

WEBVTT

1

00:00:08.130 --> 00:00:09.300

Evan Taylor: Hello. Okay, Emily. Can you hear me.

2

00:00:14.340 --> 00:00:21.990

Evan Taylor: Thank You might be muted, there's, um, I can, I can see that I can see might be talking, whether it seems to be like there may be some sort of mute going on there.

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00:00:26.640 --> 00:00:29.070

Evan Taylor: Just going to pause the recording. While we figure that out.

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00:00:29.640 --> 00:00:32.550

1604****200: Oh, there we are. Yeah, it's unmuted. Yeah. Thank you.

5

00:00:33.210 --> 00:00:36.780

Evan Taylor: Great. Yeah, I figured out how to do that as on my end. Wow.

6

00:00:37.770 --> 00:00:39.390

1604****200: Listen well

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00:00:39.480 --> 00:00:43.110

Evan Taylor: Lovely to have you here. You can you can hear me fine all the audio sign for you.

8

00:00:44.250 --> 00:00:46.320

1604****200: Yeah. Fantastic. You're coming through.

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00:00:46.320 --> 00:00:48.330

Evan Taylor: Great on my end so perfect.

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00:00:48.900 --> 00:00:50.880

1604****200: Adjust my volume a bit so

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00:00:54.060 --> 00:00:54.450

1604****200: Okay.

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00:00:56.640 --> 00:00:57.660

Evan Taylor: Should be OK, now I

13

00:01:01.410 --> 00:01:03.990

Evan Taylor: Think I might have muted myself there, you can still you can still hear me.

14

00:01:04.770 --> 00:01:07.110

1604****200: Yes, I can know it couldn't be for great

15

00:01:07.890 --> 00:01:08.640

Alrighty.

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00:01:09.900 --> 00:01:15.480

Evan Taylor: So now I've got you here. We got this recording going and we make sure that's on. Yes. Everything's recording

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00:01:15.660 --> 00:01:25.050

Evan Taylor: Fantastic. So, um, as you know, you know, we've we've already chatted on the phone for a little bit, but um for folks who might be listening to listening to this in the in the future.

18

00:01:25.320 --> 00:01:36.270

Evan Taylor: And so it's 930 in the morning. Today on Monday, June 29 and I'm Evan Tanner and here in Vancouver and interviewing Kimberly Nixon over the phone. And Kimberly, are you in Vancouver as well today.

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00:01:37.230 --> 00:01:39.780

1604***200: I'm in Vancouver. Yes. Okay. So,

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00:01:40.050 --> 00:01:48.990

Evan Taylor: For the benefit of folks listening at home, we are doing this over zoom today because we are in the middle of a coven crisis and so will be we're not able to meet in person right now so

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00:01:49.380 --> 00:01:56.370

Evan Taylor: Very unusual time in history, but hopefully we'll get to do a video to supplement this later on. And folks will be able to connect that later.

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00:01:57.180 --> 00:01:58.140

1604***200: So wonderful

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00:01:58.650 --> 00:02:06.000

Evan Taylor: What I'll start off today with Kimberly is we'll start off with visa, I know you've seen the guide. So we'll start off some of these sort of demographic questions. You know, just kind of quick

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00:02:06.060 --> 00:02:07.830

Evan Taylor: Things easy on a spouse can form.

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00:02:08.160 --> 00:02:11.340

Evan Taylor: And they're into the, the actual discussion part of it.

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00:02:11.640 --> 00:02:15.480

Evan Taylor: And we might not get to all the questions. You know, it's meant to be kind of a conversation. And we'll see

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00:02:15.780 --> 00:02:19.560

Evan Taylor: See how things go. Just between you know two of us chatting and but yeah

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00:02:21.630 --> 00:02:23.670

Evan Taylor: Any, any last questions for we get started here.

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00:02:24.600 --> 00:02:27.930

1604****200: Um, no, no, all fat already

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00:02:28.110 --> 00:02:33.420

Evan Taylor: And so for the, for the record, you state your name improvements that you use.

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00:02:34.620 --> 00:02:42.630

1604****200: My name is Kimberly Nixon pronoun, or she, her I identify as a white privilege heterosexual female

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00:02:43.890 --> 00:02:48.030

Evan Taylor: And how are you today can really oh my goodness, I am

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00:02:48.870 --> 00:02:52.530

Evan Taylor: 6262 yeah

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00:02:54.150 --> 00:02:57.690

1604****200: Where was I born New New Westminster, British Columbia.

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00:02:58.710 --> 00:02:59.400

Evan Taylor: Local person.

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00:02:59.430 --> 00:03:08.040

1604****200: Not far from where I am, yeah, I'm local now but as it unfolds. I've lived in many, many places.

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00:03:09.000 --> 00:03:11.730

Evan Taylor: Have you lived all over BC. Have you lived inside of you see me live

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00:03:12.870 --> 00:03:13.890

all over Canada.

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00:03:15.060 --> 00:03:23.910

1604****200: Yeah, I moved 22 times growing up with my parents and my dad was worked his way up to

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00:03:25.710 --> 00:03:36.480

1604****200: senior position with the major railway and so we got transferred. He got promoted and transferred about once a year. And so I've lived between

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00:03:37.530 --> 00:03:46.620

1604***200: November Vancouver Prince George Smithers Prince Rupert, and you know, Edmonton, and many places in between and Montreal, a number of times.

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00:03:47.640 --> 00:03:47.910

1604***200: Wow.

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00:03:48.240 --> 00:03:49.170

Evan Taylor: Happened around a lot.

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00:03:50.070 --> 00:03:50.370

1604***200: Yeah.

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00:03:51.060 --> 00:03:52.260

Evan Taylor: How long have you been in BC now.

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00:03:53.610 --> 00:03:56.850

1604***200: Um, well, one of my four major goals in life.

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00:03:58.560 --> 00:04:03.720

1604***200: Was to, you know, sort of work my way back to Vancouver and and

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00:04:04.860 --> 00:04:14.190

1604****200: So I've lived here how you arrived in Vancouver for good. On June 18 1986 just in time for Expo.

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00:04:18.090 --> 00:04:19.860

1604****200: Yeah, it was a great time.

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00:04:20.940 --> 00:04:22.230

Evan Taylor: Did you go, do you have any memories of

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00:04:23.070 --> 00:04:27.000

1604****200: Oh, I have great memories. Yeah, I remember in high. Remember in

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00:04:28.140 --> 00:04:29.190

1604****200: Yeah, in

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00:04:30.240 --> 00:04:43.980

1604****200: Calgary because I moved from Calgary to Vancouver at that time. And I just remember, I was a member of the nightclub and it was called the bank. And I remember Halloween, which was my favorite.

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00:04:45.570 --> 00:04:46.680

1604****200: Time of the year.

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00:04:48.000 --> 00:04:49.590

1604****200: For obvious reasons.

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00:04:51.330 --> 00:04:54.030

1604****200: And so I remember one night there was

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00:04:55.290 --> 00:05:06.840

1604****200: This band playing Ron Hayward and stripes and it was just really it was a really funky kind of band. And it was like one of the best nights of my life is Kimberly and

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00:05:07.680 --> 00:05:29.580

1604****200: I was with a friend and yeah we were dancing upstate on stage this beautiful club with Ron Hayward and stripes all night. So then fast forward I moved to then Vancouver, because I was laid off with the company. I was with and and then went to expo and and lo and behold,

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00:05:30.750 --> 00:05:33.450

1604****200: It was. Was it the

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00:05:35.670 --> 00:05:39.120

1604****200: Oh gee whiz, it was this cell. Think of it, but

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00:05:40.230 --> 00:06:01.560

1604****200: Was oh yeah it was called the 86th Street music hall and it was on the expo science and I paid admission to go to the the Expo. I think 11 times but I ended up only going to the Sixth Street Music Hall because Ron Hayward and stripes were playing at Expo cheering

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00:06:02.580 --> 00:06:10.500

1604****200: You know that that fair. So yeah, it was for me it was a fun time. And yeah, it was just awesome.

