybody knowing or saying the same thing she did. You know, whether it was no stairs or anything like that, and she really appreciate it. I watched her through the



21:07

incredible experience and



21:09

experience and I've had other cases, you know, with people that have had blemishes, faces and even at the Mardi Gras, Mardi Gras in New Orleans when I used to paint faces there. People would have blemishes or whatever on their face soon. I pick them up and they would look just Yes, I don't know how to describe it.

 21:29

I had I had a real good I had a real good friend one time that had port wine birthmark came off came off so they came off with the oil to reddish thing. Yeah. And it came off of the of the right cheek and down across her neck. And I mean, you know, and everybody you know, I mean whenever anybody saw it, you know, I just you know there's this this drawing back away and and I got out there one time and I use some the back before I had my electrolysis I used to use what's called Ben nice Mellow Yellow. And it's a it's a stage makeup. And it's used as a beard cover. And so I got out there with this stuff. And I you know, and I put a little bit of clown white on the thing, first of all to faded a little bit and then I put the band the band I and then use the foundation that was her color. And you couldn't tell it was there must have been it made all the difference in they're all

 22:18

different. But it's still just covering it. Whitney has joined us and I know that you have had cancer three times three times. And what has that done to your body?

 22:31

Um, made me stronger.

 22:34

Whoa, made me stronger. The answer I was thinking was gonna get stronger. How come?

 22:42

Because it's a disease. Yeah, it's terrifying. It wrecks your life. And all your friends go away. And borrow sounds like AIDS. Yeah, I mean, yeah, they don't want to come around your house. They don't know what to say to you. You're automatically classified as sick. And I thought, screw it. I'll find new friends. And it's made me stronger.

 23:07

Yeah, falls under it that which does not kill us makes us.



23:11

Yeah, it's the the problem. It really you made a good point there about the cancer versus aids and so forth like that. And unfortunately, a lot of people treat individuals who have cancer in the same way. Oh, yeah. That people who have AIDS



23:30

are one of the other. Yeah.



23:33

You're like the chosen? I was chosen. There you go. It would have killed most people.



23:41

How did you? What did it take for you to turn around and say, Screw it, you know? I mean, that's got to be bad. I mean, all of a sudden, all your friends are falling away, and they're not calling your



23:54

friends that didn't fall away. Yeah, the friends that I made in the process. Um, it just makes you stronger. You realize this is life is good. Yeah, sure, you know, at this moment. What else? Is there?



24:12

Any of us on those cocktails? No, that's right.



24:17

You know, I finally at some point, I realized that you know, one of the things my parents always tried to make me understand which I'm understanding more now. Because of both my the thing the spinal bifida and my status is that you know, life there's this concept I came up to, which is, you know, the anti main principle. Yeah, yes, my life is a banquet and most poor sons of bees are starving to death. I suppose, you know, pay If people could just people who consider themselves normal and God, that word makes me cringe. Yeah, whatever that word means.



25:12

No one, no one in my life is normal. People could see



25:15

the world through my eyes. What it's like, to be able to get from point A to point B. And, you know, smile while I'm doing it,



25:31

you know, the strength and the courage that it takes to do that.



25:36

I enjoy as much as it hurts. I mean, I, you know, people don't realize half of the physical pain, because I smile. Yes, they know it hurts. But they don't know how much it hurts. They don't know how much it hurts me right now to sit here. Because



25:59

usually you're up, you're you don't stay in one position.



26:02

I don't stay in one position. Because I can't



26:12

i i look at the world as everybody around me, is somebody I'd like to meet somebody I'd like to get to know who are you? What, what what is your thing? What is your? Why are you who you are. And I consider that a direct result of my disability. Because I want to get to know everybody disabled, able, whatever words you want to use to describe them differently a different thing. Oh, anyway, you know,



26:52

Tom, what did it take for you to get rid of those rubber fingers?



