

WEBVTT

1

00:00:03.330 --> 00:00:06.629

Evan Taylor: On excellent yes that's going now. Okay.

2

00:00:09.540 --> 00:00:13.650

Evan Taylor: Great. I can see you. Great. Your friend very nicely. Thank you. That's good.

3

00:00:15.750 --> 00:00:23.190

Evan Taylor: So thank you so much for agreeing to do to do an interview here and this is a, it's a great honor for me to get to interview you. One of those

4

00:00:23.430 --> 00:00:31.290

Evan Taylor: One of those folks that was, you know, paving the way when I was first first coming up myself. So I was I'm so glad to be able to get you on the list.

5

00:00:31.560 --> 00:00:33.210

jgreen: Thank you. Well, it's you know, it's just

6

00:00:34.890 --> 00:00:35.880

jgreen: A matter of timing.

7

00:00:38.700 --> 00:00:45.060

Evan Taylor: Well, it's, it's also I mean the whole the what we're doing here in history is like it's a matter of timing, you know, the

8

00:00:45.720 --> 00:00:55.950

Evan Taylor: Point in history that will never have again where we have folks who knew about what's going on, we're organizing before the internet and, you know, we'll never get these you know those. That's true.

9

00:00:57.150 --> 00:01:08.880

jgreen: Yeah, just the other day I got, I was on a list of Portland area business people are at, you know, activists working in the business arena and Portland.

10

00:01:09.930 --> 00:01:18.090

jgreen: Somebody was advertising a production of I, in my own wife, which is the play about Charlotte von malls Dorf

11

00:01:18.660 --> 00:01:19.620

Evan Taylor: I don't know who that is.

12

00:01:19.680 --> 00:01:26.940

jgreen: You don't know who that is. Oh. Well Charlotte von Miles Dorf you should you should look up the book, I am my own wife.

13

00:01:29.190 --> 00:01:33.060

jgreen: And there's also a film made by Rosa on primetime from Berlin.

14

00:01:34.530 --> 00:01:38.100

jgreen: That is of this by the same title that is absolutely phenomenal and

15

00:01:39.180 --> 00:01:41.160

jgreen: Basically they were promoting this play, and

16

00:01:42.210 --> 00:01:43.290

jgreen: It occurred to me that

17

00:01:44.460 --> 00:01:57.450

jgreen: You know they were talking about why you should see this play. It's really, it's a one man show. It's really incredible. It's about Charlotte vitamin store who killed her father and the Nazi era and lived lived completely crushed stressed and her entire life and

18

00:01:59.550 --> 00:02:05.190

jgreen: You know, ran an antique in Teach store and just live through the whole Nazi thing.

19

00:02:05.430 --> 00:02:07.020

jgreen: Wow cross dressed

20

00:02:07.530 --> 00:02:08.580

Evan Taylor: All my goodness.

21

00:02:08.640 --> 00:02:11.310

jgreen: Yeah, and I actually met her.

22

00:02:12.480 --> 00:02:28.290

jgreen: In and I and I responded to this email. I said, well, it's great. They're putting this play on and tell them, look, which is a little tiny town on the coast of Oregon and which I think the theater holds probably fewer than 50 people in the audience.

23

00:02:28.590 --> 00:02:29.280

Evan Taylor: Okay, it's

24

00:02:29.310 --> 00:02:37.590

jgreen: Tiny and and I said, it's really great that they're putting this production honest and I was privileged to meet Charlotte fun mall store.

25

00:02:38.610 --> 00:02:44.220

jgreen: In Berlin, a few years before she died and and she was, she was actually the most

26

00:02:45.300 --> 00:02:53.790

jgreen: Feminine and completely composed person I have ever met. Hmm, was astounding.

27

00:02:54.750 --> 00:02:56.310

Evan Taylor: All shouldn't have to be to make it

28

00:02:56.610 --> 00:02:56.970

Yeah.

29

00:02:58.260 --> 00:03:03.780

jgreen: And, but, you know, she's not she wasn't like glamorous, or you know anything. This is just

30

00:03:05.100 --> 00:03:05.580

jgreen: A woman.

31

00:03:06.870 --> 00:03:07.290

jgreen: And

32

00:03:07.530 --> 00:03:08.640

Evan Taylor: managed to survive that.

33

00:03:08.880 --> 00:03:19.260

jgreen: Yeah, and you know, no response from all the people on this list, who I know you know like nobody had a response. And I'm thinking,

34

00:03:20.160 --> 00:03:36.360

jgreen: It probably kept no idea what to say. Um, yeah. And it's and i and i did occur to me, you know, we are in this sort of period where I mean I've missed meeting Harry Benjamin by a year. Wow.

35

00:03:37.530 --> 00:03:38.130

jgreen: And

36

00:03:41.910 --> 00:03:45.240

jgreen: And I know a lot of people who knew him well but

37

00:03:46.950 --> 00:03:55.320

jgreen: You know, it's, it's, we're really, it's true. There's a lot of people who did a lot of things before there was an internet and who

38

00:03:56.520 --> 00:04:08.580

jgreen: Who made a big effort to change trans lives before we really had the language for it. And those people are fading very, very rapidly. Huh.

39

00:04:08.730 --> 00:04:22.170

Evan Taylor: Yeah well that's a bit in this doing the this project. It was one of those things that we know we have to decide what do we, what do we want to focus on. And we just said, we're just going to focus on whoever has the oldest memories possible. That's what, that's that's that's the focus

40

00:04:22.440 --> 00:04:22.980

Okay.

41

00:04:24.060 --> 00:04:24.300

jgreen: No.

42

00:04:24.450 --> 00:04:27.570

Evan Taylor: Not necessarily based on people's age based on how long they've been around.

43

00:04:27.810 --> 00:04:28.170

Yeah.

44

00:04:30.210 --> 00:04:35.460

Evan Taylor: So, how we usually start off, I ask you a bunch of demographic questions just for the, for the record of an oral history.

45

00:04:35.490 --> 00:04:36.570

Evan Taylor: When folks, you're missing.

46

00:04:36.600 --> 00:04:37.650

Evan Taylor: 100 years or whatever.

47

00:04:38.250 --> 00:04:39.390

Evan Taylor: And then we'll get into more the

48

00:04:39.480 --> 00:04:40.560

Fun conversational

49

00:04:42.240 --> 00:04:43.890

Evan Taylor: And so just for the record.

50

00:04:44.940 --> 00:04:54.450

Evan Taylor: We are here today. It is just after 10 O'clock AM Pacific Standard Time. My name is Evan Taylor and here in Vancouver and I'm interviewing Jamison green. And where are you located today, James.

51

00:04:54.660 --> 00:04:56.160

jgreen: I'm in Vancouver, Washington.

52

00:04:56.550 --> 00:04:58.260

Evan Taylor: Oh, to Vancouver. It's good for us.

53

00:04:59.340 --> 00:05:01.380

Evan Taylor: And and you go, he is him pronouns.

54

00:05:01.440 --> 00:05:02.820

jgreen: As do. Yes, that's correct.

55

00:05:03.270 --> 00:05:10.170

Evan Taylor: And how old are you, today 7171 for the record. Not even close to the oldest person I've interviewed

56

00:05:11.400 --> 00:05:11.670

Evan Taylor: Good.

57

00:05:12.450 --> 00:05:12.930

Evan Taylor: Were you born

58

00:05:13.890 --> 00:05:15.570

jgreen: I was born in Oakland, California.

59

00:05:16.230 --> 00:05:17.520

Evan Taylor: And where do you live now.

60

00:05:18.120 --> 00:05:19.200

jgreen: Vancouver, Washington.

61

00:05:19.800 --> 00:05:20.970

Evan Taylor: And how long have you lived there.

62

00:05:21.570 --> 00:05:23.430

jgreen: little over two years. Okay.

63

00:05:23.970 --> 00:05:28.920

Evan Taylor: And complex. A question for you. Are you employed I retired and what was your work.

64

00:05:30.210 --> 00:05:33.960

jgreen: Well as I'm still working a little bit

65

00:05:36.330 --> 00:05:45.570

jgreen: For my sort of career career. I was a publications manager and a technical writer. I have a master Fine Arts degree in creative writing

66

00:05:46.410 --> 00:06:02.550

jgreen: Which I earned in 1972 and i i wanted to parlay that into and when i mean i wanted to work as a writer and I happen to just sort of fall into this timing for the whole technological

67

00:06:03.720 --> 00:06:09.810

jgreen: Explosion. Right. And so I was able to do fairly well in that arena.

68

00:06:10.920 --> 00:06:20.850

jgreen: My last corporate position. I was Vice President. No, I wasn't. Vice President, I wasn't vice president of one company, my last corporate position. I was

69

00:06:21.870 --> 00:06:25.980

jgreen: Director of technical publications for visa me

70

00:06:27.150 --> 00:06:30.180

jgreen: But I worked for Sun Microsystems, I worked for

71

00:06:31.410 --> 00:06:39.780

jgreen: Which is where I worked when I transitioned. I work for North Star computers. I worked for Cooper laser Sonics documenting medical

72

00:06:41.430 --> 00:06:43.410

jgreen: medical technologies.

73

00:06:44.850 --> 00:06:47.430

jgreen: Late surgical lasers and and

74

00:06:48.510 --> 00:06:50.940

jgreen: Ultrasound and interact killer microsurgery

75

00:06:52.860 --> 00:06:53.190

Evan Taylor: Yeah.

76

00:06:53.760 --> 00:06:57.240

jgreen: So I learned a lot and I learned a lot about talking to doctors

77

00:06:57.450 --> 00:06:59.520

jgreen: Mm hmm. That particular job.

78

00:07:00.000 --> 00:07:01.680

Evan Taylor: And that's come in handy over the years.

79

00:07:01.710 --> 00:07:04.140

jgreen: Who has very much so. Very much so.

80

00:07:04.650 --> 00:07:08.070

Evan Taylor: And I know you've completed a PhD. Yes.

81

00:07:08.190 --> 00:07:08.730

jgreen: Yes.

82

00:07:09.120 --> 00:07:10.440

Evan Taylor: And where was that what was that

83

00:07:10.830 --> 00:07:28.710

jgreen: I took a PhD in law equalities law at Manchester Metropolitan University. I studied with Stephen whittle and I haven't thought, I'm the first American and the eighth person in the world with a PhD in law specializing in transgender and transsexual issues.

84

00:07:29.820 --> 00:07:30.450

Evan Taylor: Wow.

85

00:07:32.610 --> 00:07:36.300

Evan Taylor: I'd like I not for the purpose of today, but I want to get a list of those other seven

86

00:07:37.080 --> 00:07:40.230

jgreen: I don't know who they are there. They were all students have Steven. So, though.

87

00:07:40.320 --> 00:07:40.830

Evan Taylor: I was

88

00:07:41.100 --> 00:07:45.180

jgreen: The only Professor OB qualifies law in the world.

89

00:07:45.570 --> 00:07:46.470

Right, so you could

90

00:07:47.640 --> 00:07:48.930

Evan Taylor: Have students who profession list.

91

00:07:49.050 --> 00:07:55.170

Evan Taylor: Right smart. Okay, and you have any visible or invisible disabilities that you live with.

92

00:07:57.210 --> 00:08:02.250

jgreen: Yeah, since 2016 I've lost the use of these two fingers.

93

00:08:03.810 --> 00:08:11.580

jgreen: Like you know there's I can move them, but I can't open my hand and my manual dexterity is gone to shit.

94

00:08:12.840 --> 00:08:15.540

Evan Taylor: Is that does that relate to a particular illness or

95

00:08:15.570 --> 00:08:18.420

jgreen: Don't know it's just I had some

96

00:08:19.740 --> 00:08:33.480

jgreen: intense pain in the brachial plexus in my left side which is underneath the shoulder blade alone or big nerve bundle and I just thought, oh, you know, it's a sore muscle or whatever.

97

00:08:34.560 --> 00:08:35.010

jgreen: And

98

00:08:36.150 --> 00:08:41.160

jgreen: I was actually it's it hit me the day before I was leaving for

99

00:08:42.210 --> 00:08:51.210

jgreen: Kazak stand at the request of the US Embassy here to meet with the, the Office of the

100

00:08:52.290 --> 00:08:53.280

jgreen: Kurdistan.

101

00:08:55.770 --> 00:08:59.640

jgreen: Medical people. What is it the

102

00:09:01.380 --> 00:09:20.310

jgreen: What did they call their Minister health minister. OK, so the Health Minister, I was supposed to meet with them about their very barbaric treatment of trans people. And this was arranged by the embassy. Right. And so I wasn't going to not go

103

00:09:20.670 --> 00:09:22.230

jgreen: Right and

104

00:09:23.280 --> 00:09:28.440

jgreen: You know, so I you know basically faded away the pain did after a few days and then

105

00:09:31.500 --> 00:09:37.860

jgreen: After I after I returned, I was just woke up one morning with no use my fingers couldn't open my hand.

106

00:09:38.790 --> 00:09:49.860

jgreen: Very weird very weird. So I've been to neurologists, I've been to hand surgeons. I've been to nerve centers. I've been, you know, all kinds of stuff and

107

00:09:50.400 --> 00:09:51.480

Evan Taylor: No one knows what it is.

108

00:09:51.690 --> 00:09:55.560

jgreen: Well, there's a syndrome called parsonage Turner syndrome.

109

00:09:57.180 --> 00:09:58.830

jgreen: That my symptoms.

110

00:09:59.940 --> 00:10:08.100

jgreen: Pretty much correspond with but not entirely. Okay. And there's no cure.

111

00:10:09.570 --> 00:10:11.100

jgreen: It's just nerve.

112

00:10:11.580 --> 00:10:15.930

jgreen: Just the thing that often. Yeah. And so I have low I have less

113

00:10:17.070 --> 00:10:22.590

jgreen: Muscle in my forearm, it's like all faded away because it's not getting

114

00:10:22.650 --> 00:10:25.800

Evan Taylor: Stimulated used right it's really awful.

115

00:10:26.760 --> 00:10:31.260

jgreen: I can't play musical instruments anymore. It really messes up my typing.