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00:06:11.550 --> 00:06:13.470

Evan Taylor: Wow, what a great memory that is

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00:06:15.150 --> 00:06:16.350

Evan Taylor: Thank you so much.

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00:06:18.660 --> 00:06:25.650

Evan Taylor: Tracking to keep moving on with that sounds great. That's a great story. It's exactly the kind of stories. We're trying to record. So thank you. That's perfect.

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00:06:27.210 --> 00:06:27.510

1604****200: Yeah.

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00:06:28.050 --> 00:06:30.150

Evan Taylor: Are you are you employed or retired.

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00:06:31.500 --> 00:06:34.050

1604****200: Um, no. I've been employed, Tom. Gee,

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00:06:36.000 --> 00:06:38.970

1604****200: Why I do, I do many things. It's like, you know,

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00:06:40.290 --> 00:07:00.990

1604****200: We could sort of write a book about the multitude of things I do just career wise that a survival. My main career was always has a pilot so right now with coven it's probably the worst career choice, one could ever have because about 80% of the world's pilots are unemployed now so

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00:07:02.670 --> 00:07:03.090

1604****200: So,

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00:07:04.200 --> 00:07:13.080

1604****200: In the, in the last year, I've been. Yeah, I actually have to go back. I, I started, you know, not another one of my goals and

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00:07:14.100 --> 00:07:29.910

1604****200: You know, one of the four in my life was to fly for a living. And so I started flying when I was 15 and in grade 11 I got my pilot's license. And then when I was 18 and Montreal. I got my commercial pilot's license and then

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00:07:31.470 --> 00:07:50.670

1604****200: How about then it took me about 13 years to get my at JPL, which is an airline transport pilot license, which is qualifies me to fly heavy jets, which is over 100,000 pounds. And so I've spent a you know my life.

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00:07:52.110 --> 00:07:53.310

1604****200: You know my career.

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00:07:54.480 --> 00:08:03.270

1604****200: In the career of, you know, pilots. So I flew. I was a northern pilot. I lived him flew

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00:08:04.200 --> 00:08:15.840

1604****200: Up in Norway house Thompson and Churchill area for four years and I flew mentor back and and up there, serving the northern communities. And then I flew corporates and

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00:08:16.680 --> 00:08:25.350

1604****200: My flute for the second largest oil company in the world out of Calgary and I flew for another company out of Edmonton and

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00:08:26.370 --> 00:08:43.140

1604****200: Flying corporate and doing crew changes some in the oil field. And then I flew for their Canada, the regional carrier which was an RBC and is now jobs and and then I lost my career because of

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00:08:44.190 --> 00:08:44.640

1604****200: You know,

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00:08:46.320 --> 00:08:47.340

1604****200: Basically

82

00:08:48.630 --> 00:09:00.090

1604****200: Having to buy. I couldn't any longer live two lives because I always live one life is Kimberly and then the other big you know because of

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00:09:00.660 --> 00:09:07.590

1604****200: You know career and just, you know, growing up and living and, you know, finding my way as a trans person.

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00:09:08.370 --> 00:09:17.970

1604****200: Because I always identified as female, my whole life. And, you know, was aware that I was female, you know, at age four so

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00:09:18.780 --> 00:09:31.320

1604****200: You know with that it presented challenges career wise because it was something I love so much and sacrifice so much for and and did so much for and it took a lot to get, you know,

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00:09:33.360 --> 00:09:47.880

1604****200: What I got career wise and you know it took 13 years to get my airline transport pilot license, which I would have been the you know the first trans person in Canada.

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00:09:48.510 --> 00:10:05.670

1604****200: To hold that. And, you know, and I would also say that, you know, it's not a very inclusive industries. So, you know, I would never have succeeded in that goal. You know, if, if anyone had been aware that it was trans person.

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00:10:06.300 --> 00:10:06.720

1604****200: Right.

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00:10:07.440 --> 00:10:11.640

Evan Taylor: And what kind of what kind of training or or education do you need to get to that job.

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00:10:14.100 --> 00:10:22.830

1604****200: Well, you can do it through. You can do it through colleges like at that time Selkirk college and casual dar Mount Royal College in Calgary.

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00:10:24.060 --> 00:10:32.970

1604****200: Mount and Mount Royal University. And then there was, you know, a couple of others Excel Kurt college. The I believe in Thunder Bay.

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00:10:34.110 --> 00:10:41.430

1604****200: And there was a you know a couple of other colleges across the country, or I started so young that

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00:10:42.600 --> 00:10:51.630

1604****200: You know, I did it through flight schools and and then to supplement that I went to university in in Winnipeg.

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00:10:52.740 --> 00:10:55.830

1604****200: And I took physical education.

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00:10:57.330 --> 00:11:09.930

1604****200: At University of Manitoba on some. And so basically you know they required post secondary education major airlines.

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00:11:11.310 --> 00:11:16.380

1604****200: And and so I sort of combined the two. I also have, you know, other

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00:11:17.850 --> 00:11:23.610

1604****200: Education over time to start a survival, you know, as a trans woman.

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00:11:24.780 --> 00:11:30.600

1604****200: I, you know, experiencing lifelong discrimination and prejudice.

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00:11:31.710 --> 00:11:47.160

1604****200: You know, I had to retrain many times and I i have a diploma and automated office technology and I've worked in that area for for time and I have a

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00:11:48.240 --> 00:12:00.510

1604****200: Certificate in construction and renovations and I spent 24 years as a carpenter carpenter and I restored with my partner over 63 major landmarks around the Lower Mainland here.

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00:12:01.680 --> 00:12:05.640

1604****200: You know, like for 10 your mind Museum, the windows window frames.

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00:12:06.660 --> 00:12:18.000

1604****200: I personally restored almost all the historic would work inside the Christchurch Cathedral, which is the old oldest landmark and Vancouver. We did 11 hotels full exterior restoration

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00:12:19.110 --> 00:12:20.910

1604****200: In gas town and

104

00:12:22.230 --> 00:12:25.650

1604****200: The armory down by the arch bridge.

105

00:12:26.940 --> 00:12:39.690

1604****200: The Chinese conflicts, most recently we restored the exterior and 650 windows and doors and and window frames and the kid salon or secondary school

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00:12:40.800 --> 00:12:47.700

1604****200: So I also have a peer counseling certificate from battered women's support services so

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00:12:48.810 --> 00:12:49.410

Evan Taylor: And this is all

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00:12:50.190 --> 00:13:10.770

1604****200: I did what I had to do you know employment wise or to be able to be employed as a trans woman, but it was very difficult and sometimes you can. It doesn't matter what education, you have, you know, if you're a person of color or first nation or in Indigenous person.

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00:13:12.420 --> 00:13:29.370

1604****200: Or trans person gay or lesbian, sometimes it doesn't matter what education you have and no matter what you do or what you have. It's never good enough and and i found even yeah yeah have the highest marks.

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00:13:30.480 --> 00:13:42.060

1604****200: None of that matters or none of it matters for, you know, great periods of time until you find the right person, which often you know in my life took

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00:13:42.540 --> 00:13:53.190

1604****200: Often, you know, a number of years to find that right person that would give you an opportunity and see beyond the trends issue or the race issue or

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00:13:54.930 --> 00:14:04.050

1604****200: You know, so on and so on and so on. So if you're up a marginalized group and it doesn't matter. Basically what education you have for or what you do sometimes.

113

00:14:04.350 --> 00:14:05.160

1604****200: Yeah yeah

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00:14:06.210 --> 00:14:09.960

Evan Taylor: Is this this restoration work. Is this what you're currently what you do right now.