26:58

Well, number one, I get tired of the constant pain and constant swelling in the hand. And number two, I just stopped. But what did I when I really took one of them off was was I have taken it off because of the finger that was hurting. And that was the little thing was really, really in a lot of pain. And so I took that off to massage and somebody saw it. Okay, yeah. And they asked me, they said, well, why'd Why do you wear that? I said, well, because I have to,

you know, I have to work well, or why. So, that really got me to thinking so. But I did put it back on. I did wear it for a while, but at times I didn't. And then the other came off. Eventually, because I thought what the hell, you know,

 27:58

it was just a matter of time. But it

 28:01

was a matter of time of accepting myself, in which the therapist told me at the time, that that that I would probably not wear the prosthesis all my life. And it was really a surprise to me. And I said, Well, don't you think that's that's ugly? And she said, not really. You know, I said, Well, I do. I think Doug displaying overthrow my life.

 28:26

What year was this? Five years ago, almost six years ago. And you got to think back even 20 years, or like when Bobby was a child. Um, any deformity any little cleft palate was a child, child is imperfect. You need to institutionalize it.

 28:49

Apple was like that

 28:52

creativity.

 28:54

When I was adopted. I was a very few weeks when I was about to be brought home before the actual adoption went through. I was weeks away from ending up in a mental institution. I was four years old, they were going to send me to a mental facility for children, because they figured he's crippled. He must be mentally screwed up too. So we'll just lock him away. That's the

 29:26

sort of 60s I remember working in state school and that's exactly what they did during the Depression days. I remember peep families that could not afford to live anywhere. They were sent like to state schools and they became environmentally retarded. So true,



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because I know people who saw I've gotten worse in those places. Yeah,



29:49

definitely. Because of the I mean the the equating of physical handicap with a mental handicap for most people. fool who either are ignorant or don't want to take the effort in time to learn is very easy to make and and all well if the person is physically handicapped, and they must be mentally handicapped as well. Yeah. And that's bullshit. Oh.



30:15

So that thinking back then was that if, if somebody has epilepsy or somebody has spinal bifida, then there's something wrong with the genes. And so there's something wrong with the people. And you found literally a lot of families having an Thelma up in the attic all their



30:33

life. Yeah. Oh, definitely. Yeah. Because, you know, maybe they were embarrassed for their child or their or their relative to be seen in public because you know, this, this reflected on them, thank God. And God knows I mean, it the same damn thing is true with with, you know, if somebody is somebody is gay or transgender, you know, well, you know, the parent. Oh, my God, what did I do?



30:56

They used to use the state school for a cure for homosexuality. Oh, yeah. And yeah, the shock, shock treatments, cold sheet therapy.



31:07

Oh, 40 years ago, they would, they would use lobotomies and stuff like that



31:10

all change with the Kennedys Kennedy programs is what changed change the 60s. It was gradual, but a change. I know



31:20

my lover hates the 60s be the 60s said, Hey, let's don't trust anybody. Let's look at stuff. Let's



question authority.

 31:32

Yeah, and I remember 60. And I love it because of that.

 31:36

Yeah. Well, you had you had the rebellion, the the, you know, the hippie culture, and so forth like that the anti establishment culture.

 31:46

But when I'm talking about what the Kennedys is, they changed the attitude of like the retarded children, because they brought up the, the, the Olympics for the kid

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and why why did the Kennedys change

 31:57

because of their sister? Yes.

 32:00

I believe and explain reasons, Kathleen. And I remember,

 32:02

in the early 60s, I used to have a neighbor that was mentally retarded. And yes, the parents would hide her as much as I could.

 32:12

Rose Kennedy did a public service announcement about her daughter. I remember her saying it and it did really change thing it of course, it was gradual. It's not overnight, like, Oh, my God rose Can I mean they did. So it's so it's okay. But

 32:28

back then you would have never thought of a child a Mongoloid? Oh, being a star on a TV show that that has changed. You've seen changes throughout the years. And with the Special Olympics and stuff like that, it's become real, you know?