116

00:10:31.710 --> 00:10:33.210

jgreen: Mm hmm. And

117

00:10:34.290 --> 00:10:41.460

jgreen: It's very, very frustrating and i i realized i i'm right handed, but I reached for everything with my left hand.

118

00:10:42.360 --> 00:10:45.720

Evan Taylor: Yeah, you don't realize how much you use it until it's not there to us anymore.

119

00:10:45.720 --> 00:10:47.460

Evan Taylor: Exactly. Yeah. Yeah.

120

00:10:48.690 --> 00:10:51.450

jgreen: Well that's why that and I also have. I also have

121

00:10:52.260 --> 00:10:54.330

jgreen: Life threatening allergy to peanuts.

122

00:10:55.140 --> 00:10:56.970

Evan Taylor: Is that a lifelong was, I don't want that.

123

00:10:57.210 --> 00:11:09.240

jgreen: That is lifelong and when I was young, I had the same reaction to eggs and anything with eggs in it, and I could start, I was able to start eating eggs. When I was 51 years old.

124

00:11:10.380 --> 00:11:21.900

jgreen: So now, breakfast is my favorite meal but um but that that disability, which is quite invisible was pretty traumatic in many respects.

125

00:11:22.410 --> 00:11:30.870

jgreen: Mm hmm. And I effected me greatly. And in and it's another way in which I learned to talk to doctors

126

00:11:32.640 --> 00:11:37.230

jgreen: To stand up for myself, because you know it's people would got

127

00:11:38.370 --> 00:11:46.410

jgreen: It wouldn't believe that I had this allergy and that people were dismissive all the time. And I just, I just had to stand up for myself in order to get care.

128

00:11:46.890 --> 00:12:02.370

jgreen: Many times he ought to be treated properly by adults. I mean, going to a kid's birthday party traumatic incident egg age six kids birthday party here have a piece of cake, no thank you have a piece of cake. No, thank you. I can't

129

00:12:03.990 --> 00:12:16.410

jgreen: Everybody eats cake, eat a piece of cake in a strange giant adult that I don't know yelling at me eat the cake. No, thank you. I cannot eat the cake. I'm allergic to eggs.

130

00:12:18.270 --> 00:12:20.910

jgreen: eat the cake. What kind of child are you

131

00:12:22.710 --> 00:12:23.970

Evan Taylor: Allergic child.

132

00:12:24.060 --> 00:12:30.330

jgreen: What kind of child are you yeah I was traumatizing. I'm telling you, because I was a shy kid.

133

00:12:30.780 --> 00:12:31.500

Mm hmm.

134

00:12:32.970 --> 00:12:36.000

Evan Taylor: Wrong with you that you just, you know, your own health issues.

135

00:12:36.510 --> 00:12:36.930

jgreen: Right.

136

00:12:37.590 --> 00:12:47.970

Evan Taylor: I can see how that I can see all that mirrors later on in life where you're able to say it's actually not. There's something wrong with me as a person I know my body. I know my health issues. I need treatment right

137

00:12:48.420 --> 00:12:57.240

jgreen: I had the same issue come up when I had appendicitis. Mm hmm. I was dismissed and I think it was because the doctor that I

138

00:12:57.690 --> 00:13:08.820

jgreen: Had been seeing it. He asked me what I did for a living. And at that time I was a construction cable splicer I was the first woman construction cable splicer for Pacific Northwest bell

139

00:13:09.270 --> 00:13:23.130

jgreen: Okay, and it was, you know, really unusual and he laughed when I said what you know when I answered this question he laughed and I said you know that's not funny. That's a real job. Yeah. And he goes, and, you know,

140

00:13:24.000 --> 00:13:29.430

jgreen: This dismissive. And then he says well you just have the flu. Don't worry about it. So, you know, eat.

141

00:13:31.050 --> 00:13:33.330

jgreen: Soda Crackers and clear broth and

142

00:13:34.590 --> 00:13:38.730

jgreen: You'll be fine in a few days. So a week later when I end up

143

00:13:38.730 --> 00:13:40.050

jgreen: On my PC room.

144

00:13:40.260 --> 00:13:44.490

Evan Taylor: Wow. Yeah. That's a long time. I decided to treat it. Yep.

145

00:13:45.000 --> 00:13:50.190

jgreen: And at the same they call the same doctor in middle of night and

146

00:13:52.110 --> 00:14:00.060

jgreen: And he's like, they're examining the. And by this time. My stomach is so distended that you can press anywhere and it hurts, right.

147

00:14:00.240 --> 00:14:09.030

jgreen: They can't they can't see it can't feel the appendix in the right spot. So there you know. Finally, a nurse says, well, have you tried a white blood cell count.

148

00:14:10.950 --> 00:14:15.630

jgreen: Well, let's do that. Okay, so then they come back, they say, oh, it's definitely appendicitis.

149

00:14:16.710 --> 00:14:21.540

jgreen: And they just start prepping me for surgery and

150

00:14:22.680 --> 00:14:38.640

jgreen: The doctor comes in and says, so is there anything that you did. I should know about that might impact your, your healing you know post-operatively and I said it's, you know, a certain thing that's that bother is bothering you. And I said, yeah, you

151

00:14:41.310 --> 00:14:49.050

jgreen: Like what I said yeah you treat me like shit and I'm a human being and I'm as good a human being as you are.

152

00:14:49.500 --> 00:14:50.640

Evan Taylor: And what year was this

153

00:14:51.060 --> 00:14:52.830

jgreen: 1973

154

00:14:53.670 --> 00:15:01.140

Evan Taylor: Okay, see this is a this is an doctors were not used to being talked to in that way. At that time, right. How did this go over

155

00:15:02.220 --> 00:15:06.480

jgreen: Well, he was he was really shocked and

156

00:15:07.710 --> 00:15:08.340

jgreen: And

157

00:15:09.810 --> 00:15:20.160

jgreen: And he was very apologetic and and and forever after that and I only probably saw him about, I don't know, four or five more times in my whole life, but

158

00:15:20.970 --> 00:15:30.870

jgreen: Every time I saw him, he was, he treated me like I was his ex college roommate and we were best friends. I mean, it was this, you know, he's pretty amazing.

159

00:15:31.710 --> 00:15:34.020

Evan Taylor: Maybe a little over the top, but very consciously done

160

00:15:34.380 --> 00:15:38.250

jgreen: Yes, yes. I think he learned something.

161

00:15:39.630 --> 00:15:41.700

Evan Taylor: It's about sounds. It sounds like at least with you.

162

00:15:41.850 --> 00:15:43.620

Evan Taylor: I'm sure you marry that to other people as well.

163

00:15:44.640 --> 00:15:45.450

jgreen: And also, but

164

00:15:45.480 --> 00:15:47.310

jgreen: He also bought one of my photographs

165

00:15:49.320 --> 00:15:49.620

jgreen: You know,

166

00:15:50.310 --> 00:15:51.780

jgreen: Yeah, I was doing photography

167

00:15:53.070 --> 00:15:58.860

jgreen: And he liked this one photograph of it that he saw and he he paid me for it so

168

00:15:59.430 --> 00:16:00.810

jgreen: Interesting. Yeah.

169

00:16:01.890 --> 00:16:04.170

Evan Taylor: You certainly have a way of making people come around.

170

00:16:05.160 --> 00:16:05.700

I try

171

00:16:07.950 --> 00:16:15.270

Evan Taylor: And last couple of questions here. And do you watch race, ethnicity, or religious or cultural heritage you identify with.

172

00:16:16.590 --> 00:16:28.170

jgreen: Well I identify as in terms of ethnicity of northern European Scandinavian Celtic English, Irish, French

173

00:16:30.960 --> 00:16:33.570

jgreen: Definitely Scandinavian

174

00:16:35.670 --> 00:16:36.540

jgreen: I was adopted.

175

00:16:37.710 --> 00:16:47.100

jgreen: And that was adopted into a family that was English, Irish, Scottish Dutch Norwegian and

176

00:16:48.540 --> 00:16:52.530

jgreen: I was able to you know later was able to find out that my

177

00:16:54.120 --> 00:16:56.640

jgreen: birth mother was Danish and French

178

00:16:58.020 --> 00:17:02.610

jgreen: And my birth father was probably English, Irish

179

00:17:04.200 --> 00:17:08.370

jgreen: But, and then, of course, taking doing 23 and me stuff.

180

00:17:08.700 --> 00:17:09.240

Evan Taylor: Right.

181

00:17:09.330 --> 00:17:12.600

jgreen: Yes, indeed I am Celtic and Viking

182

00:17:15.540 --> 00:17:17.370

jgreen: With a high percentage of Neanderthal

183

00:17:20.130 --> 00:17:21.540

Evan Taylor: Okay, so it's all confirmed that

184

00:17:21.870 --> 00:17:22.320

Yes.

185

00:17:23.460 --> 00:17:28.950

jgreen: All confirmed, but I was raised in a Presbyterian

186

00:17:29.970 --> 00:17:35.550

jgreen: Setting okay in terms of religious affiliation, but I never

187

00:17:36.840 --> 00:17:41.280

jgreen: Connected with that at all. I'm much more sort of a

188

00:17:43.110 --> 00:17:43.920

jgreen: Pagan

189

00:17:45.600 --> 00:17:47.820

jgreen: Nature religion kind of

190

00:17:49.440 --> 00:17:52.500

jgreen: Feel like connected to the earth, and all that. Mm hmm.

191

00:17:53.610 --> 00:18:02.100

jgreen: And so I'm sort of atheistic in that sense. Right. But I do consider myself to be relatively spiritual

192

00:18:02.460 --> 00:18:04.650

Evan Taylor: Right, so more of a spiritual practice than a religious

193

00:18:04.950 --> 00:18:16.530

jgreen: Yeah, yeah. But what my parents actually taught us in spite of the long into the Presbyterian Church was that it's important to respect other people's religions.

194

00:18:17.370 --> 00:18:31.680

jgreen: And it wasn't. They didn't care what religion we my brother, or I chose, but that that the important thing they said was that we understood there was something out there, bigger than us, um, right.

195

00:18:32.430 --> 00:18:37.980

Evan Taylor: So there was he there God, but I have to be something that inspired you. Yep. Beautiful.

196

00:18:38.370 --> 00:18:40.950

jgreen: Yeah, so that would that work for me. Mm hmm.

197

00:18:41.700 --> 00:18:47.490

Evan Taylor: Um, what about that you and your family. Are you are you partnered with somebody, if you have kids grandkids.

198

00:18:47.760 --> 00:18:55.470

jgreen: Yes, I am personally married BEEN WITH THIS WOMAN NAMED HEIDI for

199

00:18:56.520 --> 00:19:00.870

jgreen: When we met in 2001 we married in 2003 and

200

00:19:02.700 --> 00:19:05.490

jgreen: We're very, very happy and

201

00:19:06.870 --> 00:19:14.340

jgreen: But I was in 1975 I met a woman who later became the mother of my children.

202

00:19:15.390 --> 00:19:20.700

jgreen: We were together for 14 years. Her name was Susan

203

00:19:23.490 --> 00:19:24.330

jgreen: She

204

00:19:26.310 --> 00:19:33.960

jgreen: The first time we actually first time we made love. She said to me afterwards she said to me, I feel like I was just with a man

205

00:19:34.560 --> 00:19:36.000

jgreen: Mm hmm. And I said,

206

00:19:37.560 --> 00:19:43.200

jgreen: Well, she said, I hate to tell you this, but I feel like I was just with a man. And I said, Well, I hate to tell you this, but I think maybe you were

207

00:19:43.560 --> 00:19:44.070

Evan Taylor: Here. Hey,

208

00:19:44.520 --> 00:19:48.060

jgreen: I think I'm transsexual and I'm scared to death to do anything about it.

209

00:19:48.300 --> 00:19:54.660

jgreen: Mm hmm. And so she was very supportive and, you know,

210

00:19:55.920 --> 00:20:05.910

jgreen: Connected with that. And then when I actually started transition. Many years later, and she did not like it one bit.

211

00:20:07.140 --> 00:20:17.790

jgreen: She ended our relationship, but that time we had a one daughter and a son on the way. Okay. When she ended the relationship

212

00:20:18.300 --> 00:20:23.670

Evan Taylor: Wow that's difficult that time and at the time of the kids too. And that's, like, all that stuff. Yep.

213

00:20:23.700 --> 00:20:30.450

jgreen: It was very difficult. And she she passed away in 2008 from complications of breast cancer.

214

00:20:31.920 --> 00:20:35.250

jgreen: Which was interesting because she was very

215

00:20:37.410 --> 00:20:39.690

jgreen: She didn't like medical intervention.

216

00:20:40.800 --> 00:20:48.480

jgreen: In general, and so like she had hardly ever been in a hospital. She'd never been in a hospital for herself, other than to give birth.

217

00:20:51.780 --> 00:21:03.840

jgreen: She'd only been to visit other people but in us and she she came down with breast cancer and had a very aggressive course of treatment and then

218

00:21:05.430 --> 00:21:09.180

jgreen: She was in remission. She was able to see our daughter graduate from college.

219

00:21:10.200 --> 00:21:13.860

jgreen: from UC Berkeley. And that was really meaningful for her.

220

00:21:15.900 --> 00:21:20.340

jgreen: And our son would have graduated from high school, except that he had dropped out and

221

00:21:22.380 --> 00:21:23.070

jgreen: But anyway.

222

00:21:25.710 --> 00:21:26.970

jgreen: About a year after that.

223

00:21:28.470 --> 00:21:31.530

jgreen: Her cancer returned and

224

00:21:34.020 --> 00:21:43.380

jgreen: But before that, I was forgot what I was going to say, Here's what I was getting at, she had one of her course of treatment. So she hadn't bilateral mastectomy right and

225

00:21:44.490 --> 00:21:57.660

jgreen: She had decided that, because she didn't like the idea of having surgery, she didn't want to have breast reconstruction. Right. And after about a year of sitting around with no bras.