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00:14:11.490 --> 00:14:23.610

1604****200: I've, I've done the restoration. I did it with my partner for 24 years but I had often you know with flying. I lost my flying career for

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00:14:24.060 --> 00:14:32.460

1604****200: About 24 years because of the discrimination and it took 24 years to actually get by, I always kept up on my flying

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00:14:33.360 --> 00:14:51.930

1604****200: And with hopes of returning as a career and but it took 24 years for that to happen. And so the you know the first company that I was given an opportunity with was Pacific coastal in you know out of Vancouver and

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00:14:54.210 --> 00:14:57.300

1604****200: And then there was another smaller company, but some

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00:14:58.620 --> 00:15:05.190

1604****200: You know i i mean you know before I flew for some really

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00:15:06.420 --> 00:15:08.190

1604****200: Good credible.

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00:15:09.570 --> 00:15:14.280

1604****200: Companies and then you know now because of

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00:15:15.420 --> 00:15:28.530

1604****200: I shouldn't say now because I've spent a lifetime as a woman, but but it's you know it's it's especially, it is very difficult for for me any minority or

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00:15:29.700 --> 00:15:35.670

1604****200: For women in particular in the industry and the industry. And so there's very few, actually.

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00:15:36.750 --> 00:15:37.410

1604****200: Companies

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00:15:38.460 --> 00:15:46.380

1604****200: That will hire women so I can still name a handful, just a handful, you know, in the country that

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00:15:47.670 --> 00:15:48.150

1604****200: Hire

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00:15:49.410 --> 00:15:50.130

1604****200: hire women.

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00:15:51.180 --> 00:16:02.250

1604****200: Or make any effort to at all. So as a trans woman and probably being the the first held the type of licenses and with the experience that I had

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00:16:02.910 --> 00:16:22.560

1604****200: It was still it was such an uphill road and I knew that along, even from, you know, four years old. I knew that you know as soon as someone might become aware of that. I was trans or someone is trans then ultimately, especially back then you would basically lose everything.

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00:16:23.340 --> 00:16:23.850

Evan Taylor: Right.

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00:16:24.810 --> 00:16:30.420

Evan Taylor: And so you've kept your app you're you're flying license. All this time, like your, your licenses are, you know,

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00:16:30.540 --> 00:16:31.830

Evan Taylor: Oh, yeah, yeah.

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00:16:31.860 --> 00:16:38.610

1604****200: I've kept my license up. Yeah. Well, I did, I did get I flew professionally, again, as I said, for

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00:16:40.200 --> 00:16:43.170

1604****200: A short time and then I pursued other

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00:16:44.340 --> 00:16:46.020

1604****200: You know, other

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00:16:48.210 --> 00:17:00.630

1604****200: Jobs in within the industry. So I like kept up with flying all along, you know, for last 12 years I've owned my own airplane. And so that's what I did for

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00:17:02.580 --> 00:17:04.890

1604****200: You know, in order to keep my skills up

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00:17:06.120 --> 00:17:06.720

1604****200: And

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00:17:08.040 --> 00:17:20.850

1604****200: So I was fortunate that way. I mean most of my life, life I've lived in, you know, poverty, basically. And, and so there's been a lot of hard times. It's just been really, you know,

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00:17:23.790 --> 00:17:24.180

1604****200: Oh,

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00:17:26.010 --> 00:17:27.960

1604****200: I've been really creative. I guess.

142

00:17:28.980 --> 00:17:31.320

1604****200: To be able to

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00:17:32.400 --> 00:17:55.830

1604****200: You know afford that. And so basically I everything I had, I put into being able to do that and finding a way like so. So I ended up you know I had a pretty amazing airplane, which it was a vintage World War 219 46 so high performance.

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00:17:57.660 --> 00:17:59.010

1604****200: Aircraft that was

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00:18:01.320 --> 00:18:23.880

1604****200: Yeah, it was here had a lot of a lot of history. It was flown and signed by the last surviving Japanese world war two as war is not is not a good thing. But historically. The fact is that, you know, the plane was flown and signed by Subaru AFI and he was some really well respected by

146

00:18:25.050 --> 00:18:25.350

1604****200: The

147

00:18:26.670 --> 00:18:40.110

1604****200: his peers and the pilot study was fighting against actually came over to North America and toured around and met many as a pilot said he had fought against and so yeah it was

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00:18:41.550 --> 00:18:48.480

1604****200: Quite a privilege to have the air airplane that I had and enjoy flying it so

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00:18:49.500 --> 00:18:56.880

1604****200: For many years, so that's how I kept my skills up. It was a challenging airplane to fly and

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00:18:57.900 --> 00:19:09.300

1604****200: So I kept my skills up that way in hopes of, you know, returning to you know that as a career and and also had a lot of fun doing it.

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00:19:10.530 --> 00:19:12.870

1604****200: And you know, I also have many friends.

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00:19:14.790 --> 00:19:26.100

1604****200: And you know in in having fear across Tyson I reconnected with many of the people that I worked for or worked with in the past and

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00:19:26.700 --> 00:19:38.850

1604****200: And so, yeah, it was kind of like a full circle thing and you know they've been really supportive of me there they're people that, wouldn't you wouldn't least expect to be supportive, but

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00:19:39.360 --> 00:19:48.570

1604****200: They knew me and respected me and yeah and so they became you know once again my circle of friends. So it was time it's wonderful that way.

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00:19:49.680 --> 00:19:55.050

1604****200: To answer your question. I've done many things I worked for a

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00:19:56.070 --> 00:20:06.330

1604****200: Company arrow mag I worked on the the the icing pad. I was a brown controller brown controller why PR airports.

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00:20:08.070 --> 00:20:09.450

1604****200: In the control tower.

158

00:20:11.730 --> 00:20:21.150

1604****200: Through the through the season. The and doing the di thing and then the hive works. I was in the

159

00:20:22.740 --> 00:20:25.320

1604****200: airfield, and in the fire departments.

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00:20:26.460 --> 00:20:46.860

1604****200: Why VR for the past year and then I changed jobs and I was doing maintenance and and working as a carpenter as well in the terminal at why VR when covert 19 hits. So right now I'm just waiting it out and I'm just trying to

161

00:20:48.060 --> 00:21:03.330

1604****200: Yeah, because, yeah, I think in one day and why VR 33,000 people were laid off because it's cold in 19 I I sort of whether it is a longer than most, but, you know. So now, and also in in that situation.

162

00:21:04.440 --> 00:21:06.960

1604****200: So I'm sort of yeah I'm getting close to

163

00:21:08.430 --> 00:21:16.410

1604****200: My 65 years. And yeah, it's not that that's going to be any you know

164

00:21:17.910 --> 00:21:18.450

1604****200: A good

165

00:21:19.620 --> 00:21:22.200

1604****200: I'm not really, you know, it's pretty uncertain.

166

00:21:23.310 --> 00:21:28.020

1604****200: aging. Aging, you know, as a trans person and you know the

167

00:21:29.580 --> 00:21:46.170

1604****200: So yeah, that that part's pretty uncertain and but I am just trying to cross that finish line and then just sort of see where life takes me, you know, if I find something that it is I want to do and enjoy doing. Then I'll continue doing it.

168

00:21:47.700 --> 00:21:53.850

Evan Taylor: And what about you know how health wise, do you deal with any disabilities of any kind.

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00:21:54.930 --> 00:21:58.650

1604****200: I know I don't. I've been very fortunate that way. Right.

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00:21:59.310 --> 00:22:04.200

Evan Taylor: And you mentioned you mentioned a partner. So do you have a partner deal. What's your relationship or family.

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00:22:04.200 --> 00:22:17.670

1604****200: Status. Um, my, my work partner. Actually, I went back, I went back to school in 1995 for construction and renovation and and then I worked really hard.

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00:22:18.570 --> 00:22:29.820

1604****200: At school, I was the only woman in the class and and it was a pretty tough class. So it was quite the experience. But yeah, it was a good experience for me.