 32:46

Yeah, yeah. It's an interesting thing that I, the the, whatever hang ups I've had, over the years about my disability, have come from outside of my family. Because my family, I have an uncle who's deaf. I'm deaf as a result of polio and meningitis as a child. I, you know, I have an uncle who has one leg shorter than the other. You know, my family, in my family, I was treated just like everybody else. I there was no special nothing.

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I was all happened when you got out and

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it didn't hit until I was out there in the rest of the world in society school, and, you know, on and on. And that's and those hang ups didn't come till then.

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Yeah, and of course, that's, that's one of the problems is when when a child goes into school, let's say kindergarten, or first grade and so forth like that, and other children who don't have disability can be exceedingly cruel.

 33:56

Yes. Yeah. But, but I think that that one of the most stupid area and cruel things that that happen is is frankly, with with some of these damn bureaucrats who have now with my amputation, you know, Jim, do you know me? And you know me? Well, yes, I'm not a lazy man, no like to get out and do and work. After six months, I was ready to go back to work. I remember a damn bureaucrat stepped up and said, No, you can't go back to work. You can't go back to work for two years. You better not do anything for two years. Doc, Doc, that was so stupid.

 34:41

Well, you did.

 34:42

Again, it's the equating equating a physical disability with a mental disability, or physically disabled then you must be mentally disabled.

 34:51

There is one little thing I wanted to touch on. It's interesting the things that people assume that you can do. Oh, yeah, oh, of course, they automatically assume that there are certain things you can't do. One was the whole sex thing that we were talking about. But there are two things that I invariably get from people that they're shocked to see when when I do them. One is go dancing. And the other is swimming. Go swimming is the ultimate place for me, because it's the one place where my legs have absolutely no say in what I'm doing. I mean, you know, you can keep talking. You know?

 35:40

No, of course, they you know, they use people

 35:42

are like making Sign Language behind your head.

 35:46

They use therapy for, you know, a lot of things basically, where you know, where people have, you know, are working on therapy to be able to walk again, I have spinal injuries, and so forth like that. And then they'll, they'll actually put them in a pool and have them walk in the pool, where they're where they're, you know, pushing their muscles or pushing against the water.

 36:04

I believe we have somebody on the line. Hello, hi. Hi. Hi, Jimmy, you're listening to after hours?

 36:12

Now my name is Carl. I'm mature membean. Not sure do, Carl,

 36:16

how you doing?

 36:18

11 38:10

I'm doing great. And the show is just so inspiring to me, because we almost found a bit about birth. Yes, as well. And I was listening to you, your guest earlier, the younger guy is like you're just speaking my sentiment to know, and I mean, everything you say is what I have felt for years, you know. And I guess the the thing that you strive to do in life for yourself, you know, and I guess for me some of the paranoid that you have about yourself, or I will have about myself, in regards to my son a bit. I mean, I don't know the extent to yours, but for surgical scars from the lower part of your spine to be with somebody or whatever, you know, and it's like, to me, it's like at that moment that, oh, they're gonna touch this spot. And it's like, they're gonna wonder what this feels, you know, I have this fear of them getting up and just walk away or something, you know, and I'll just listen to you earlier, you know, you talk about the pain that's associated with a C recently, I've have like, the stem from the birth defect, a tumor grown on my spine. And it's like, excruciating pain to even like set up, you know, and it's getting to a point where I can't even lay down into more flats because of the pain and I understand Yeah, but in general, do not know what you're going through, because you don't show him the outward appearance of suffering, you know, you know, it's not a thing of want to be empathy from people and stuff. No. So you kind of strive to do these things, and just deal with them. And right now, I'm just having to deal with a lot of things in regards to the pain and stuff. And no one knows that, you know, what you're going through?

38:00

Good family support.