226

00:21:58.890 --> 00:22:03.570

jgreen: And she consulted with what she was seeing a psychiatrist, mostly because of everything.

227

00:22:05.700 --> 00:22:13.920

jgreen: But her psychiatrist told her she had gender dysphoria because she couldn't see herself as a woman without breasts.

228

00:22:14.040 --> 00:22:31.620

jgreen: Right. And that perhaps the surgery would actually help her your eight. And so she did it. And then, and when when she got that when she internalized that she said to me one of the nicest things she had said to me, since we split up.

229

00:22:34.080 --> 00:22:38.550

jgreen: Which she didn't say very many nice things to me after we split up but um

230

00:22:40.170 --> 00:22:42.570

jgreen: She said that said, I now understand

231

00:22:43.710 --> 00:22:49.500

jgreen: About about gender dysphoria. I really had no idea. Right.

232

00:22:50.100 --> 00:22:56.580

Evan Taylor: Wow, that's a beautiful that's a beautiful story that she actually was able to have that embodied knowledge herself.

233

00:22:56.790 --> 00:23:06.660

Evan Taylor: Yeah, came to that understanding that way. Yeah, yeah. Wow. So that's a great story I'm particularly you wouldn't you wouldn't know this, but my my PhD research was looking at

234

00:23:08.070 --> 00:23:10.380

Evan Taylor: Sexual marginality and gender marginality and cancer treatment.

235

00:23:10.680 --> 00:23:11.490

jgreen: Oh, wow.

236

00:23:11.640 --> 00:23:14.670

Evan Taylor: Yeah so. And one of the things that was so fascinating is looking at how

237

00:23:15.660 --> 00:23:24.330

Evan Taylor: how people make decisions and understood the embodied knowledge of the you know what they felt in their bodies versus what their doctors said was the right thing to do or whatever.

238

00:23:24.510 --> 00:23:32.040

Evan Taylor: People very much had this sense and and their gender and sexuality informed that so directly and yet their doctors were completely unaware that

239

00:23:32.070 --> 00:23:44.460

Evan Taylor: Like for instance, a trans man might experience breast cancer and a very different way and just surgical reconstructions, then a very femme woman might feel or whatever. Right, right. So that's fascinating. Thank you so much.

240

00:23:44.490 --> 00:23:46.080

jgreen: Yeah, right. Yeah, you bet.

241

00:23:47.400 --> 00:23:49.290

jgreen: That's that's fascinating research to I

242

00:23:49.590 --> 00:23:52.410

jgreen: I'd love to read your, your thesis.

243

00:23:52.590 --> 00:23:54.300

Evan Taylor: I'll happily, forward, forward along to you.

244

00:23:54.450 --> 00:23:59.970

Evan Taylor: Great. And so as soon as I find sex at birth with female

245

00:24:00.630 --> 00:24:06.870

Evan Taylor: Why, yes, and then your, your, what is your current gender identity or what has been that trajectory for you.

246

00:24:07.320 --> 00:24:09.150

jgreen: Well, it's definitely male

247

00:24:10.950 --> 00:24:14.370

jgreen: And if necessary to to be

248

00:24:16.350 --> 00:24:24.300

jgreen: Fully you know just self disclosing transgender male. Um, but, you know, really, it's, I don't

249

00:24:25.590 --> 00:24:31.020

jgreen: It's, I don't think of myself as transgender all the time, right. It's a political position.

250

00:24:32.250 --> 00:24:34.890

jgreen: More than an identity. Yeah, it's an

251

00:24:34.920 --> 00:24:36.450

Evan Taylor: Organ organizing and raw

252

00:24:36.690 --> 00:24:37.560

jgreen: Right, yeah.

253

00:24:38.580 --> 00:24:44.460

Evan Taylor: Um, and then in terms of sexuality. How do you categorize that and has that changed over time or with transition

254

00:24:44.790 --> 00:24:56.610

jgreen: Well, at first I was very attracted to women, when I was very young and occasionally to a guy, but rarely and never really wanted to do anything about it and

255

00:24:58.080 --> 00:25:08.130

jgreen: So then I tried to I tried to be a lesbian. For a long time, but I never really felt comfortable as a lesbian and even even long before I transitioned.

256

00:25:09.180 --> 00:25:14.640

jgreen: In many contexts, my lesbian friends would say, Oh, we're going to a women only event. You don't want to come

257

00:25:16.770 --> 00:25:21.090

jgreen: Oh, okay. And I hate being left out. But yeah, you're right. I don't want to come

258

00:25:21.180 --> 00:25:21.750

jgreen: Yeah, so

259

00:25:23.640 --> 00:25:24.240

jgreen: So,

260

00:25:26.130 --> 00:25:37.500

jgreen: So I thought, you know, well, okay, I'm just, I'm transitioning from female to male that must mean I'm transitioning from gay to straight ran, but I wasn't, I didn't really

261

00:25:38.940 --> 00:25:42.270

jgreen: And ultimately after probably

262

00:25:46.470 --> 00:25:47.700

jgreen: I'd say maybe

263

00:25:49.770 --> 00:25:53.850

jgreen: Eight or 10 years in to transition I

264

00:25:56.640 --> 00:26:09.210

jgreen: That was in a period of, of, okay, I never learned to date. I have to date. Now, if I'm going to find a solid relationship that actually works. Why do I keep reinventing these bad relationships. Let's try something.

265

00:26:09.720 --> 00:26:20.640

jgreen: More conscious. So I'm going to date without doing the lesbian okay we had sex. Now let's get the U Haul right you know let's let's

266

00:26:21.900 --> 00:26:29.400

jgreen: This isn't going to be the last relationship I ever have just because I'm with with you now, doesn't mean that I'm not going to be with somebody else at some other time.

267

00:26:30.720 --> 00:26:41.370

jgreen: Because I think a lot of times we especially back in the 60s and 70s when lesbians did that kind of thing, because they thought they'd never meet another person who would love them.

268

00:26:41.820 --> 00:26:42.840

Evan Taylor: Right, yeah.

269

00:26:42.870 --> 00:26:44.370

jgreen: The skin. Yep.

270

00:26:45.540 --> 00:26:54.810

jgreen: And so I'm in. And I realized I mean you're I'm like in my 50s thinking of this, you know, or not almost 50 late 40s.

271

00:26:56.910 --> 00:27:11.400

jgreen: mid 40s late 40s. I'm thinking, wow. Now I understand how straight people go through this whole phase about learning how to have relationships and learning how to choose partners, not they all do a good job at it they don't

272

00:27:13.260 --> 00:27:14.040

jgreen: Clearly,

273

00:27:15.000 --> 00:27:16.200

Evan Taylor: At least 50% of them.

274

00:27:16.350 --> 00:27:18.420

jgreen: Yeah, exactly, but

275

00:27:20.670 --> 00:27:37.890

jgreen: You know, I, I just never learned those skills. And so now I'm going to date and I decided that I was just going to be responsive to people and guy said come on to me a lot, and I just decided to say no I'm not afraid of this

276

00:27:38.130 --> 00:27:40.740

jgreen: Right. You know, so let's

277

00:27:41.280 --> 00:27:54.120

jgreen: See what happens. Try let's try gay. Let's try straight. Let's try by identified people and blah, blah, blah. I now identify as bisexual and so does my wife.

278

00:27:55.050 --> 00:28:03.780

Evan Taylor: And so this just open that up for you in the way I've just like let me explore it when you did. You were sort of like, okay, that people are people, and I'm not that whole I love a person not a gender thing.

279

00:28:04.020 --> 00:28:05.220

Evan Taylor: Exactly right.

280

00:28:05.340 --> 00:28:16.140

jgreen: Exactly. Gotcha. So, and, you know, I, I am very monogamous. And so, as my wife, then that's that works for us, but we are definitely queer

281

00:28:17.130 --> 00:28:18.360

jgreen: In that sense that we

282

00:28:18.510 --> 00:28:27.630

jgreen: Both have had tons years tons of experience in gay culture mini queer community and

283

00:28:29.130 --> 00:28:30.270

jgreen: And it's important to us.

284

00:28:30.930 --> 00:28:37.740

Evan Taylor: And how do you, I'm interested in how you relate to the word queer or the organizing strategies as you as you know, if you will, around that.

285

00:28:38.280 --> 00:28:47.310

Evan Taylor: Because you've been, you know, around from a time when that was definitely not a word. People use and then it came into a particular political movement. So how have you related to that over time.

286

00:28:47.850 --> 00:28:51.450

jgreen: Well actually it was more common within

287

00:28:53.010 --> 00:28:57.660

jgreen: gay culture. Back in the 60s and 70s than a lot of people, one with bit

288

00:28:59.850 --> 00:29:13.740

jgreen: In the 70s when things got political right and like the the task force and the human rights campaign started their national advocacy. He they made

289

00:29:14.490 --> 00:29:27.270

jgreen: And this is, I object. Let me say for the record, I object to the 501 c three nonprofit model of community leadership. I don't think having a 501 C three means you are in charge.

290

00:29:28.110 --> 00:29:47.190

jgreen: But these organizations say they are in charge and claim to be speaking for everybody. And I, I, although I have worked with these organizations and I know their leadership and I you know there's value there. I really object to their strategies.

291

00:29:48.750 --> 00:29:53.130

jgreen: And one of their damaging strategies was. And this was right out of

292

00:29:54.330 --> 00:29:56.640

jgreen: Well, it came from both of the organizations.

293

00:29:57.750 --> 00:30:03.030

jgreen: That national gay and lesbian Task Force is a little more to the left.

294

00:30:04.260 --> 00:30:23.460

jgreen: But nonetheless, they both said okay we need to stick to sexual orientation and we need to make sure that everybody understands that we're just normal people. And we own the only difference is that we do something different in the bedroom and that's nobody's business and

295

00:30:25.140 --> 00:30:37.530

jgreen: You know, and therefore we got to get rid of all the gender queer looking people. We got to get rid of the men and dresses. We got to get rid of, you know, the super dykes, you know, we don't want anybody who doesn't look

296

00:30:38.250 --> 00:30:52.110

jgreen: Normal. Right. Yeah. And that was crucially damaging he but and that was where it was then that they, you know, no, we can't use the word queer right

297

00:30:53.850 --> 00:31:08.130

Evan Taylor: So I'm thinking about this particular you know POINT IN TIME, AND I'M REMEMBERING for myself. Anyway, my, my generation that people were talking, we didn't want the drag queens, you know, to be leading the Pride Parade because they're gonna make us all look bad.

298

00:31:08.340 --> 00:31:08.730

Evan Taylor: And

299

00:31:08.850 --> 00:31:18.450

Evan Taylor: That sort of thing. So I and I'm, you know, I'm wondering from, from your perspective in terms of organizing strategies because, you know, again, I'm interested in some of the activism here.

300

00:31:19.800 --> 00:31:27.120

Evan Taylor: With was mistaken. The sense of it divided people, when in fact we have the the commonality of all of us.

301

00:31:27.450 --> 00:31:39.570

Evan Taylor: being oppressed by how it is that we're supposed to do, gender, whether we do gender and straight or do gender as it says gender or whatever, but that that is the oppression, we should have organized together.

302

00:31:39.780 --> 00:31:40.980

jgreen: That's right. Right.

303

00:31:41.070 --> 00:31:41.580

Evan Taylor: Gotcha.

304

00:31:41.970 --> 00:31:54.270

jgreen: And that's, that's the, that's the only reason why I sort of adopted or grudgingly took on the label of transgender in the early 90s because transsexual was so

305

00:31:56.670 --> 00:32:03.270

jgreen: It was such a lightning rod right it with it with the word sex in it, it made a lot of people upset.

306

00:32:04.710 --> 00:32:06.360

jgreen: To me it was a medical term.

307

00:32:06.780 --> 00:32:10.830

jgreen: Right and perfectly useful huh and

308

00:32:12.390 --> 00:32:18.240

jgreen: And I really worried about people adopting transgender as an identity label right

309

00:32:19.860 --> 00:32:23.580

jgreen: I thought it was an organizing label, not an identity label.

310

00:32:23.910 --> 00:32:30.330

jgreen: Hmm. And, but, you know, you can't control language so

311

00:32:31.590 --> 00:32:37.200

jgreen: It is what it is. It does what it does and things get on that catch on and things that don't, don't. Great.

312

00:32:37.590 --> 00:32:40.140

Evan Taylor: And where we are now. I mean, I'm, you know,

313

00:32:40.500 --> 00:32:52.950

Evan Taylor: Doing these these conversations, it's inherently an intergenerational practice where I'm talking to you as a generation above me, if not a couple of generations. And then we're preserving this for the generation to follow me, if not a few more.

314

00:32:53.250 --> 00:33:05.250

Evan Taylor: And so I'm thinking now about, you know, as somebody who's almost I'm just almost 40 and I'm thinking about the 20 year olds right now. And when you say the word transsexual it's it's it's like it's like a racial slur like it's like

315

00:33:07.710 --> 00:33:27.630

jgreen: And I don't know where that came from. I mean, some somebody somewhere said that's an insulting term right and you know it's the lip in the medical literature is rife with it. He is everywhere. It's a, it's a very, very useful term, especially for people like me who's gender never changed.

316

00:33:28.140 --> 00:33:29.370

Evan Taylor: Right, yeah.

317

00:33:29.640 --> 00:33:33.690

jgreen: And what changed for me was my sexual characteristics.

318

00:33:33.810 --> 00:33:38.820

Evan Taylor: He he literal biological bodily sex is what changed not

319

00:33:38.880 --> 00:33:40.380

jgreen: Right, right.

320

00:33:40.530 --> 00:33:47.850

jgreen: He my identity never changed my gender never changed my the way I express myself never changed.

321

00:33:48.150 --> 00:33:49.080

Evan Taylor: Yeah yeah

322

00:33:49.140 --> 00:33:55.620

jgreen: There's a lot of people have to really learn a lot of things about how to express themselves when they go through a transition

323

00:33:57.090 --> 00:33:57.720

jgreen: Whether they're

324

00:33:57.900 --> 00:34:00.900

jgreen: male to female, male and I didn't need to do any of that.