173

00:22:31.020 --> 00:22:46.920

1604****200: And then when I was just about finished the course and of course I I went on a practical and the school counselor at the time knew of a company that would give women and opportunities so

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00:22:47.760 --> 00:22:57.330

1604****200: They had sent to other women to this company in the past for practical and so that's where I went. And so

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00:22:58.860 --> 00:23:09.300

1604****200: I yeah it's when it was, you know, pretty scary first day, but some it went really well. He turned out being super nice.

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00:23:10.500 --> 00:23:11.400

1604****200: And over

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00:23:12.480 --> 00:23:22.200

1604****200: When I finished the course he hired me and, you know, we work together for 24 years he was my life partner, actually. So after

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00:23:23.340 --> 00:23:38.010

1604****200: About two years of working together than then he you know we had a relationship we were together for about eight years and you know and and I also was

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00:23:38.640 --> 00:23:52.200

1604****200: Able to experience the have two daughters. So, you know, she spent half of her time with us. So I was able to experience that part, which was a wonderful experience for me and

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00:23:53.550 --> 00:23:59.460

1604****200: And so anyway, yeah, we still really we we aren't together relationship wise.

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00:24:00.900 --> 00:24:14.790

1604****200: Me at this point. But we're still close friends and yeah very close friends and and we still see each other often yeah I've had to to long term relationships, relationships,

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00:24:17.190 --> 00:24:18.900

1604****200: And yeah oh

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00:24:20.520 --> 00:24:27.180

Evan Taylor: And what about 10 sort of, is there a folks in your in your life that are sort of very close people that are chosen family that are important to know that.

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00:24:29.190 --> 00:24:29.730

I'm

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00:24:31.110 --> 00:24:32.100

1604****200: That I'm

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00:24:33.270 --> 00:24:37.380

1604****200: My own my own family. Yeah.

187

00:24:37.410 --> 00:24:42.840

Evan Taylor: Yeah, I mean books. And one of the things I try and do in the oral history. It's just going to get an idea of

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00:24:42.900 --> 00:24:45.060

Evan Taylor: What Fox is family, family life. It's like

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00:24:46.320 --> 00:24:50.310

1604****200: Oh, my family. You mean like growing up I know know

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00:24:50.610 --> 00:24:53.820

Evan Taylor: Currently, so you know do you live with. Do you live with folks do you have

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00:24:54.150 --> 00:24:55.980

Evan Taylor: Do you have any kids. Is that sort of thing.

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00:24:57.690 --> 00:25:02.820

1604****200: No, I'm I'm oh my bird. Pardon me. If a parent. Oh there she goes.

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00:25:08.010 --> 00:25:11.250

1604****200: Little darling. I'll be right back. No problem.

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00:25:28.050 --> 00:25:34.080

1604****200: Sorry everyone my bird went on walkabout and yeah so now. Now we may continue.

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00:25:36.780 --> 00:25:47.160

1604****200: So, so yeah, I am now. Presently I live on my own and a houseful animal and um yeah but um

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00:25:49.980 --> 00:25:50.400

Evan Taylor: The mortgage

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00:25:51.540 --> 00:25:52.950

My dog. I have a pug.

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00:25:54.420 --> 00:25:55.200

1604****200: Named Marie.

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00:25:57.150 --> 00:25:59.340

Evan Taylor: Named marine marine

200

00:25:59.670 --> 00:26:00.630

Evan Taylor: Marine marine

201

00:26:01.590 --> 00:26:04.620

1604****200: Marine marine. Ah, okay.

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00:26:06.360 --> 00:26:09.420

1604****200: Awesome. Yeah. Yeah, I think that's all

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00:26:10.200 --> 00:26:20.910

Evan Taylor: Around identity is there other and if anything, I didn't ask you about around sort of identity or your you know just how you move in the world as a person that's important that I know before we got to the activism pieces.

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00:26:23.220 --> 00:26:23.940

Oh,

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00:26:25.980 --> 00:26:27.480

1604****200: Yeah, I don't really

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00:26:29.610 --> 00:26:41.400

1604****200: I mean, I've always has, as I said, I'm kind of like on the far end of the spectrum, I, you know, I'm on the spectrum of identifying

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00:26:43.200 --> 00:26:46.590

1604****200: solace was female and as a woman, so

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00:26:47.640 --> 00:26:51.900

1604****200: I know there's, you know, many that you know that

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00:26:54.270 --> 00:27:00.900

1604****200: Identify and in many other ways. So, but that's how I identify and always have

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00:27:02.280 --> 00:27:03.030

1604****200: So,

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00:27:04.590 --> 00:27:05.850

1604****200: Yeah, early on.

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00:27:07.380 --> 00:27:09.060

1604****200: You know, in the 70s, 80s.

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00:27:11.190 --> 00:27:13.050

1604****200: Things were much, much different.

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00:27:14.490 --> 00:27:35.580

1604****200: I mean, there was no support whatsoever. There was really no role model role model. I only had I guess I only had to, I was always Kimberly when I could like growing up from when I was like four or five and six and and you know if I ever skipped school. It was to be Kimberly so

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00:27:36.870 --> 00:27:39.330

1604****200: It was kind of like really, really difficult.

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00:27:41.700 --> 00:27:56.370

1604****200: You know, growing, growing up with with the this knowledge and the fact of my identity and that I I could never let anyone you know know otherwise. Yeah, for obvious reasons. So

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00:27:57.930 --> 00:28:01.860

1604****200: And and but it's quite different growing up.

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00:28:03.000 --> 00:28:05.010

1604****200: You know, as, as

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00:28:06.540 --> 00:28:10.290

1604****200: A girl inside a boy's body or women you know

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00:28:11.640 --> 00:28:21.600

1604****200: It's, it's quite different. It's, you know, I guess we can talk about that kind of stuff down the road, but you know there's such a double standard that

221

00:28:22.590 --> 00:28:38.970

1604****200: You know, trans people are blamed for, you know, the, you know, their in their words that you know as an adult. We choose make a choice to live one way or another. But that's not the case. Usually, you know,

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00:28:40.500 --> 00:28:46.380

1604****200: And and from my experience, you know, we're we're born this way and

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00:28:47.490 --> 00:28:51.090

1604****200: So, you know, it's a very much a double standard that

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00:28:52.230 --> 00:29:01.860

1604****200: It's often used against us when it's out of our control. Certainly we would want to live our lives as we feel

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00:29:03.900 --> 00:29:12.780

1604****200: is best for us and but there's so many hurdles and roadblocks and and in fact there is no help for us. It's only

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00:29:13.290 --> 00:29:29.190

1604****200: And only improved, you know, in recent years, where, you know, maybe a young team before purity might get a little support. But, you know, it was, it wasn't legal to do anything. You know, if you were under 18 or 19

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00:29:30.240 --> 00:29:31.800

1604****200: So, and yet.

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00:29:33.300 --> 00:29:43.710

1604****200: You know, it's often, you know, used by many against us, you know that we sort of find our way more so as an adult.

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00:29:45.720 --> 00:29:48.810

Evan Taylor: And how old were you when you started living full time is Kimberly.

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00:29:50.250 --> 00:29:53.250

1604****200: Um, well, I, you know, because you know I

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00:29:55.080 --> 00:29:58.590

1604****200: Have the privilege of having that flying career.