38:02

Excellent. You know, and I will listen to you speak about that. And that's something where I grew up with my family has never treated me any different from any of my siblings, okay.

38:13

When you have a disability, and you have a large support group with you, you tend to throw off all the negative and all the ignorant, and they like you for you, and it helps you relax more. Well, I know,

38:29

Carl, and I know, you know, he has never let anything stop him from doing anything. He is out

38:37

there. Yeah. You know, and I've had full blown haze, you know, and everything. So, you know, it's like, I have like, triple fold on me right now. I have counselor now, you know, and they were fighting, like I said, my family support system is excellent, you know, and only negative point that I would get from anybody else from the outside world. You know, the people have a

tendency to make you feel, oh, like you started from out of space, okay, just by the way they stare at you or whatever. But, you know, over the years, I've come to the point in my life, whereas, you know, I don't care what anyone thinks about me because I'm me. I mean, you know, and I'm grateful who I am. I don't care what people have to say about me how they look at me, bother me. Now, don't get me wrong, comes time, you know, when you just don't feel like being stared at or looked at funny, you know, I'm saying it kind of works in there. But overall, people interrupt the flow influence me. But not just one who made this comment. It was like, oh, did I listen for it for years? Oh my God. They sent him something that I can really talk about, you know.

 39:44

Thanks for calling. Yeah, okay. You take care of. Okay. Thanks, Carl. Carl is a sweetheart. I've known him for years and he has been listening to the show for a very, very long time. And he's been listening to the show since but he was the producer. I need to wrap this up but I wanted to talk about a little bit about JJ and his April queer group and I've noticed ever since that group has been around I don't know how how, how wide it is or how many people are involved but I have noticed that in the Montrose I see more and more wheelchairs on the streets people are not afraid to get out anymore and that's what I thought it probably was before people someone in a wheelchair was like Oh, I'm stuck in the house. But I'm now I mean I see them all over West timer

 40:37

I'm embarrassed to say that I really don't know as much as I would like to know about abled queer. I've not sat down with JJ and talk to him about it but it's my understanding that his you know he basically is running the the Houston area group right and it is a nationwide there are chapters throughout the United States and they have a website that I don't know I guess WWW dot table query dot able I was able able to query but there is a website and if you go to JJ personal website there's a link to it. Man you know and you can get to you can get his website through the court and through the Houston area bears and a couple of others as well. So I mean, you know, if you're at all computer literate, you know, you can find the thing and look at their at their website, and they have all kinds of stuff. My understanding they have, you know, a support group, they have you know, assistance with job searches and so forth like that. They have a list of companies that are you know, trying to make accommodations for people that have disabilities and so forth and so for someone who is disabled whatever disability it is it you know, it would be worth your while yes to check it out.

 42:00

Okay, thank you. Thanks, everybody. Bobby, Tom,

 42:04

Jackie, delimitate one Whitney



42:06

and rainbow and Tom.



42:10

Just one more thing, and then I'll pass it back. Okay, guys on the other side of the window. Some years ago, I met a man that I thought was one of the most ugliest people I have ever met in my life. And he kept after me and kept after me. And after a while we became companions. His name was Miles. Miles taught me that if you only look at the outer side, then you're missing the best part of the person. Because once I got to know Myles, he was one of the most beautiful people I have ever met



42:51

and you were deeply and still are deeply in love with him. Yeah. Thanks everyone for being here. Right before the new yes it's time for the after hours news and views and right before that I've got a song by Dan McBride off of his brand new CD you're going to recognize it instantly. And I think it's although it's funny it kind of oh, it's puts a nice little ending to what we've been talking about here and kind of our I don't know the friendship here. You're listening to after hours on KPFT Houston and ke O 's college station



43:44

I played this diving you know, I always do this, you know, I say I'm gonna play one song and then I go ahead and I put you know, I know I you know queue up the wrong thing. Okay, so this is how we're ending up there segment by D and MC bro.