325

00:34:01.260 --> 00:34:01.740

Evan Taylor: Yeah.

326

00:34:02.580 --> 00:34:04.800

jgreen: I was already perceived as male

327

00:34:05.880 --> 00:34:07.830

jgreen: You know, from the time I was a little kid.

328

00:34:08.490 --> 00:34:27.360

Evan Taylor: He. Yeah, I've seen a picture of you, and that was supposed to be pre transition I think about 21 or something and and you have like this long hair and I, and it was supposed to be free transition and I just I can't see it. I'm like, You look like a man.

329

00:34:27.600 --> 00:34:32.370

jgreen: Was that the one with me and Mike construction worker clothing.

330

00:34:32.610 --> 00:34:33.360

Evan Taylor: I think so.

331

00:34:33.390 --> 00:34:36.180

jgreen: Yes, I let my hair grow for a reason.

332

00:34:37.680 --> 00:34:45.120

jgreen: That that yeah there are very few pictures of me with long hair because was very little very tiny little period of my life when I had long hair like that.

333

00:34:45.450 --> 00:34:45.900

Evan Taylor: It was

334

00:34:45.960 --> 00:34:47.670

jgreen: When I was working in construction.

335

00:34:48.750 --> 00:34:57.570

jgreen: And specifically because the phone company had a policy that guys couldn't have long hair.

336

00:34:58.620 --> 00:35:06.270

jgreen: And so I decided to let my hair grow being the first female person there to see if they would say anything to me about it.

337

00:35:07.410 --> 00:35:10.650

jgreen: And they didn't. So it didn't take very long.

338

00:35:12.420 --> 00:35:20.250

jgreen: But the guys around me recognized. Oh, I can let my hair grow too because they all wanted you know they were all playing they're playing rock and roll.

339

00:35:20.670 --> 00:35:21.600

jgreen: On it hair.

340

00:35:24.990 --> 00:35:28.080

Evan Taylor: making the world a better place for everybody and everybody. Yes.

341

00:35:28.290 --> 00:35:35.670

jgreen: That's right. So, so that, and then as soon as the guys started letting their hair grow and nobody said anything to them. I cut my hair again.

342

00:35:37.860 --> 00:35:39.630

Evan Taylor: No Mark yourself back to the mail.

343

00:35:41.010 --> 00:35:57.960

jgreen: I also did. It did something else in that context to where guys always you had to as a cable splicer, you have to call into a test board and tell tell them where you are. So in case there's a problem on the line, if they send a high voltage current down, they won't fry you

344

00:35:58.410 --> 00:35:58.800

Evan Taylor: Okay.

345

00:35:58.860 --> 00:36:14.850

jgreen: They can tell you to get out of the out of the cable if they need to do that. So, um, so you've always call in and they had the test board had this record of where everybody was and everybody identified themselves with their last name.

346

00:36:16.140 --> 00:36:20.610

jgreen: And I decided I wasn't going to do that. So I just, you know,

347

00:36:22.200 --> 00:36:27.930

jgreen: I don't go by green a green, you know, I'm not in the service, you know,

348

00:36:29.790 --> 00:36:36.900

jgreen: You know, at that time, I was I was using a while Jamison was my name, but I use Jamie for short right and

349

00:36:38.160 --> 00:36:47.850

jgreen: So I said, Hi, this is Jamie, this Jamie. Jamie green. Yep. Jamie and producing all the other guys started using their first names to

350

00:36:49.290 --> 00:36:51.450

jgreen: It was much more humanizing

351

00:36:51.720 --> 00:37:00.630

Evan Taylor: Yes, yeah. At Knox that and that sort of, as you say, the toxic masculinity, in terms of the militarization that out of it makes small

352

00:37:00.900 --> 00:37:02.130

Evan Taylor: Yep. Cool.

353

00:37:02.250 --> 00:37:02.580

Yeah.

354

00:37:03.690 --> 00:37:05.190

jgreen: So those were those were two

355

00:37:06.600 --> 00:37:11.220

jgreen: Social engineering things I did it without telling anybody

356

00:37:12.180 --> 00:37:18.720

Evan Taylor: And these things have a ripple effects. Right. It's amazing when you make one small change you know and and again we're talking about

357

00:37:18.960 --> 00:37:30.510

Evan Taylor: transact visit. But so much of transaction ism is wrapped up in the changing ways that gender has been understood and the ways, especially I think masculinity has changed over the last, you know, 50 years or so.

358

00:37:30.780 --> 00:37:31.650

jgreen: Right, yeah.

359

00:37:31.680 --> 00:37:40.530

Evan Taylor: Absolutely. And in terms of the so when we're talking about activism, but it's not a word that you identify with you identify as an activist is not a word you would use.

360

00:37:40.980 --> 00:37:44.010

jgreen: Now, I do. But I didn't at the beginning. In the beginning

361

00:37:47.730 --> 00:37:53.040

jgreen: I shied away from activist, because it was used

362

00:37:55.470 --> 00:37:59.610

jgreen: It basically was a diminishing term okay and

363

00:38:00.960 --> 00:38:11.880

jgreen: You know, if you were identified as an activist that you were easy to dismiss okay and I so I used the term in the beginning I used the term advocate.

364

00:38:14.970 --> 00:38:15.630

jgreen: And

365

00:38:16.650 --> 00:38:18.690

jgreen: Other people labeled me an activist.

366

00:38:21.120 --> 00:38:21.990

jgreen: And

367

00:38:23.070 --> 00:38:24.060

jgreen: After a while,

368

00:38:26.010 --> 00:38:30.810

jgreen: Let's see. I guess probably more so during the Obama years

369

00:38:33.060 --> 00:38:43.470

jgreen: I became more accepting of the term activist and would be would if I asked to submit a bio somewhere I would use activist, rather than advocate.

370

00:38:44.550 --> 00:38:46.620

jgreen: That would use advocate in some other way.

371

00:38:47.940 --> 00:38:52.770

Evan Taylor: But what was that was that shift that happened around the Obama era that made that more comfortable for you.

372

00:38:53.970 --> 00:38:54.540

jgreen: Um,

373

00:38:56.250 --> 00:38:59.130

jgreen: activists were welcomed him into the establishment.

374

00:38:59.580 --> 00:39:02.040

jgreen: I'm activists were

375

00:39:04.530 --> 00:39:12.720

jgreen: Recognized as having an important role to play, it is having an impact that was meaningful in the social structure.

376

00:39:13.890 --> 00:39:25.320

Evan Taylor: And you figure that that is related to the fact that we finally had a black man and power and that the idea of activism to to affect that change was now sort of welcomed in that in that way.

377

00:39:27.780 --> 00:39:45.270

jgreen: I yeah. Possibly. I don't know that it's, I don't know that I could attribute it to his race, per se, but the he was he was a community organizer. He was known as a community organizer prior to running for the Senate, he, he wasn't in the senate very long.

378

00:39:48.120 --> 00:39:48.510

But

379

00:39:49.590 --> 00:39:55.080

jgreen: Because he was much more of a in the street, kind of a person. Hmm.

380

00:39:56.190 --> 00:40:01.140

jgreen: And yeah, I mean, certainly the fact that he was black is important. I'm not trying to be dismissive.

381

00:40:02.820 --> 00:40:03.090

But

382

00:40:06.180 --> 00:40:10.800

jgreen: You know he he he was he was a he was a late

383

00:40:11.850 --> 00:40:15.780

jgreen: adopter, if you will, of any kind of LGBT

384

00:40:18.600 --> 00:40:23.340

jgreen: Pro LGBT policies. He did not come easily to that table.

385

00:40:23.820 --> 00:40:29.010

Evan Taylor: Mm hmm. He was going to do specific organizing to that to create those conversations

386

00:40:30.030 --> 00:40:31.770

jgreen: Yeah, there was a lot of

387

00:40:33.570 --> 00:40:36.720

jgreen: A lot of people within the administration. I wasn't one of them, but

388

00:40:38.640 --> 00:40:40.230

jgreen: There were people who were

389

00:40:41.850 --> 00:40:54.690

jgreen: Were able to make that to have those conversations and and to affect his and, you know, I'm pretty sure his wife actually had an impact on his ability to accept the idea of

390

00:40:55.920 --> 00:40:58.260

jgreen: Same sex marriage, you know,

391

00:40:59.520 --> 00:41:03.360

jgreen: But in terms of trance stuff. I think

392

00:41:05.640 --> 00:41:13.050

jgreen: We had a lot of people who came to it from a spiritual perspective grain and we had

393

00:41:15.240 --> 00:41:23.460

jgreen: You know people like Bishop Gene Robinson, who didn't know anything about trans really but was willing to learn

394

00:41:25.830 --> 00:41:31.710

jgreen: He had the year of the administration, right. So, you know,

395

00:41:33.510 --> 00:41:39.930

jgreen: progress was made in that in that regard. And this it, but it was the openness to community.

396

00:41:40.320 --> 00:41:40.920

jgreen: That

397

00:41:41.070 --> 00:41:41.790

jgreen: Was that I think

398

00:41:43.470 --> 00:41:45.900

jgreen: Enables enabled those discussions. Mm hmm.

399

00:41:45.960 --> 00:41:50.970

Evan Taylor: Yeah, yeah, somebody with a different background and understanding what community organizing looks like. Right. Yeah.

400

00:41:51.780 --> 00:41:57.390

Evan Taylor: And in terms of thing. So, you know, going back to before that, when you were first, you know,

401

00:41:58.080 --> 00:42:05.580

Evan Taylor: Involved in what other people were calling activism. What sort of dream to That Was it that you felt you needed to do it, or was it the fact that you

402

00:42:05.760 --> 00:42:12.060

Evan Taylor: Had a position that you know that you were able to contribute to other folks what was, what was the sort of beginnings of that work like for you.

403

00:42:14.220 --> 00:42:17.130

jgreen: Well, I would say just

404

00:42:20.880 --> 00:42:22.800

jgreen: The salient thing was that I

405

00:42:25.740 --> 00:42:26.940

jgreen: I realized first well

406

00:42:29.370 --> 00:42:32.190

jgreen: First of all, I realized that

407

00:42:36.780 --> 00:42:39.390

jgreen: Doctors didn't tell us anything he

408

00:42:40.890 --> 00:42:44.520

jgreen: Insurance just it had exclusions preventing our health care.

409

00:42:46.050 --> 00:42:49.530

jgreen: And not just transition related care, but any kind of health care.

410

00:42:49.650 --> 00:43:08.520

jgreen: Yeah, because the clauses, although they were targeted to transition related care. They were written so broadly that they gave cover to any BIGOT Who wanted to say, nope, sorry, I can't treat your sore throat. Nope, sorry, I can't sit your broken leg. Hmm. That's a transsexual leg.

411

00:43:08.580 --> 00:43:09.300

jgreen: can touch it.

412

00:43:09.390 --> 00:43:11.640

Evan Taylor: Yeah, I'm not a specialized enough. Right.

413

00:43:12.780 --> 00:43:14.850

jgreen: So that had to be changed.

414

00:43:16.380 --> 00:43:24.240

jgreen: And as I gradually met more trans people in the late 1980s.

415

00:43:27.900 --> 00:43:38.130

jgreen: I realized, hey, these are all good ordinary people who are living with shame and fear. And I'm like, that is wrong.

416

00:43:39.960 --> 00:43:44.130

jgreen: What am I going to do, what am I going to do about it because and I'm

417

00:43:45.960 --> 00:43:49.560

jgreen: I decided at the when Lou Sullivan died.

418

00:43:51.180 --> 00:43:59.610

jgreen: He had asked me a week before he died to take over his newsletter. Right. And in the newsletter. Nobody published their whole name.

419

00:44:01.020 --> 00:44:10.350

jgreen: Everybody went by just an initial and last name or just to initials or their first name and last initial right you know

420

00:44:11.490 --> 00:44:18.210

jgreen: But nobody. Everybody was really super worried about confidentiality. Mm hmm. And

421

00:44:19.290 --> 00:44:21.360

jgreen: You know, the locations of meetings were not

422

00:44:22.380 --> 00:44:33.120

jgreen: Publicly available right now I'm you had to know somebody and you had to be interviewed by Lou before you could be given the, the location of a meeting.

423

00:44:33.300 --> 00:44:35.430

Evan Taylor: Yeah, go ahead, sir. Okay. Right.

424

00:44:36.600 --> 00:44:37.410

jgreen: But, um,

425

00:44:39.000 --> 00:44:43.440

jgreen: But I, after I took over and got more exposed to more people and

426

00:44:46.650 --> 00:44:49.050

jgreen: When I say took over and you know that sounds

427

00:44:50.550 --> 00:45:06.870

jgreen: A lot more active than it was. I mean, I just now, I had this I had this in my house now, whereas before it was somewhere out there and now it's in my house and I'm having to produce this thing and I'm having to think about this, and I'm getting communication from all these people

428

00:45:08.040 --> 00:45:10.740

jgreen: You know, how do I manage all this and I'm thinking,

429

00:45:13.290 --> 00:45:14.850

jgreen: We have to be public.

430

00:45:16.320 --> 00:45:27.690

jgreen: We cannot be so closeted right we will never get our needs met. We will never make the world safe for us to be different if nobody knows who we are.

431

00:45:27.960 --> 00:45:30.210

jgreen: Hmm. Nobody people don't understand us

432

00:45:30.420 --> 00:45:36.150

jgreen: Right, some point I published a little squib in the newsletter, saying, Okay, I'm going public.

433

00:45:37.320 --> 00:45:38.490

jgreen: I'm going to start doing

434

00:45:39.810 --> 00:45:44.010

jgreen: gender diversity trainings. I called it okay and

435

00:45:45.090 --> 00:45:48.540

jgreen: And I, because I think we need to let people know that we're out here.

436

00:45:48.750 --> 00:45:51.720

Evan Taylor: And that was the language you're using back then with gender diversity train us

437

00:45:51.840 --> 00:45:54.690

jgreen: Yeah, okay. That's what I wrote in the newsletter.