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00:29:59.730 --> 00:30:02.580

1604****200: And that was like kept me going, I sort of

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00:30:04.800 --> 00:30:09.120

1604****200: The way I was able to cope with the awareness of

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00:30:11.610 --> 00:30:12.150

1604****200: Being

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00:30:13.200 --> 00:30:18.720

1604****200: A transsexual in my case was I for submerge myself and for

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00:30:19.740 --> 00:30:29.610

1604****200: And growing up. So I became proficient many sports probably four or five sports. I was very proficient in that competed

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00:30:31.620 --> 00:30:35.610

1604****200: In and I can I, you know, skiing,

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00:30:37.740 --> 00:30:46.830

1604****200: Skiing I swam competitively up to the university level and and then in golf since I was three I

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00:30:47.910 --> 00:30:50.490

1604****200: I played because my dad was

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00:30:52.560 --> 00:30:53.790

1604****200: An extremely good

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00:30:54.990 --> 00:31:11.010

1604****200: Player and and he's competed so I sort of that rubbed off on me and as well as spending, you know, the amazing time that I spent with him, growing up. Then I also competed my whole life involved and

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00:31:12.150 --> 00:31:24.510

1604****200: Ultimately, you know, that's all other story but like in Vancouver. I competed for 13 years and I was ranked or I wasn't the top four lowest handicap.

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00:31:26.520 --> 00:31:38.190

1604****200: Women in in the province and I, it doesn't, it's not a good word to use. But that's what they call it, I, I played I competed at the elite amateur level as I chose you know

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00:31:38.670 --> 00:32:01.050

1604****200: Between the career of golf and flying so I played that that level of professional level in golf, but I chose to remain amateur and so I competed previously. I was my one the provincial team trials and I competed and place at a high level, eventually

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00:32:02.280 --> 00:32:06.750

1604****200: You know, BC women's amateur farming Association.

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00:32:07.020 --> 00:32:09.000

Evan Taylor: And I recall Barbara mentioned something about

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00:32:10.680 --> 00:32:11.880

Evan Taylor: You guys had to do.

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00:32:13.260 --> 00:32:24.690

1604****200: Well, I was a member member of the CL GA and then and I was actually a member of which is the it was then the Canadian ladies golf Association, which unfortunately

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00:32:26.040 --> 00:32:44.040

1604****200: I, you know, as a feminist. I think it should have been the Canadian women's golf association, but that's the way it was. And you know, I was also a member of the LP GA teaching division for time and then I was a member for as I said 13 years I was

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00:32:45.510 --> 00:33:08.340

1604****200: In I was a member of the CL GA for over 13 years and and then for almost all of those years, they weren't aware of a transgender woman competing or being a member. And so at the time now PGA 20 years ago that they all time at the time the LPG a part in LA anti

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00:33:09.960 --> 00:33:13.260

1604****200: Trans policy and it

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00:33:14.370 --> 00:33:15.510

1604****200: Is changed now.

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00:33:17.010 --> 00:33:27.420

1604****200: To be inclusive, but they were excluding transsexual women from competing at the time. So this plda actually follow that policy, but they didn't know actually what they were.

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00:33:29.550 --> 00:33:41.700

1604****200: You know, voting on at the time to exclude trans women from competing. So I sort of had to put my hand up. And so after being there for almost 13 years

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00:33:42.480 --> 00:33:56.490

1604****200: And then not being aware that there was a trans women competing all one. Then I put my hand up and you know how to address that issue within the organization. So Barbara and I Barbara me

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00:33:57.930 --> 00:34:14.400

1604****200: And I, you know, spend about a year back and forth quietly and they they actually, you know, in contrast to other organizations, they were very respectful and so the outcome was that they voted.

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00:34:15.840 --> 00:34:36.510

1604****200: To change that policy and be inclusive and then since now there is no no longer a CL GA. It's now under the RC GA. And so the RC GA has also adopted an inclusive policies so trends trends sexual woman can compete.

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00:34:38.460 --> 00:34:42.990

1604****200: With their peers. So that was another

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00:34:44.220 --> 00:34:47.880

1604****200: You know road, I had to go down and and you know

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00:34:49.680 --> 00:34:50.820

1604****200: Make make change.

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00:34:51.840 --> 00:34:53.550

Evan Taylor: Thank you for that piece of work. I think that's a really

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00:34:53.550 --> 00:35:01.980

Evan Taylor: IMPORTANT PIECE. The, the athletic trans inclusion piece is something that I'm thinking in 50 years. Hundred years when someone's listening to this, right.

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00:35:02.160 --> 00:35:03.330

Evan Taylor: They're going to be there, we know

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00:35:03.750 --> 00:35:08.490

Evan Taylor: They're going to look back at us something. What were you doing right this is very the early years of that. So the interesting to see.

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00:35:08.490 --> 00:35:10.650

1604****200: Yeah, folks thinking about task when they're listening to

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00:35:10.650 --> 00:35:11.490

Evan Taylor: Some 50 years

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00:35:12.360 --> 00:35:20.550

1604****200: Yeah. Well, I think the, you know what I did. And the way I went about it sort of proved all the stereotypes and generalization in

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00:35:21.030 --> 00:35:39.330

1604****200: In, you know, many things that I participated in it proved them wrong. And, you know, so, you know, the whole thing about, you know, unfair advantage and all that. Well, I mean, even the IOC has an inclusive policy, you know, for the Olympics, so

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00:35:40.410 --> 00:35:40.920

1604****200: You know,

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00:35:42.630 --> 00:35:56.070

1604****200: After all, it is just a sport. And then secondly, you know, it's how someone identifies so if if you identify as a woman. I mean, I became

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00:35:56.640 --> 00:36:05.250

1604****200: A scratch golfer for 13 years and most of my life, you know, I was between a handicap of between zero and two, which is just so

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00:36:05.880 --> 00:36:25.650

1604****200: The lowest you can get. And so I had to play and practice six days a week, which I did you know most of my life afterwards. That's where I would go and that's what I would do so because my handicap was zero. I had no hand account. So I played this play on

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00:36:27.930 --> 00:36:43.200

1604****200: A level where there was no margin for error. So if I made an error, then it would kind of like put me right out of it. So it kind of was it even the playing field so I had to play my best all the time.

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00:36:44.220 --> 00:36:58.950

1604****200: You know and and relied on no handicap for for what I accomplished, and so it would be, you know, in, in that regard, people wouldn't say that I had an advantage right

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00:36:59.820 --> 00:37:13.590

1604****200: Also the criteria is, you know, for the criteria varies in sports, you know, the IOC I think two years on hormones and and that's kind of what is even the playing field as well so

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00:37:14.640 --> 00:37:27.150

1604****200: You know, sometimes it's different for different organizations, but that's that's kind of like the basis of, of, you know, the, the criteria for competition.

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00:37:28.080 --> 00:37:41.460

1604****200: And so everything that you know i i did was just through hard work and and you know you know practice and and playing. It's like I earned. What I achieved.

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00:37:43.830 --> 00:37:44.910

Evan Taylor: What was the first

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00:37:45.420 --> 00:37:52.050

Evan Taylor: You know that the first time that you found yourself in a place where you had to do some kind of activism or advocacy for yourself as a trans person.

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00:37:53.460 --> 00:37:54.060

1604****200: Um,

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00:37:55.260 --> 00:37:56.670

1604****200: Well, I was certainly

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00:37:57.780 --> 00:37:59.580

1604****200: certainly aware of

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00:38:00.720 --> 00:38:18.540

1604****200: You know, being marginalized or, you know, my whole life and and I as I referred to, you know, growing up as a female in a boy's body is quite different than growing up as a boy in a boy's body or vice versa.

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00:38:21.270 --> 00:38:21.930

1604****200: So,

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00:38:24.960 --> 00:38:29.250

1604****200: I knew you know there would be obviously

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00:38:30.810 --> 00:38:45.240

1604****200: Barriers I had and I just say I guess because of, you know, my family growing up, my mom and dad, I had a wonderful childhood and and wonderful parents and sister.