438

00:45:56.430 --> 00:46:05.880

jgreen: I'll have to go and look at the newsletter make absolutely sure. But that's, I think, pretty sure that's what I wrote gender diversity training interesting is that it was going to be a gender diversity consultant or something like that.

439

00:46:06.330 --> 00:46:09.570

Evan Taylor: Fascinating, because that's the language. We've come back around to now.

440

00:46:11.340 --> 00:46:13.740

jgreen: Yeah, nothing's nothing sacred

441

00:46:15.390 --> 00:46:18.240

Evan Taylor: Was the reaction of other folks in here.

442

00:46:18.480 --> 00:46:23.370

jgreen: People were the people called me up from all over the place. Don't do it.

443

00:46:24.540 --> 00:46:25.050

jgreen: Don't

444

00:46:25.110 --> 00:46:26.280

Evan Taylor: You're going to do is

445

00:46:26.340 --> 00:46:31.320

jgreen: You're going to expose us, they'll take away everything we have never survive.

446

00:46:31.650 --> 00:46:32.550

Evan Taylor: Mm hmm.

447

00:46:32.640 --> 00:46:41.670

jgreen: It's important that we stay hidden. Right. And I'm like, I'm sorry, I disagree with you. Yeah, I really, I really think we have to

448

00:46:42.990 --> 00:46:54.690

jgreen: Step up a bit. And then, as you know, a couple years later when the term transgender was coming up. A lot of people argued vehemently against the term. Nice. I said,

449

00:46:55.680 --> 00:47:03.090

jgreen: An emphasis on one person I know said you know that's going to erase transsexuals and we won't be able to get our medical needs met.

450

00:47:03.360 --> 00:47:03.690

Evan Taylor: Right.

451

00:47:03.780 --> 00:47:10.860

jgreen: I said, look, we're adults, we have those of us who have these needs have to speak up. Be responsible take care of our needs.

452

00:47:11.160 --> 00:47:15.660

jgreen: Right, make sure that those things can get handled that a word isn't going to change that.

453

00:47:15.960 --> 00:47:17.250

Evan Taylor: Mm hmm. Mm hmm.

454

00:47:18.150 --> 00:47:18.810

So,

455

00:47:21.840 --> 00:47:22.200

jgreen: You know,

456

00:47:22.770 --> 00:47:30.720

Evan Taylor: I'm certainly thinking that Lou would have been very, very supportive of the idea of you going public because he was so you know so out there himself in that way.

457

00:47:30.870 --> 00:47:32.400

jgreen: He was not very public at all.

458

00:47:32.910 --> 00:47:33.300

Evan Taylor: Huh.

459

00:47:33.450 --> 00:47:44.670

jgreen: He was very, very shy. He did some did some public speaking, which the last last year of his life. He asked me to step in for him in some university classroom settings.

460

00:47:45.780 --> 00:47:55.410

jgreen: But, and he and he was outspoken in terms of his approach to the medical community trying to educate them about the difference between

461

00:47:56.190 --> 00:48:08.280

jgreen: sexual orientation and gender identity. Right. Right. And that was, that was his significant contribution, but he he totally supported the confidentiality. He totally

462

00:48:09.990 --> 00:48:12.810

jgreen: He wasn't all that out there. Okay.

463

00:48:13.920 --> 00:48:14.040

Evan Taylor: He

464

00:48:14.070 --> 00:48:15.360

jgreen: Wrote, he wrote a lot

465

00:48:16.770 --> 00:48:18.750

jgreen: Of a diary. He didn't share that with anybody.

466

00:48:19.620 --> 00:48:27.120

Evan Taylor: I'm the only thing I've seen of him that was, I was thinking about was this this interview that he has with his psychiatrists, that was so

467

00:48:27.540 --> 00:48:27.780

jgreen: You know,

468

00:48:28.890 --> 00:48:36.450

Evan Taylor: It felt led me to me was most public at that time how the publicizing of that in any way was just so radical

469

00:48:36.690 --> 00:48:39.270

jgreen: It wasn't publicized. It was just recorded

470

00:48:39.960 --> 00:48:40.950

Evan Taylor: Oh, yes.

471

00:48:42.240 --> 00:48:44.850

jgreen: It was not on TV or anything like that.

472

00:48:45.060 --> 00:48:45.900

Evan Taylor: Okay.

473

00:48:46.110 --> 00:48:47.610

jgreen: It was not a public thing.

474

00:48:47.880 --> 00:48:49.740

Evan Taylor: That was much later that that became

475

00:48:50.850 --> 00:48:51.150

Evan Taylor: Probably

476

00:48:51.480 --> 00:48:53.760

Evan Taylor: The internet and digital collections and things

477

00:48:53.790 --> 00:49:04.230

jgreen: Yes, it was circulated because there were several copies made and I recall. He himself sent me a copy his copy because he said, I don't need this anymore. Yeah.

478

00:49:05.610 --> 00:49:18.510

jgreen: And yeah. And in fact, you know, Dallas Denny, and I wrote a Dallas Danny and Jason Cromwell, and I did an article about about some research that we did about language that's used in in

479

00:49:19.740 --> 00:49:27.150

jgreen: trans community and the how the medical establishment kind of messes with us linguistically and

480

00:49:28.980 --> 00:49:34.560

jgreen: We actually from our first our first discussion about it. Actually, it was at

481

00:49:35.670 --> 00:49:52.560

jgreen: In Vancouver in Vancouver, BC at the big meeting in 1997 and I presented on our on some work that Dallas and I had done on bisexuality and and then I mentioned about the

482

00:49:54.900 --> 00:49:56.400

jgreen: The bad language.

483

00:49:57.450 --> 00:50:11.970

jgreen: And I recall. He was in the audience, and afterward he approached me and said, well, Dallas and I were standing there talking and I represented the work as mine and Dallas and he approached us and said, Well, what do you want us to call you.

484

00:50:13.380 --> 00:50:15.330

jgreen: And we were like, man.

485

00:50:16.950 --> 00:50:20.520

jgreen: You know, we're not going to speak for the entire community.

486

00:50:20.760 --> 00:50:21.210

Evan Taylor: Right.

487

00:50:21.330 --> 00:50:26.790

jgreen: We'll get back to you. And we went out and did some research on it and and with this was pre internet

488

00:50:27.870 --> 00:50:28.440

jgreen: And

489

00:50:29.850 --> 00:50:33.060

jgreen: So, I mean, Internet existed, but it wasn't widely used in the

490

00:50:33.060 --> 00:50:34.020

Evan Taylor: Mainstream yet.

491

00:50:34.860 --> 00:50:35.370

And

492

00:50:36.960 --> 00:50:39.180

jgreen: So we did some research and we had

493

00:50:40.710 --> 00:50:49.710

jgreen: A paper and then I presented that paper in 2001 at the big conference in Galveston, Texas, and that paper.

494

00:50:51.360 --> 00:51:10.410

jgreen: transformed the language that doctors were using at the time he basically I was there with two other two trans women who also had presentations on the language is language us and they put us all together in an opening plenary session.

495

00:51:11.520 --> 00:51:12.930

jgreen: And at the end of it.

496

00:51:15.000 --> 00:51:26.640

jgreen: The three of us presented our little you know 15 minute abstracts of our work and what our theories were and all the questions afterward came to me.

497

00:51:28.140 --> 00:51:40.260

jgreen: And I was, I was really kind of surprised about that, but I'm realizing, though, that it's it's the fact that I'm a trained communicator. The fact that I've had so much experience.

498

00:51:41.580 --> 00:51:41.940

jgreen: You know,

499

00:51:43.830 --> 00:51:54.630

jgreen: Working with doctors right that um I think that they just related to the way that I was delivering the message. It's not that our messages were that different. Right.

500

00:51:55.590 --> 00:52:05.370

jgreen: But then that was during the time when you had your overhead slides and they had pencils that you could use these crayons, you could write on your slides and

501

00:52:05.400 --> 00:52:07.170

jgreen: Yeah overhead projector and stuff.

502

00:52:07.680 --> 00:52:09.120

Evan Taylor: And little weird wacky things

503

00:52:09.150 --> 00:52:14.670

jgreen: Yes. So throughout the entire conference for the next three or four days, however long the conference was

504

00:52:15.720 --> 00:52:25.440

jgreen: Doctors would be presenting and they would have scratched out the quotation marks around the pronouns are names and they are around the organs.

505

00:52:26.010 --> 00:52:38.730

jgreen: And they would change. They crossed out the names of things and and wrote over them. I mean it was just, and they would stop themselves in the middle of their presentation and say, is genius in here. Is it okay if I say this

506

00:52:39.510 --> 00:52:41.460

jgreen: I'm not kidding. It was was

507

00:52:42.540 --> 00:52:49.350

jgreen: It was phenomenally dramatic wow that that was boom. It's just shifted right there.

508

00:52:49.890 --> 00:52:53.220

Evan Taylor: And so what were the words they were using, what would they change them into

509

00:52:53.970 --> 00:53:00.060

jgreen: Well, I mean, they, they were instead of like, for me, they would call me female because

510

00:53:00.120 --> 00:53:01.110

Evan Taylor: Gotcha. Okay.

511

00:53:01.320 --> 00:53:12.690

jgreen: You know, so I was a woman who was living as a man not really a man and that and he if they've used a pronoun would have would be in quotes.

512

00:53:13.440 --> 00:53:14.160

Evan Taylor: Gotcha.

513

00:53:14.490 --> 00:53:18.060

jgreen: And my name would be in quotes. Yeah, you know,

514

00:53:18.300 --> 00:53:18.900

Evan Taylor: I'm not sure.

515

00:53:19.260 --> 00:53:21.150

jgreen: If you know they're talking about a

516

00:53:22.860 --> 00:53:26.760

jgreen: Neo vagina, they would have vagina in quotes.

517

00:53:27.030 --> 00:53:41.160

Evan Taylor: Mm hmm. I remember sort of around this time yet, you know, if you looked at journal articles. It was so hard to tell who they were talking about right, it would say transsexual woman when what they meant was a trans man.

518

00:53:41.280 --> 00:53:41.880

jgreen: Exactly.

519

00:53:41.940 --> 00:53:46.920

Evan Taylor: And then he was so hard to and I remember just looking at articles and having to

520

00:53:47.340 --> 00:53:58.230

Evan Taylor: Figure out, and then you know you learn who the doctor, the doctors were because then you'd learn which doctors referred to people appropriately and which ones didn't um you know even have to figure it out in the articles.

521

00:53:59.580 --> 00:54:00.180

Evan Taylor: And my

522

00:54:01.260 --> 00:54:11.850

Evan Taylor: Language is very fascinating to me very fascinating to me. It's the department that my PhD was in was land to literacy. So I'm fascinated with how language has changed. Not necessarily.

523

00:54:13.050 --> 00:54:19.500

Evan Taylor: Know the language itself, but the what we think and believe around it and how it culturally it shifts are just things culturally

524

00:54:20.160 --> 00:54:26.010

Evan Taylor: What the conversations that I'm asking folks about right now is the some of the very older words. So, you know,

525

00:54:26.370 --> 00:54:38.220

Evan Taylor: A transsexual was, you know, you know that one of these still like a newer term at some point. But before there was like transit or training or some of these these older words and do remember those words being used in community.

526

00:54:39.450 --> 00:54:43.710

jgreen: trannies used occasionally, you know, sort of like dyke.

527

00:54:46.110 --> 00:54:48.810

jgreen: Trans definitely existed in the 70s.

528

00:54:50.160 --> 00:54:57.300

jgreen: Stephen widdle wrote a paper or wrote a big thing about how he invented it in the 90s and I had to write to him and say, I'm sorry, Stephen. If you go to the

529

00:54:57.870 --> 00:55:14.310

jgreen: Gay and Lesbian history. Historical Society in San Francisco and look at the street newspapers that were circulated in the Tenderloin and and the pole district. Now you can find trans all over the place. Right. Yes. Yes. You didn't make it up and

530

00:55:16.350 --> 00:55:21.840

Evan Taylor: That we're referring to, like, a specific fact like hacking of the of the trans community. Where was it

531

00:55:22.050 --> 00:55:30.780

jgreen: Was it, but I think in those days it was really about people who cross dressed. It was probably about sex workers in many contexts, but

532

00:55:31.830 --> 00:55:38.160

jgreen: In that those particular neighborhoods, but also it was about people who crust rest and we're sort of in the in between.

533

00:55:39.060 --> 00:55:40.320

Evan Taylor: He said,

534

00:55:40.350 --> 00:55:45.870

jgreen: cross dressing may not have been, you know, like traditional cross dressing you know where you know

535

00:55:46.950 --> 00:55:51.330

jgreen: You're, you're a guy and you're going to dress up to look like your mother right you know

536

00:55:52.980 --> 00:55:56.310

Evan Taylor: But it could have also been like people who are doing drag or whatever as well that time.

537

00:55:57.720 --> 00:56:06.390

Evan Taylor: And so what's the word. So I'm just a clarification or we were talking about the word trans. It was it was trans us differently than trendy or trans II.

538

00:56:07.110 --> 00:56:09.990

jgreen: Yes, trans. He was more

539

00:56:12.900 --> 00:56:18.930

jgreen: A little bit more derogatory tranny was definitely derogatory trannies very popular tournament Australia.

540

00:56:19.260 --> 00:56:22.830

jgreen: He was like the term in the community to

541

00:56:23.850 --> 00:56:26.190

jgreen: It was not thought of as a derogatory term at all.

542

00:56:26.340 --> 00:56:26.970

Right.

543

00:56:28.770 --> 00:56:33.270

jgreen: In the like in the 90s 80s and 90s, but I'm

544

00:56:35.040 --> 00:56:41.850

jgreen: 20 was pretty was training and translate pretty and like tranny transit he, she, it.

545

00:56:42.390 --> 00:56:46.620

jgreen: Know, pretty much the same kind of bad language.

546

00:56:47.790 --> 00:56:48.540

jgreen: But like

547

00:56:49.560 --> 00:57:05.910

jgreen: Like lesbians could call it call each other dikes but if somebody else called him a dyke, they were in trouble right you know trans people would call themselves transit your tranny but if somebody else said it. That was not good. Gotcha.

548

00:57:05.970 --> 00:57:06.450

Gotcha.

549

00:57:07.500 --> 00:57:19.080

Evan Taylor: And what about what are some of the other sort of changes that you've seen in terms of how we how we refer to each other because you're, you know, you've seen this language actually unfold itself over the years.

550

00:57:19.680 --> 00:57:20.820

jgreen: Unfolding threefold.

551

00:57:23.190 --> 00:57:26.010

Evan Taylor: Interesting. Tell me more about that. That's a, that's an interesting observation.

552

00:57:26.310 --> 00:57:44.910

jgreen: Well, I think it's just it we don't have control over language, you know, and things come and go, then you know somebody something catches on at one point and fades and then somebody uses it again and somebody else likes it, and boom, it catches on, you know, it's, there's no

553

00:57:46.380 --> 00:57:51.300

jgreen: There's no rhyme or reason. Exactly. I, you know, as somebody who's

554

00:57:53.010 --> 00:58:07.590

jgreen: I write for two reasons. One is to be evocative to move people and one and the other is to educate, to inform. Mm hmm. And so in both styles of communication.

555

00:58:09.930 --> 00:58:14.550

jgreen: You use words differently. But you have to be clear.

556

00:58:16.500 --> 00:58:19.380

jgreen: And so that's in either in either

557

00:58:20.610 --> 00:58:32.520

jgreen: Realm. And so, clarity is the thing that matters to me. I don't like to be cavalier with language in the context of

558

00:58:33.660 --> 00:58:39.720

jgreen: Where I might be educating someone or you never know where you might be educating someone

559

00:58:40.770 --> 00:58:45.690

jgreen: Or only with your, with your closest friends, can you be completely free.

560

00:58:46.920 --> 00:58:58.980

jgreen: And and they might call you on it if they don't understand something, you're saying right but strangers won't call you on it. They'll just take what you said and they'll use it the way they want to. Mm hmm.

561

00:59:00.690 --> 00:59:16.500

jgreen: And I think that's something that a lot of people don't realize when especially when we think of education being well I'll just go out and tell my story and that will educate people write your story is not educational unless you give it context.

562

00:59:16.770 --> 00:59:18.510

Evan Taylor: Mm hmm. If

563

00:59:18.540 --> 00:59:26.280

jgreen: Without context that connects to the life of the audience that every single person in the audience, they won't get it.

564

00:59:26.760 --> 00:59:27.270

Evan Taylor: Mm hmm.

565

00:59:27.360 --> 00:59:28.800

jgreen: They'll take something

566

00:59:29.910 --> 00:59:33.000

jgreen: But it won't necessarily be what you intended right

567

00:59:33.810 --> 00:59:43.080

Evan Taylor: That's something that was so different when becoming invisible man came out and that's what was so different about that than a lot of the other books that were around at that a lot of the other books. I mean, there was what like 10

568

00:59:44.160 --> 00:59:45.120

jgreen: Or less. Yeah.

569

00:59:46.050 --> 00:59:52.710

Evan Taylor: But like a lot of the other books that were coming out that were sort of memoirs in this in this way, and we're very

570

00:59:53.640 --> 00:59:59.910

Evan Taylor: Autobiographical but they didn't. What I found different about your book at the time. And I think that's also because I was

571

01:00:00.480 --> 01:00:07.560

Evan Taylor: I was in university is it was a young sort of college student and and what was so different, was that there was a context to it. There was, um,

572

01:00:07.980 --> 01:00:15.840

Evan Taylor: It wasn't just here's. It wasn't just here's my here's my personal history. Here's my life story. It was here is my life decision making.

573

01:00:16.440 --> 01:00:28.620

Evan Taylor: In the context of, you know, a theoretical way that we can actually look at the world. Here's my worldview here's, you know, the politics that I've been involved in. Here's the cultural context and and you gave all of that sort of

574

01:00:28.980 --> 01:00:36.210

Evan Taylor: You know what I what I that time recognized as an academic context, you know, I think it was so much more than that. But a, you know,

575

01:00:36.540 --> 01:00:40.860

Evan Taylor: At least there was that, and I think that was so different, because at the time.

576

01:00:41.190 --> 01:00:49.620

Evan Taylor: You know, people were just just literally writing, you know, it was like your personal journey because take your personal journal and go and publish it and just cuz he were trans people think that was groundbreaking

577

01:00:50.100 --> 01:00:56.460

Evan Taylor: Right, but your book, there was. It was there was more meat to and I don't know what it was, and I think

578

01:00:57.150 --> 01:01:11.940

Evan Taylor: Is this what you're saying right now that that good communication requires good context and clarity around that. Yep. Yeah, yeah, yeah, that I really, I really remember that that book for me shifted something culturally because

579

01:01:12.390 --> 01:01:15.660

Evan Taylor: You know, it changed the idea of being trans from

580

01:01:17.160 --> 01:01:26.160

Evan Taylor: You know, I wasn't quite familiar with Aaron divorce work yet or anything like that. But, um, it's for me it's shifted the conversation around transmits from look at these neat weirdos.

581

01:01:26.490 --> 01:01:29.040

Evan Taylor: You know, it's very interesting. And, you know, yeah.

582

01:01:29.490 --> 01:01:30.000

jgreen: Of course,

583

01:01:30.120 --> 01:01:31.200

Evan Taylor: It's still going on.

584

01:01:31.260 --> 01:01:36.390

Evan Taylor: Yes, but it shifted the conversation away from that and it for the first time I think made

585

01:01:37.470 --> 01:01:43.620

Evan Taylor: At least for for trans masculine folks and it made us an interesting subject of study.

586

01:01:44.160 --> 01:01:52.200

Evan Taylor: You know that I could be like, Oh, well, we could we could you know we're an interesting bunch of people like you know let's let's let's do some work on that. Let's understand this phenomenon.

587

01:01:52.530 --> 01:02:03.330

Evan Taylor: And and and i think that that was there was a shift those trying to happen in the late 2000s around that, you know, with Aaron divorce gender blending book things. There was some shifts happening.

588

01:02:03.960 --> 01:02:18.060

Evan Taylor: But you for me in that book made it accessible to the average person who actually wanted to understand more not just a fun story, but we wanted to get something and be interested in it. I think it stimulated that conversation.

589

01:02:18.480 --> 01:02:21.780

jgreen: Thank you. Thank you. That is what I wanted to do.

590

01:02:21.930 --> 01:02:22.320

Hmm.

591

01:02:23.700 --> 01:02:38.520

Evan Taylor: Well, you certainly, certainly did. And I told her in the story as well. But I remember going, you know, to the very depths of the university library like way down in the basement way down the back over in the corner. And there was this one shelf.

592

01:02:39.360 --> 01:02:48.210

Evan Taylor: And on the shelf was Cromwell's book on the show like there's, you know, there's just a few. And I remember that shelf. And so I think in doing these conversations what so

593

01:02:48.870 --> 01:03:00.210

Evan Taylor: You know, we talked with the intergenerational aspect of it, but as much as there's definitely intergenerational trauma that happened for trans folks doing this historical work, I think, is part of the intergenerational healing that we can do.

594

01:03:00.570 --> 01:03:10.440

Evan Taylor: Where you you know there was what like no money in green or something. There wasn't a the books that were around for you. We're not you know you're not as helpful as perhaps you would want them to be.

595

01:03:10.770 --> 01:03:19.230

Evan Taylor: Right. And then for me there was a shelf. And now what we are creating for the next generation that's coming behind me is an entire archive.

596

01:03:19.290 --> 01:03:21.150

Evan Taylor: Yep people's lives and histories

597

01:03:21.270 --> 01:03:22.530

jgreen: Yep. I agree.

598

01:03:22.890 --> 01:03:30.300

Evan Taylor: It's i mean it's it's it's it's groundbreaking in that, in that sense that we're able to have conversations across three and four generations.

599

01:03:30.510 --> 01:03:33.480

jgreen: Yeah, it's fantastic. I really, really like it.

600

01:03:35.100 --> 01:03:35.550

jgreen: So,

601

01:03:37.350 --> 01:03:52.980

jgreen: Sister get back to the the activism thing. And I'm not say that not to be dismissive of this I I really, really appreciate what you said about my work, because that's exactly what I wanted to accomplish and and I'm really proud to have been able to

602

01:03:54.240 --> 01:03:55.980

jgreen: To reach some people

603

01:03:58.170 --> 01:03:59.010

jgreen: But I'm

604

01:04:02.280 --> 01:04:10.860

jgreen: Just say back in 1992 so I started doing educational talks and this is again about context, right.

605

01:04:12.390 --> 01:04:31.050

jgreen: I started doing some of the talks that Lou was too ill to go to. And then I kept after he died. I got called more and more, but I used they used to do these panels and they they they have a gay man and and lesbian and across dresser and a transsexual or they you know it's whatever they

606

01:04:32.250 --> 01:04:32.430

jgreen: Did

607

01:04:33.450 --> 01:04:42.990

jgreen: And so I would go and be the transsexual or the male, the female to male transsexual if they had that kind of array right but um

608

01:04:45.810 --> 01:04:53.070

jgreen: Yeah, after a while, and sometimes I would speak last frequently, I would speak last in the in the row and

609

01:04:55.440 --> 01:05:07.140

jgreen: You know, people would would say, well hey guy, you know, by that time they'd be comfortable with the audience would be comfortable with us. And they'd say, So how come you're not wearing a dress today. And I'd say, Well, I don't do that anymore.

610

01:05:08.580 --> 01:05:08.970

jgreen: We mean

611

01:05:10.770 --> 01:05:12.750

Evan Taylor: Maybe purposely I don't do that anymore. Yeah.

612

01:05:12.780 --> 01:05:33.960

jgreen: Right. So, and that was always a shock to people had this idea that trans people were always men and dresses. Right. Yeah, always and that you know female to male people simply didn't exist. And then, oh, if they do well, of course, women want to be men because

613

01:05:34.980 --> 01:05:36.600

Evan Taylor: Of course, who wouldn't want

614

01:05:36.720 --> 01:05:39.570

jgreen: To. So, you know, you're, you're not interesting.

615

01:05:41.040 --> 01:05:41.430

Evan Taylor: Right.

616

01:05:41.460 --> 01:05:49.620

jgreen: I understand you. Yeah, of course. Right. So that was, that was a tough one but it as it happened.

617

01:05:52.260 --> 01:06:07.380

jgreen: The same professors would call me back semester after semester. And after a while, it didn't actually was probably a year or two. So, two or three lectures and they stopped inviting the panels and they would just invite me

618

01:06:07.530 --> 01:06:18.210

jgreen: Hmm, because I was able to give a context, right, I was able to provide some history. I was able to provide some social

619

01:06:19.650 --> 01:06:24.570

jgreen: Content commentary. Right. I was able to put things in context for people

620

01:06:25.680 --> 01:06:33.660

jgreen: And talk about more than just myself right yeah that's made that made me an interesting speaker.

621

01:06:35.430 --> 01:06:42.990

jgreen: Now, people were also interesting speakers for many other good reasons. You know, they were funny or they were angry and people

622

01:06:43.380 --> 01:06:55.380

jgreen: caught on to that emotion and they like that and thought that they were powerful. So whatever that it you know there's lots of ways to be an interesting speaker, but that was, that was my little hook. Mm hmm. In those times.

623

01:06:56.160 --> 01:07:03.990

jgreen: And then to move into the activists, so I was strictly doing education right and then I was invited

624

01:07:05.100 --> 01:07:11.100

jgreen: Out of doing this education to speak to the San Francisco. Human Rights Commission.

625

01:07:13.980 --> 01:07:18.510

jgreen: To their they had a community based board called the

626

01:07:19.920 --> 01:07:30.330

jgreen: gay, lesbian, bisexual, HIV advisory committee so GL be HIV advisory committee to the Human Rights Commission right

627

01:07:30.960 --> 01:07:45.570

jgreen: And so there was a staff person from the Human Rights Commission who convened a monthly meeting of this committee and I was asked to come and educate this committee about why they should have trans trans people should be included.

628

01:07:47.670 --> 01:07:49.740

jgreen: And it took two years.

629

01:07:50.880 --> 01:08:00.000

jgreen: To convince two years of monthly meetings to convince this body of community members that trans people had a place

630

01:08:01.170 --> 01:08:09.840

jgreen: And trans people deserve human rights and considerations that was so finally in 1994 we got

631

01:08:10.920 --> 01:08:24.180

jgreen: To hold a public hearing in the supervisors chambers and invite witnesses to testify about how they were discriminated against because of their transgender status and then

632

01:08:25.980 --> 01:08:32.160

jgreen: And I helped to organize that and get the get the people to come and testify and then

633

01:08:34.050 --> 01:08:36.780

jgreen: And I wasn't the only one involved. And I was, I was

634

01:08:38.220 --> 01:08:49.140

jgreen: There were several other there were several trans women who are also involved in educating this committee and then in a few trans men would show up periodically. Yeah.

635

01:08:50.730 --> 01:08:59.340

jgreen: But, but I was probably the only one who was hundred percent consistent for all those years, and

636

01:09:03.450 --> 01:09:06.510

jgreen: So anyway, we, we, they held the public hearing

637

01:09:08.160 --> 01:09:12.480

jgreen: In 1994 in May of 1994 and

638

01:09:14.580 --> 01:09:34.110

jgreen: And there was a there was recorded testimony and they get a transcription and they had asked for bids from contractors to write the report of the committee that would be make come up with findings and recommendations that the Human Rights Commission could adopt or reject.

639

01:09:35.520 --> 01:09:48.600

jgreen: And so I bid on that as a writer, you know, as a professional writer I bid on that contract and I want it. There was a huge uproar from a lot of trans women.

640

01:09:49.650 --> 01:09:50.490

jgreen: That that

641

01:09:51.780 --> 01:09:54.240

jgreen: A white man was getting to write this report.

642

01:09:55.320 --> 01:09:56.670

Evan Taylor: And this isn't the mid 90s.