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00:38:46.650 --> 00:38:51.060

1604****200: But especially. Yeah, my mom and dad growing up was just

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00:38:52.590 --> 00:39:06.600

1604****200: Wonderful. The end. That was good and bad in that the reason you know it took me. I live two lives for so long was I didn't want to hurt my mom and dad and

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00:39:08.250 --> 00:39:11.460

1604****200: So as many of us feel

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00:39:12.870 --> 00:39:16.830

1604****200: And if we're so lucky to have wonderful parents and

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00:39:18.510 --> 00:39:32.550

1604****200: So that was the main reason. And so I really didn't want to hurt them. I remember my dad. I was playing house with a neighborhood friend when I was six. And so I had a sister, so I would

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00:39:33.960 --> 00:39:41.430

1604****200: Be Me by obviously using her clothes and I remember that.

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00:39:42.480 --> 00:39:43.590

1604****200: You know, I was playing house.

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00:39:44.880 --> 00:39:45.180

1604****200: With

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00:39:46.350 --> 00:39:51.360

1604****200: My neighborhood friend. And when I was six and and I remember that.

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00:39:52.890 --> 00:40:13.320

1604****200: Yeah, we were in the bedroom and it was just all innocent stuff. And I remember, then my dad was checking on us to see what we're up to. And I'm like, Oh my God, it was like the worst feeling in the world and and then I tried to get my friend to sort of stall before opening the door to

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00:40:13.860 --> 00:40:14.850

1604****200: A lock on it.

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00:40:15.570 --> 00:40:20.160

1604****200: Was like, oh my god, I ran into the closet.

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00:40:28.020 --> 00:40:31.080

1604****200: Yeah, no, I literally ran in the closet.

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00:40:31.530 --> 00:40:35.730

1604****200: And I, I told. Robert, you know, like, wait, wait.

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00:40:35.940 --> 00:40:47.610

1604****200: As long as you can. Don't open the door going over and it was trying to undress and then change back into my clothes. But yeah, I was too late. Before you know Robert I had to open the door. My dad, open the door and then you look and he's like,

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00:40:48.570 --> 00:41:07.020

1604****200: Oh my horn, we pretty and, you know, yeah. And then, and then that was it. And then he never said anything ever again. He never thought anything actually never even remembered it. It was just like, you know, he just thought kids playing so I'm like, but I felt so horrible.

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00:41:08.550 --> 00:41:08.820

1604****200: And

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00:41:10.710 --> 00:41:19.680

1604****200: And then I, I just, yeah I swore in that moment, you know that no one would ever find out ever again. And so I just

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00:41:19.950 --> 00:41:32.130

1604****200: Kept it to my myself. But, you know, like I said earlier, you know, I would take every time growing up that I could to be me in that way and

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00:41:33.000 --> 00:41:41.730

1604****200: And it yeah you know ultimately growing up and and living two lives. It was just as wasn't about the clothes. It was like your

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00:41:42.510 --> 00:42:02.610

1604****200: Gender identity and my body didn't match how identifies and when I looked in the mirror, as you know if it was even if it was as good as you know even if you were fortunate. However, you were born. It didn't matter if it wasn't right. I mean nothing to me and

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00:42:03.690 --> 00:42:15.030

1604****200: And so it just, it's, it's just something that's innate and it's not something you can sort of invented in and create or choose multiple choice.

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00:42:15.480 --> 00:42:29.580

1604****200: It just is. And, and nothing can be. And yeah, nothing can sort of Q decide, is it just happens naturally in nature and, you know, Nature takes its course and

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00:42:30.000 --> 00:42:48.330

1604****200: In this regard, and eventually for me, you know, we all hit the wall and have to do. Do something about it or it'll destroy us. So, I mean, you know, many of us aren't so fortunate and there's many ramifications to this, you know, like suicide and many other

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00:42:50.010 --> 00:42:50.670

1604****200: Parallels

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00:42:52.080 --> 00:42:56.280

1604****200: And and so if you're strong enough and you know and

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00:42:57.480 --> 00:43:04.680

1604****200: Believe in yourself and you find a way and. And yeah, it's just survival so

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00:43:06.180 --> 00:43:12.690

Evan Taylor: When did you first find out about the idea of transsexuality like did you meet somebody did you read a magazine. Where do you first.

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00:43:13.830 --> 00:43:19.410

1604****200: Yeah, that's a good question because I've served in in you know in in many areas.

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00:43:20.640 --> 00:43:37.560

1604****200: A leader. I've tried to be a leader. All my life in no matter what I did and but there was no literally no role models, you know, in the 60s, 70s, 80s, 90s well

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00:43:38.490 --> 00:43:52.650

1604****200: And so the first time I saw anyone like myself was I think I was 11 and it was on every Sunday night there was the Dean Martin show and

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00:43:56.190 --> 00:44:08.490

1604****200: And he that that particular night he had a he was having a roast. And one of the one of the guests on the Rose was Dr. Renee Richards and so

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00:44:09.120 --> 00:44:29.520

1604****200: That was the first time and Dr. Renee Richards was also a tennis player and sort of broke that barrier in the states or through tennis and sports as well and and so that was the first first person that I identified with that. I'm like, oh my goodness, like I'm like her, and

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00:44:31.410 --> 00:44:33.300

1604****200: So that was quite

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00:44:34.770 --> 00:44:43.980

1604****200: A revelation and a relief and and then, you know, further down the road, probably in the 80s.

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00:44:45.180 --> 00:44:45.900

1604****200: Then

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00:44:47.130 --> 00:45:07.020

1604****200: I guess the main role model. I would have had or someone I can identify with was too long for Caroline tossing and there's the ass so I managed to find a book that she had written and she was the first person to have

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00:45:08.820 --> 00:45:14.670

1604****200: A case based around birth certificate in the UK and

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00:45:16.230 --> 00:45:21.090

1604****200: I guess first time around. It wasn't successful, but that was when I

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00:45:23.130 --> 00:45:31.950

1604****200: Became aware of her and and then totally identified with her. And so when I because she was a transsexual woman and

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00:45:33.240 --> 00:45:47.940

1604****200: Then she also shared in her book her experience of going through the surgery, which was always like terrifying and you know for some people they, you know, surgery is right for them and for others who identify maybe don't non-binding visionary or

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00:45:49.380 --> 00:45:50.730

1604****200: Anyone, anyone

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00:45:52.230 --> 00:45:53.310

1604****200: In particular,

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00:45:54.750 --> 00:46:07.530

1604****200: You know, some that that may not be right for them. So, but for me it was. And so, you know, to be able to read, but, you know, one could expect. And it was a very scary time, you know, I went to

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00:46:09.450 --> 00:46:13.890

1604****200: There was only four places in the world. You could go for surgery.

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00:46:15.270 --> 00:46:15.840

1604****200: And

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00:46:17.670 --> 00:46:28.560

1604****200: Fearing you know the decades that I was sort of finding my way and. And so I went to Montreal. And so I was only the second

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00:46:29.700 --> 00:46:30.690

1604****200: I was the second

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00:46:31.770 --> 00:46:32.370

1604****200: Trans

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00:46:33.600 --> 00:46:45.600

1604****200: Person woman or young trans woman that the doctor performed surgery on outside of Quebec and the doctor had performed surgeries for two decades.

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00:46:47.100 --> 00:46:52.470

1604****200: And but only two residents of Quebec and then he opened up his clinic.

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00:46:53.520 --> 00:46:57.390

1604****200: It was like about 1989 and

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00:46:58.500 --> 00:46:59.220

1604****200: And then

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00:47:00.480 --> 00:47:03.630

1604****200: So that was what was right for me.

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00:47:05.340 --> 00:47:05.820

1604****200: And

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00:47:06.930 --> 00:47:07.830

1604****200: Yeah, so

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00:47:09.780 --> 00:47:21.840

1604****200: Yeah, it was quite a scary, scary thing. It was wonderful and but it was like you know so so much uncertainty. Uncertainty as well and

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00:47:22.770 --> 00:47:36.540

1604****200: And so you have to really do your research and and really you can get much feedback from many because not many had gone. I was number 28 in British Columbia to go for surgery and

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00:47:37.740 --> 00:47:49.620

1604****200: So, and for me five minutes before the surgery, then the so called gender dysphoria just went away. And so what I had.