643

01:09:57.900 --> 01:10:09.900

jgreen: Yep. Okay. Yep. And so the Human Rights Commission people had to remind them that I was also a member of the subject class. Hmm. I mean, constantly people would

644

01:10:11.130 --> 01:10:16.680

jgreen: Not recognize my trans ness. Right. And that was

645

01:10:18.060 --> 01:10:31.830

jgreen: It was sometimes it's useful and other times it's really damaging. Mm hmm. But anyway, I wrote the report, it was accepted by the Human Rights Commission, it's still available on the Human Rights Commission website.

646

01:10:32.850 --> 01:10:33.450

jgreen: And

647

01:10:34.650 --> 01:10:53.760

jgreen: And it actually the findings and recommendations are remarkably appropriate even today that describe what are the problems that trans people experience and what can be done about it from a municipal standpoint. Right. And the first recommendation was that

648

01:10:55.650 --> 01:11:01.530

jgreen: That we should have a non discrimination ordinance and so that the Human Rights Commission could investigate any complaints and

649

01:11:02.070 --> 01:11:13.800

jgreen: Help to resolve issues because that was one of the big problems right yeah you know trans people would come and complain and they would say, well, we can't. There's nothing we can do. There's nothing in the law that gives us any authority because

650

01:11:14.280 --> 01:11:15.600

jgreen: Anything for you because

651

01:11:16.050 --> 01:11:17.400

jgreen: We don't understand you anyway.

652

01:11:19.110 --> 01:11:19.530

jgreen: So,

653

01:11:22.050 --> 01:11:34.860

jgreen: So anyway, that so then they asked me to go and sit down with a city attorney and draft the ordinance because they wanted to be sure the language was correct, because I did not want anything in there about transgender a transsexual

654

01:11:36.030 --> 01:11:50.910

jgreen: I wanted it to say, gender identity or expression right that because those are universal characteristics that everyone has and no one should be discriminated against, as a result of their gender identity or expression.

655

01:11:52.200 --> 01:11:55.320

Evan Taylor: language we use up here in Canada and our human rights laws so

656

01:11:55.650 --> 01:11:56.370

jgreen: Right, it came

657

01:11:56.970 --> 01:11:57.480

Evan Taylor: From now.

658

01:11:57.690 --> 01:11:58.050

Yep.

659

01:11:59.640 --> 01:12:07.680

jgreen: So that passed at the end of 1994 and then we went into effect 30 days later in January of 95

660

01:12:08.700 --> 01:12:17.580

jgreen: But as soon as it passed, and this was like completely out of the blue. I had no idea. I was going to say this, but I had been thinking

661

01:12:18.990 --> 01:12:32.280

jgreen: About how to handle these insurance exclusions and the fact that people were cut off from medical care and paid into their insurance plans, but then couldn't get any benefits from it, etc, etc.

662

01:12:33.360 --> 01:12:33.840

jgreen: And

663

01:12:34.890 --> 01:12:40.230

jgreen: I'm and I had fought with my own company. I was no longer working there.

664

01:12:41.430 --> 01:12:42.750

jgreen: In 1994 but

665

01:12:44.610 --> 01:12:54.420

jgreen: But the company Sun Microsystems, where I worked when I transitioned. I had fought with them about some of some of their coverage stuff and

666

01:12:56.280 --> 01:13:16.140

jgreen: I didn't win. But, you know, it gave me more food for thought around the issue, right. So this soon as the, the non discrimination ordinance passed, I turned to the Human Rights Commission, guys. And I said, guess what, now you're in violation of your equal benefits ordinance.

667

01:13:17.070 --> 01:13:26.190

jgreen: E, the equal benefits ordinance was their flagship legislation that moved to domestic partner benefits across the entire United States. Okay.

668

01:13:26.610 --> 01:13:42.060

jgreen: Back in the 80s was a huge, huge deal. And they were extremely proud of it. And they had a room full of attorneys examining contracts with with vendors who were trying to do business with the city to make sure that they had

669

01:13:43.950 --> 01:13:45.060

jgreen: Equal benefits.

670

01:13:45.120 --> 01:13:45.720

Evan Taylor: Page.

671

01:13:45.780 --> 01:13:48.300

jgreen: For gay and lesbian people and

672

01:13:49.320 --> 01:13:52.140

jgreen: You know, so I said, now you're in violation of this they went, what

673

01:13:54.060 --> 01:14:10.080

jgreen: What, what do you mean. And I said, well, and having never read any of their insurance policies. I said, likely your insurance policies that you offer to your transgender employees all have exclusions that prevent them from actually accessing the health care that they need and

674

01:14:13.620 --> 01:14:15.390

jgreen: They went, oh my God, wow.

675

01:14:18.270 --> 01:14:18.780

jgreen: And you don't

676

01:14:18.870 --> 01:14:28.290

Evan Taylor: Need to go and read it at that point, you know. Yeah, everybody knew at that point that at least that our community. We all knew that nothing was covered

677

01:14:28.440 --> 01:14:29.490

Evan Taylor: Right, right.

678

01:14:29.700 --> 01:14:32.190

Evan Taylor: Right, I don't need to go read it. I'll just tell you it's there.

679

01:14:32.370 --> 01:14:34.050

jgreen: Yeah, so

680

01:14:36.120 --> 01:14:40.680

jgreen: You know, the big sort of flipped out about it. But then I also said, look,

681

01:14:43.140 --> 01:14:56.100

jgreen: You now have well no, this I'm getting mixed up strike that so I said that at that time 1995 1994 rather end of 94 and

682

01:14:57.360 --> 01:15:04.110

jgreen: They kind of flipped out and then a few years went by, actually, at least two years went by and

683

01:15:06.420 --> 01:15:16.950

jgreen: I think it was two years, maybe it wasn't even quite that long. Anyway, a couple of guys from the FEMA group by that i i was still leading

684

01:15:18.300 --> 01:15:34.440

jgreen: Who lived in the city because I didn't live in San Francisco. So I wasn't always engaged with stuff all the time, but they went to some meeting and they had a big protest about it about insurance and got really angry about access to health care and stuff like that.

685

01:15:35.490 --> 01:15:36.090

jgreen: And

686

01:15:39.240 --> 01:15:40.890

jgreen: At that moment,

687

01:15:42.180 --> 01:15:49.140

jgreen: Somebody went to the reporter WENT TO THE MAYOR'S OFFICE AND THE MAYOR'S OFFICE started referring press calls to me.

688

01:15:51.480 --> 01:15:52.140

jgreen: To my home.

689

01:15:53.550 --> 01:15:54.780

Evan Taylor: Your home number, even my

690

01:15:54.780 --> 01:15:55.260

Home.

691

01:15:56.700 --> 01:16:11.250

jgreen: And you know what's this about you know these demands that San Francisco provide health insurance benefits. And I'm like, Well, I don't know anything about it. But so, but I jumped on it.

692

01:16:12.630 --> 01:16:13.740

jgreen: And we

693

01:16:15.690 --> 01:16:19.080

jgreen: We started meeting with the with the

694

01:16:21.150 --> 01:16:31.500

jgreen: The system health system service board, which is an appointed board of leaders in the community. There's somebody from the fire department somebody from the police department.

695

01:16:31.920 --> 01:16:42.630

jgreen: Somebody the city Treasurer someone from another person from the Board of Supervisors a medical doctor that's appointed by the mayor, these people

696

01:16:44.040 --> 01:16:55.290

jgreen: Do you determine what are the benefits going to be that go into the health insurance plans and we met with them for years.

697

01:16:56.580 --> 01:17:08.580

jgreen: monthly basis for years. And a lot of times you know they they put this on the agenda we gather doctors and therapists and stuff to come in as witnesses testify

698

01:17:09.210 --> 01:17:19.080

jgreen: They and they we'd all be there and then they'd say, Oh, we're gonna have to table this item, sorry, we can't. We don't have time for that. Right.

699

01:17:20.760 --> 01:17:32.370

jgreen: They were trying to get us to go away night and I was not going away. He so it took it took until the year 2000 for us to get

700

01:17:32.850 --> 01:17:45.000

jgreen: Benefits in place into in one of the plans that they offered, but the the thing was I had a theory and the theory was that there should be no cost associated with transgender care.

701

01:17:47.100 --> 01:17:48.060

jgreen: Because

702

01:17:49.200 --> 01:17:56.490

jgreen: There's very small number of people are actually going to use it right relative to the large pool of insured.

703

01:17:57.120 --> 01:18:06.750

jgreen: But Aidan to me dawned on me many years prior that as an individual, I could beat my head against the insurance company wall forever and not accomplish much

704

01:18:07.500 --> 01:18:20.190

jgreen: To make real systemic change the employers are the consumers of insurance policies right they're the ones who make the contract. He they are the ones who have the power. You're the ones who are paying

705

01:18:20.250 --> 01:18:21.840

jgreen: Paying the bills. That's right.

706

01:18:21.900 --> 01:18:23.190

jgreen: They're the ones who are paying the bills.

707

01:18:23.400 --> 01:18:27.750

jgreen: They're the ones who have the leverage to get the insurance companies to do something different.

708

01:18:27.870 --> 01:18:38.130

jgreen: He so I said, you know, my theory was there should be no cost associated with this, the numbers are small utilization will be low and

709

01:18:39.030 --> 01:18:49.680

jgreen: They basically every procedure every treatment or procedure that they are restricting from trans people are already offered and covered for trans people. Right. Yeah.

710

01:18:49.770 --> 01:18:56.340

Evan Taylor: It for for whatever other health conditions that they might, whether it's breast cancer reconstruction and all that stuff. Yep. Yeah.

711

01:18:56.940 --> 01:19:00.510

jgreen: So that was my position and I was going to stick with it.

712

01:19:01.770 --> 01:19:11.130

jgreen: And I pushed and pushed and pushed. And finally, we got something through but and that wasn't exactly what I wanted. Because they put in the \$75,000 cap.

713

01:19:12.510 --> 01:19:20.130

jgreen: One, which I thought was useless and stupid, but it was they were just trying to look as if they're being fiscally responsible

714

01:19:20.430 --> 01:19:20.790

Evan Taylor: Right.

715

01:19:21.090 --> 01:19:28.500

jgreen: Yeah, and but what they're doing is harming people but it's and finally they got rid of that that stuff. But it took many years.

716

01:19:29.580 --> 01:19:33.990

jgreen: But then I there was a guy who

717

01:19:36.000 --> 01:19:41.940

jgreen: Who I knew a gay man who had developed what he called the equality index.

718

01:19:43.380 --> 01:20:00.450

jgreen: And it was a he was into shareholder activism and he developed this equality index and he wanted to get companies to be rated on how good they were around equality issues and he sold that instrument to the Human Rights Campaign.

719

01:20:01.590 --> 01:20:06.540

jgreen: And then in 2000 or 2001. I'm not sure exactly when they sold it, but

720

01:20:07.680 --> 01:20:19.170

jgreen: The first edition of the corporate equality index came out in 2002 okay but he sold it to them with the condition that they always include transgender rights.

721

01:20:20.970 --> 01:20:24.600

jgreen: And transgender issues at the time they were not

722

01:20:26.130 --> 01:20:30.000

jgreen: very adept at that trans issues at all.

723

01:20:31.080 --> 01:20:44.700

jgreen: So the corporate equality index is administered by the workplace project, which is part of the foundation so it's part of the nonprofit educational arm. It's not part of the lobbying arm great and

724

01:20:46.500 --> 01:20:50.100

jgreen: I was invited to join the Business Council.

725

01:20:51.300 --> 01:20:56.910

jgreen: Which is a board level position without a giver. Get that was filled with

726

01:20:58.980 --> 01:21:02.490

jgreen: This board was filled with gay and lesbian people who were

727

01:21:03.870 --> 01:21:15.150

jgreen: usually fairly highly placed in in major corporations around the country and they advised the workplace project on the development of the corporate equality index.

728

01:21:15.750 --> 01:21:32.400

jgreen: And the measures that and how to do education around it and blah, blah, blah. So I was invited to join the Business Council, and so was a trans woman named Donna rose. Okay, who was at the time it was working for Dell in Texas.

729

01:21:34.350 --> 01:21:34.890

jgreen: And

730

01:21:37.320 --> 01:21:46.590

jgreen: And so the two of us. BASICALLY CARRIED THE TRANS flag for the workplace project and using the corporate equality index, we got

731

01:21:47.700 --> 01:21:58.170

jgreen: By 2012 or 13 more than two thirds of all the fortune 500 corporations were offering trans inclusive care.

732

01:21:58.470 --> 01:22:00.090

jgreen: Wow, and

733

01:22:01.530 --> 01:22:13.860

jgreen: I'm in. I met up at a, at a, at a Govt health conference. I've met up with a guy named Andre Wilson, who

734

01:22:15.540 --> 01:22:26.730

jgreen: Knows new newly in transition guy who was a union organizer and he and I became friends because I could see he had

735

01:22:27.810 --> 01:22:39.180

jgreen: Skills that I didn't have and that together we would be able to drive this insurance thing even farther. Yeah. And so he and I from

736

01:22:40.230 --> 01:22:49.860

jgreen: On he and I developed all of the education stuff that HR see used to devote to train corporations and corporate benefits managers.

737

01:22:50.400 --> 01:23:05.940

jgreen: To ask for this coverage to make sure that this coverage was equitably distributed to convince executives that the coverage was necessary, you know, all, all this stuff. We just did a ton of work with them.

738

01:23:07.650 --> 01:23:08.190

jgreen: And

739

01:23:11.100 --> 01:23:11.700

jgreen: Yeah.

740

01:23:12.960 --> 01:23:13.500

jgreen: That was

741

01:23:15.450 --> 01:23:17.730

jgreen: Then in 2014

742

01:23:19.590 --> 01:23:24.630

jgreen: This Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services lifted the exclusion.

743

01:23:25.710 --> 01:23:27.300

jgreen: On transsexual surgery.

744

01:23:28.620 --> 01:23:31.860

jgreen: Which they had had in place since the early 80s.

745

01:23:32.880 --> 01:23:33.540

Evan Taylor: Wow.

746

01:23:34.230 --> 01:23:47.520

jgreen: And I know for a fact. And people say, oh, and then other insurance followed after CMS did this. Well, that's not true insurance was already doing it, that's what gave CMS, the courage to do it.

747

01:23:47.730 --> 01:23:48.390

Right.

748

01:23:49.440 --> 01:23:52.230

Evan Taylor: The the the motivation, if you will. Right.

749

01:23:52.380 --> 01:24:03.840

jgreen: So doctors believe that because CMS opened it up that that this is that insurance is now more widely available right

750

01:24:03.900 --> 01:24:05.100

Evan Taylor: But it happening. Other way around

751

01:24:05.280 --> 01:24:06.090

jgreen: The other way around.

752

01:24:06.510 --> 01:24:14.730

Evan Taylor: Yeah i mean it's it's it's so interesting that, you know, in that way, you're able to sort of leverage the corporate

753

01:24:16.140 --> 01:24:30.840

Evan Taylor: You know, the, the need for the need for capitalism to continue to just sustain itself, you're able to hook into that and harness the in a way of saying this is actually not just this isn't a socially responsible thing. This is financially responsible

754

01:24:30.870 --> 01:24:38.460

jgreen: That's right. Yeah. You've made an investment in your employees you hired them for a reason you're contributing something to your bottom line.

755

01:24:38.760 --> 01:24:46.800

jgreen: You want to make sure your employees are healthy. You want to make sure your employees are getting along, you want to deal with all these things. So hey, you have to do this.

756

01:24:47.130 --> 01:24:55.800

Evan Taylor: Yeah, that's, that's a brilliant. It's a brilliant strategy in that way to do to be basically it's, you know, to use the system against itself.

757

01:24:55.890 --> 01:24:57.330

Right, yeah.

758

01:24:59.310 --> 01:25:00.300

jgreen: Yes, so

759

01:25:01.440 --> 01:25:03.690

jgreen: There's another aspect to this that

760

01:25:04.860 --> 01:25:06.450

So I was just thinking of it. Let me think.

761

01:25:13.470 --> 01:25:15.000

jgreen: It'll come back to me. Sorry.

762

01:25:15.720 --> 01:25:24.240

Evan Taylor: No worries. I was wondering about it, where this connected with your work with w path because you were around in Delhi path all through this time that you're describing here.

763

01:25:24.780 --> 01:25:35.010

jgreen: Well I the first my first W path meeting was the one in the hip big meeting in Vancouver in 97. Okay. And while I was there.

764

01:25:36.990 --> 01:25:38.070

jgreen: There was a revolt.

765

01:25:39.420 --> 01:25:55.530

jgreen: At the meeting and trans people demanded to get pounded on the doors and demanded to get in and listen to the discussion of the forthcoming fifth version of the standards of care, right, and there was literally nothing in the standards. Well,

766

01:25:56.550 --> 01:26:02.220

jgreen: Tiniest mention of breasts. But other than that, nothing that had to do with trans man.

767

01:26:02.670 --> 01:26:04.500

jgreen: Right and

768

01:26:05.550 --> 01:26:11.040

jgreen: You know, everything was geared toward trans women. And so some guys

769

01:26:14.460 --> 01:26:29.760

jgreen: Basically said, look, we need more of this and Stephen Levine, who was the head of that the standards committee at that point stood right there on the stage in front of hundreds of people and pointed at me and said, all right, I'm going to make you an advisor.

770

01:26:30.840 --> 01:26:35.340

jgreen: To the standards and you know you can let us know what we should change.

771

01:26:37.620 --> 01:26:39.360

jgreen: And I'm just like, Oh, fuck.

772

01:26:40.500 --> 01:26:47.160

jgreen: You gave me one week to review the standards document and get him back a

773

01:26:48.930 --> 01:26:57.960

jgreen: Recommendations. So I went through it with a fine tooth comb. I actually stayed up 24 hours doing it made myself ill.

774

01:26:58.770 --> 01:27:08.160

jgreen: sent it off to all the guys I knew who were at the meeting right and asked for their and guys I knew who cared.

775

01:27:09.120 --> 01:27:20.190

jgreen: And who were logical and smart and asked for their feedback and asked for their just make sure I didn't miss anything. And they all came back and said, This is great.

776

01:27:21.030 --> 01:27:28.740

jgreen: And some people said, Oh, you should have this, this, and this, but I did have that I know. But it was very, very fast turnaround.

777

01:27:29.190 --> 01:27:44.250

jgreen: And then, and when I sent it in. I sent it with all our names on it, not just me all our names. So what happens the damn they take the only corrections that I offer that they actually accepted were punctuation.

778

01:27:45.780 --> 01:27:49.050

jgreen: They took literally nothing that I suggested.

779

01:27:50.100 --> 01:28:07.050

jgreen: And Dallas Danny was also an advisor from the MIT male to female perspective, right. So our names are listed in this version five when it was published in 98 as as advisors to the committee and literally

780

01:28:07.140 --> 01:28:14.100

jgreen: I don't know what they if they suggest if they took any of Dallas suggestions. But they took. Literally none of mine. Nothing substantive

781

01:28:15.270 --> 01:28:22.290

jgreen: In 9091, I think it was

782

01:28:24.120 --> 01:28:36.330

jgreen: Was it 91 when the meeting was in London. Okay, and Aaron devor was on the on the standards had been appointed Standards Committee, right, and also

783

01:28:38.430 --> 01:28:40.200

jgreen: And Lawrence was on the committee.

784

01:28:41.520 --> 01:28:51.840

jgreen: And they came to me and asked, I was not allowed to be on the committee I was not allowed on first I have to go back and say back to 97

785

01:28:53.430 --> 01:28:57.240

jgreen: While I was at that meeting several people who are on the board.

786

01:28:58.260 --> 01:29:05.190

jgreen: took me out to dinner and said, You have to join the association, right, we really need you.

787

01:29:06.240 --> 01:29:07.200

jgreen: And I'm like really

788

01:29:08.400 --> 01:29:12.330

jgreen: And they said, well, but you can't join as a full member because you're not a doctor so

789

01:29:14.520 --> 01:29:29.160

jgreen: You have to join as a supporting Member, but you can at least come to the meetings and blah, blah, blah, blah. And I'm like, So, what's the price difference right there supporting Member and they say, oh, it's the same price. And I'm like, Why should I pay the same price for fewer benefits of

790

01:29:29.160 --> 01:29:29.730

jgreen: Membership

791

01:29:29.790 --> 01:29:34.020

jgreen: Come on. So, but I joined. Anyway, as a supporting Member.

792

01:29:35.490 --> 01:29:38.280

jgreen: And I happen to know that for the next

793

01:29:39.870 --> 01:29:40.980

jgreen: Four years.

794

01:29:42.210 --> 01:29:46.530

jgreen: The board argued about whether or not I could be a full member

795

01:29:50.100 --> 01:29:55.890

jgreen: And I know it because one of the board members sent me copies of the email exchanges.

796

01:29:56.100 --> 01:29:57.510

I'm

797

01:29:58.800 --> 01:30:02.040

jgreen: In which I was. It was labeled is

798

01:30:04.770 --> 01:30:08.580

jgreen: An activist who had entirely too much power.

799

01:30:09.540 --> 01:30:15.570

Evan Taylor: Interesting. Yeah, it goes back, back, back, back, that that the dismissive use of that word again.

800

01:30:15.810 --> 01:30:16.170

jgreen: Yep.

801

01:30:16.710 --> 01:30:18.720

Evan Taylor: Mm hmm. Yep.

802

01:30:18.810 --> 01:30:31.680

jgreen: And so, but all of a sudden in 2002 after that whole thing with in 2001 at Galveston right with the language change in 2002 out of the blue, I get a letter from the

803

01:30:32.190 --> 01:30:44.580

jgreen: The membership committee chair, who happened to that time to be Walter boxing right who said, congratulations. You are now a full member and you can vote in the next election and, you know,

804

01:30:45.240 --> 01:30:55.500

Evan Taylor: So is this the sort of thing that the all the protesters in Vancouver were were upset about was that they weren't able to access this inner circle love of clinicians

805

01:30:56.400 --> 01:31:05.580

jgreen: Yes. The meeting was expensive so they all got in without having to pay. I paid I paid even though I wasn't even a member I paid

806

01:31:05.880 --> 01:31:06.270

Evan Taylor: Right.

807

01:31:06.360 --> 01:31:23.340

jgreen: To attend the meeting. I was a presenter and I still paid you know i mean there's everybody pays. So I'm, you know, I wanted to pay my way. And so, but all these guys got in because they found it on the door and which you know is great. I mean, it has to be done.

808

01:31:26.400 --> 01:31:26.940

jgreen: That and

809

01:31:27.120 --> 01:31:31.830

Evan Taylor: Sort of the voice of the voice of reason. But I think that you were the person who was able to

810

01:31:32.430 --> 01:31:46.410

Evan Taylor: Take the know that that that that movement. They were trying to make by literally just getting the door open. You were then able to say, well, that's, you know, since we're opening the door. How about we really opened the door like lead us into the before members, I

811

01:31:47.400 --> 01:31:50.670

jgreen: I didn't say that, um,

812

01:31:52.710 --> 01:31:59.940

jgreen: I didn't say that, but I did question what why they have to why they wanted to be so exclusive

813

01:32:00.510 --> 01:32:02.070

Evan Taylor: What was it for you that motivated you then.

814

01:32:03.060 --> 01:32:08.640

jgreen: Because I believed that we needed more doctors on our side.

815

01:32:10.590 --> 01:32:16.560

jgreen: We needed people to understand us better to meet our needs better

816

01:32:17.670 --> 01:32:18.210

jgreen: And

817

01:32:19.290 --> 01:32:29.970

jgreen: To be more responsive to us and to speak up for us in contexts where we couldn't speak for ourselves. Mm hmm. He

818

01:32:31.500 --> 01:32:32.460

jgreen: And so

819

01:32:33.870 --> 01:32:35.520

jgreen: That's why I wanted to get involved.

820

01:32:40.710 --> 01:32:45.120

jgreen: And then in into so in 2003 they had an election for board and

821

01:32:46.230 --> 01:32:47.460

jgreen: A friend, it's a

822

01:32:48.480 --> 01:32:51.540

jgreen: Therapist in New York City.

823

01:32:52.740 --> 01:32:56.700

jgreen: called me up and said, If I nominate you for the board. Will you accept a nomination. And I said,

824

01:32:58.350 --> 01:32:58.860

Ah,

825

01:33:00.840 --> 01:33:06.390

jgreen: I'm just starting my PhD program. I won't, I won't have time to be on a board.

826

01:33:07.410 --> 01:33:19.350

jgreen: And she said, all the board doesn't do much anyway it all. They only meet once a year. It's like, it's not a big deal. It's just something nice on your resume. She goes, I know you want to be president of this organization someday.

827

01:33:19.740 --> 01:33:25.080

jgreen: It would just be good to get your name out there on the ballot. Nobody ever wins the first time they're on the ballot anyway.

828

01:33:26.070 --> 01:33:38.940

jgreen: Get your name on the ballot get with your little statement about what your vision is for the organization. It'll people will get to know you. And then when you're ready to run for president, you can. I know. Okay, I'll do it. Well, I got elected.

829

01:33:42.060 --> 01:33:42.690

jgreen: It's true.

830

01:33:42.780 --> 01:33:44.070

Evan Taylor: I was not planning on this.

831

01:33:44.190 --> 01:33:51.060

jgreen: Right, I did. I got elected in 2003 to the board and for the first four year term.

832

01:33:52.350 --> 01:33:54.510

jgreen: They hardly spoke to me.

833

01:33:55.920 --> 01:34:01.470

jgreen: The other board members. I mean, it was sometimes in that we only did have one meeting.

834

01:34:03.720 --> 01:34:04.350

jgreen: A year.

835

01:34:05.490 --> 01:34:12.000

jgreen: And actually, at that in that those days. I think we only in the first for the first couple of years, we only had a meeting every two years.

836

01:34:13.980 --> 01:34:20.460

jgreen: 2006 they started having meetings board meetings in the off years okay but

837

01:34:22.800 --> 01:34:37.470

jgreen: Maybe it was 2005 anyway for the first two years there was only one meeting a year and in the first couple of meetings, I was in people, you know, slide start to speak, they would just they look at me and then they turn away. I mean, it was, it was downright rude.

838

01:34:37.830 --> 01:34:38.400

Evan Taylor: Wow.

839

01:34:38.490 --> 01:34:39.060

jgreen: That was

840

01:34:39.780 --> 01:34:50.040

jgreen: The animosity. Yeah, it was like, I don't know if we can listen to you. You're not if you're not a professional. You're not a physician, right.

841

01:34:51.840 --> 01:34:52.290

jgreen: So,

842

01:34:53.520 --> 01:35:01.410

Evan Taylor: And when did that start to shift. I mean, did you ever feel like there was a moment that that that changed or was it always like that.

843

01:35:01.620 --> 01:35:22.170

jgreen: Yeah, it started to shift in 2005 2006 I'm Stephen whittle got elected president in 2007 right well he was actually elected, he became president in 2007 so he was elected in 2005 and then he's president elect for two years. So he's he's there and I'm

844

01:35:24.030 --> 01:35:33.030

jgreen: Also, so he was the first trans person to be president of W path. I'm the second trans person to be president of w, okay, um,

845

01:35:34.200 --> 01:35:43.620

jgreen: And it was that was it. One of our year meetings, I think in 2006 pretty sure it was 2006 at

846

01:35:44.880 --> 01:35:47.100

jgreen: Even had his chair.

847

01:35:48.870 --> 01:35:49.290

jgreen: Okay.

848

01:35:51.870 --> 01:35:55.320

Evan Taylor: Oh yeah, you're cutting out there a little bit in frozen.

849

01:35:58.680 --> 01:35:59.400

Let me just

850

01:36:00.930 --> 01:36:01.350

Know,

851

01:36:02.730 --> 01:36:04.020

Evan Taylor: Pause this for a second.