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00:47:51.240 --> 00:47:54.210

1604****200: Experienced my whole life up until then.

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00:47:55.230 --> 00:47:59.670

1604****200: Was a lot of anguish and in that torment, you know, and just

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00:48:01.020 --> 00:48:23.460

1604****200: You know what the heck do you do, and you realize as a four year old that something is terribly wrong and how can you possibly live your life the way you should. And the way you feel, you know, against all all the odds of society and and you know, employment and housing and all those

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00:48:24.690 --> 00:48:25.740

1604****200: All the things

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00:48:27.120 --> 00:48:32.250

1604****200: That you know we do in our everyday lives becomes such a huge challenge.

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00:48:34.140 --> 00:48:35.550

1604****200: For us, and

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00:48:36.780 --> 00:48:55.170

1604****200: And so yeah, I was very fortunate and and to have that piece, you know, five minutes before the surgery and then have have, you know, just the contentment and peace, you know, since then, and for the rest of my life of being

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00:48:56.430 --> 00:48:57.150

1604****200: Who I am

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00:48:58.260 --> 00:49:11.640

1604****200: Is such a wonderful thing was actually like going to the Wizard of Oz, actually. And yeah, just like like felt like I remember going to the doctor's office.

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00:49:12.510 --> 00:49:32.430

1604****200: In Montreal that two days before being admitted and it was like so scary, but it was like honestly knocking on the door for the Wizard of Oz. And then once a Madam it dispelled all my fear and instill you know confidence and and he had done so much in his life for

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00:49:33.510 --> 00:49:35.280

1604****200: Trans people and

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00:49:36.300 --> 00:49:49.440

1604****200: And he himself had faced a lot of adversity and prejudice because of his want and willingness to help people in the situation. So he was a very special person so

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00:49:50.610 --> 00:49:56.220

1604****200: Yeah, it was a good experience. But again, I could write a book on just that experience alone so

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00:49:56.640 --> 00:50:02.580

Evan Taylor: What kind of an assessment and, you know, and did you have to go through the chat to advocate for yourself to get the surgery.

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00:50:04.050 --> 00:50:09.780

1604****200: Um, it's different. It was different than, than it is now, and especially around, you know,

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00:50:10.830 --> 00:50:22.500

1604****200: You know, for non binary people. There was no such awareness. There was certainly you know there. As I said, there was four clinics in the world and there happened to be one in Vancouver.

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00:50:23.130 --> 00:50:32.880

1604****200: And so clinic, sir. A good thing and a bad thing. And it was actually you know you you had to jump through hoops. It was pretty easy for me.

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00:50:34.320 --> 00:50:38.340

1604****200: You know, was fortunate. Luckily, luckily I you know

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00:50:39.510 --> 00:50:51.270

1604****200: Then left here at that time because I lived away from DC for basically 20 years so it was fortunate that there happened to be a clinic for me.

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00:50:52.380 --> 00:51:01.500

1604****200: And that was a whole other process. Oh my god. There was like 10 months, almost a year waiting list. And so I was kind of like at the end of my role as far as

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00:51:02.400 --> 00:51:16.470

1604****200: I couldn't bear to switch back and forth and live out the way that you know I just couldn't live the way everyone else expected me to so can then you know career and everything. It just was all coming

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00:51:17.670 --> 00:51:29.220

1604****200: Going to come crashing in so I had to do something. And that was really, really, really, really hard, especially because of family and my dad and I didn't want to hurt him so

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00:51:31.290 --> 00:51:42.450

1604****200: And yeah, because I was the last person and he has a of, you know, 18 cousins and you know my grandma said I was the last person she would have expected.

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00:51:43.260 --> 00:51:54.600

1604****200: She said she thought yeah she she thought she made it through with all the grandkids and cousins and stuff and and but she was actually really wonderful and

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00:51:55.320 --> 00:52:04.980

1604****200: And I remember my dad was wonderful. But in the it was really hard for him in the early, you know, when he first became aware and I told my family.

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00:52:05.790 --> 00:52:17.640

1604****200: And it was really hard for him and was hard for for me and I knew that was, it was going to be that way. That's why it took me know why I kept it from them for so long, so

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00:52:19.290 --> 00:52:27.390

1604****200: Yeah, I remember my grandma was they were at a Dairy Queen. And my grandma said after she learned

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00:52:29.550 --> 00:52:39.000

1604****200: The situation, then she just saw I remember she told my dad that in her favorite saying was all box here years and so she said to my dad.

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00:52:40.140 --> 00:52:46.110

1604****200: My dad. My dad that are loved me as much or more or shoeboxes errs oh

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00:52:46.860 --> 00:52:47.100

Yeah.

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00:52:49.440 --> 00:52:51.930

1604****200: Oh yeah, I was pretty pretty immature.

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00:52:53.280 --> 00:52:53.820

1604****200: Part of me.

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00:52:54.030 --> 00:52:55.590

Evan Taylor: I read about what year is this

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00:52:56.760 --> 00:53:01.050

1604****200: Oh 1985 8019 86 okay

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00:53:01.140 --> 00:53:01.800

Evan Taylor: Okay, great.

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00:53:02.310 --> 00:53:03.450

1604****200: Yeah, and

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00:53:04.710 --> 00:53:08.430

1604****200: So, but, yeah, my dad, ultimately, you know, he

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00:53:09.960 --> 00:53:14.610

1604****200: He sort of evolves and you know he even opened his heart.

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00:53:16.320 --> 00:53:18.870

1604****200: To my relationship and and

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00:53:19.920 --> 00:53:34.170

1604****200: And and yeah and so yeah it was very, it was difficult for him, but he was really he did so amazing. And like I said it was the best best dad, he passed away. About a year ago so

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00:53:36.840 --> 00:53:38.190

1604****200: That's a huge void without

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00:53:39.690 --> 00:53:58.650

1604****200: That to to those my mom and dad in my life. So my mom passed away, seven years ago on New Year's Eve at 1028 New Year's Eve and 2013 and yeah so yeah they're there every moment missed

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00:54:01.200 --> 00:54:01.740

1604****200: Worse.

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00:54:03.210 --> 00:54:11.490

Evan Taylor: I'm wondering in terms of thinking about the activist work you did. I'm wondering about if you think that having parents that were so supportive

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00:54:12.000 --> 00:54:25.020

Evan Taylor: In terms of loving you and and you know that and all of that. Do you think that that with allowed you to, to, to sort of have more energy or or ability to be able to take on so much of the activist work that you did.

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00:54:26.250 --> 00:54:32.370

1604****200: Absolutely, yeah. That's absolutely correct. Yeah, they instilled so much in me.

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00:54:33.540 --> 00:54:53.850

1604****200: You know, morally, I think, Calvin confidence wise and allowed me to pursue, you know, my, my dreams. I mean, we didn't have a lot of money I things I achieved I pretty much, you know, I did initially on my own. And it was just, I was motivated, but

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00:54:54.900 --> 00:55:02.490

1604****200: Yeah, having that close loving family because we moved as I said 28 times for sorry 2022 times

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00:55:03.570 --> 00:55:14.670

1604****200: And and we were so close. Growing up, they were like my best friends and I, I did you know I golf every day, most of my life, you know, with my dad and

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00:55:17.070 --> 00:55:28.470

1604****200: And to him. Then he was just so adventurous, you know, like going camp, you know, camping and traveling around the province camping and he was always

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00:55:28.950 --> 00:55:44.250

1604****200: He always had, like, he was so much fun. And so, adventurous and we did so many things as a family and and also I got to do so many things that were just so amazing and adventurous with him so

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00:55:45.630 --> 00:55:48.840

1604****200: Anyways, is so funny. So anyway,

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00:55:50.970 --> 00:55:57.120

1604****200: Yeah, I think that. And also, you know, for me, from an early age aspiring to

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00:55:58.500 --> 00:56:01.320

1604****200: For the career that I was I wanted

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00:56:02.520 --> 00:56:06.090

1604****200: You know, it sort of instilled a lot of responsibility and

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00:56:07.980 --> 00:56:18.960

1604****200: And and strength and, you know, around decision making and and also you know what was really special.

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00:56:20.430 --> 00:56:28.290

1604****200: And to me was the experience of living in the north and serving the northern communities and especially in times

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00:56:29.760 --> 00:56:51.930

1604****200: You know of now around when reconciliation and how how we're still dragging our feet around that that was something that's, you know, been so important to me, most of my life and and you know working and living with in the northern communities and being with the people.

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00:56:53.100 --> 00:57:04.020

1604****200: Of those communities and, you know, and as I said I did metal or metal medical evacuations about every second day and seeing the poverty and

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00:57:05.520 --> 00:57:12.480

1604****200: And, you know, the ram of getting ramifications of colonization and and

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00:57:14.280 --> 00:57:15.060

1604****200: The limited

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00:57:17.730 --> 00:57:27.300

1604****200: You know, work. I mean, up there. There was either trapping or fishing. And that was how I lived for for, you know, for years.

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00:57:27.840 --> 00:57:34.290

1604****200: And experiencing that which was, you know, at first when I went up there. I was a city person and I didn't know

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00:57:34.710 --> 00:57:48.570

1604****200: What to expect. So as a little you know it was a little bit scary, but I just remember, you know, when I got my first flying job and I was stationed at a lodge. It was multiple like lodge in

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00:57:50.520 --> 00:57:51.840

1604****200: northern Manitoba.

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00:57:52.980 --> 00:57:58.350

1604****200: It was like 40 miles east of Norway house. And so I was

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00:57:59.640 --> 00:58:16.200

1604****200: stationed there are in, so I lived lived in a cabin temp for for four months and I i move supplies around the different out camps and and and then also I remember the first day I was at the lodge. I was

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00:58:17.610 --> 00:58:31.020

1604****200: I mean the lodge was really something else. But it was very beautiful and you know 45 people every five days came up to stay there from from the states and they were flown in and

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00:58:32.010 --> 00:58:48.270

1604****200: But I remember the very first day I was there and I was like in in the main launch and I was just sitting in kind of like the throws a fireplace and there was sort of like a cozy sitting area and I was sitting in this chair by myself and

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00:58:49.350 --> 00:59:01.740

1604****200: And I didn't know anyone in that. And then this fella comes in. And yeah, I remember his name was a live show Harper and and he he he asked if

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00:59:02.700 --> 00:59:15.090

1604****200: He wants to listen. If I want to listen to some of his songs and I'm like okay and so he went away and came back and he had like this book of music, he wrote, and he started this with his guitar and

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00:59:15.990 --> 00:59:28.830

1604****200: You know, stop there, singing his songs and I just thought like, wow, and and and so it's sort of, you know, the people there, you know, if

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00:59:29.580 --> 00:59:48.180

1604****200: If they just want to be treated decently and there's so much history of ill treatment and and violence, abuse as especially where you know people are becoming more and more aware now. And, and, especially, you know, with Black Lives Matter and matters and

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00:59:49.980 --> 00:59:59.670

1604****200: You know, the, the injustice. As of today, you know, racially and and for people of color and indigenous people and

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01:00:00.180 --> 01:00:15.360

1604****200: So it's sort of really when I in that moment put put me at ease and you know I just he yeah it was just kind of a special moment where I where you just see people for who they are and they put

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01:00:15.900 --> 01:00:27.720

1604****200: Everything aside and trust you. And so I just spent my whole life and career, you know, trying to build trust and and and be honest and

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01:00:28.770 --> 01:00:41.670

1604****200: You know, treat everyone the same. And so it was just really something actually with with my flying up there. My first job. The people were so important to me.

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01:00:42.810 --> 01:00:51.420

1604****200: I actually in my flight log which which you don't have to do I actually for 500 hours, which is a lot of time and

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01:00:51.990 --> 01:01:07.920

1604****200: In flying up up there, you know, in which, which is about two, two seasons. I wrote down in the smallest space. I wrote down every passengers name from those communities. And so I've never

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01:01:09.150 --> 01:01:22.050

1604****200: Hardly anyone knows knows this and it's just something that I keep for me, which was, you know, special for me and every person that I came in contact with and flew and

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01:01:22.860 --> 01:01:35.310

1604****200: And did my best at times. You know, when I was doing medevac to, you know, you know, when they were fighting for their lives. So I did everything within my power to keep them safe and get them help

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01:01:36.780 --> 01:01:39.090

1604****200: And so there was quite a few times where

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01:01:40.290 --> 01:01:47.370

1604****200: That that happened and it was you know necessary to, you know, perform

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01:01:48.840 --> 01:01:51.780

1604****200: You know, as, as you know, in my job.

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01:01:53.070 --> 01:02:00.030

1604****200: As well as I could, in order to save lives. So, and that happened a number of times, which

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01:02:01.170 --> 01:02:14.700

1604****200: You know, is something that I still cherish and remember that experience and the people that I i met so you know it's a lifelong thing for me. And there's nothing more than I, I wish and hope for.

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01:02:15.570 --> 01:02:25.890

1604****200: For, you know, reconciliation and for the you know the rights of indigenous people to continue to be so.

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01:02:27.180 --> 01:02:27.840

1604****200: Sad right

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01:02:29.010 --> 01:02:34.710

Evan Taylor: What are some of the things that as you look back because you've just, you know, you've seen such such huge changes politically.

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01:02:35.310 --> 01:02:44.700

Evan Taylor: Over time, what are, what are some of the things that that you look back and you can, you know, these, these major events or, you know, major changes that you can look at and say,

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01:02:44.910 --> 01:02:47.100

Evan Taylor: That politically things really changed for trans people.

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01:02:48.810 --> 01:02:51.300

1604****200: Um, I guess, remind me of that.

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01:02:52.470 --> 01:03:02.700

1604****200: But, you know, to answer your question about the activism. When did it first occur, you know, be be GH first asked me to sort of be

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01:03:03.210 --> 01:03:20.340

1604****200: I go public and and so I remember in 1990 there was an article that he GH put out and I was the focus of that article. So that was kind of like the sort of beginning of and then I I experienced

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01:03:23.280 --> 01:03:26.040

1604****200: And unfortunately I experienced

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01:03:27.510 --> 01:03:31.620

1604****200: Just a moment. I just got to check on my my parrot mortgage. Again, I'll be right.

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01:03:31.620 --> 01:03:32.340

1604****200: Back. Okay.

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01:03:54.150 --> 01:04:01.140

1604****200: Sorry about that. Yeah. So after that, you know, I was living my I was living my life.

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01:04:03.000 --> 01:04:17.670

1604****200: before surgery. I was heterosexual. And after I was heterosexual. It took a lot for me to sort of believe in myself and also shed and address the homophobia, that the internalized homophobia.

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01:04:18.960 --> 01:04:21.180

1604****200: You know that we grow up all grow up with

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01:04:21.990 --> 01:04:22.980

1604****200: And so

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01:04:25.080 --> 01:04:32.130

1604****200: Then I, you know, was living my life afterwards. And unfortunately, I had a long term relationship. It was three years.

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01:04:35.580 --> 01:04:36.120

1604****200: Them.

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01:04:37.470 --> 01:04:41.310

1604****200: And it ended up being an abusive relationship so

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01:04:43.260 --> 01:04:44.580

1604****200: Unfortunately,

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01:04:46.110 --> 01:04:46.740

1604****200: You know, I was

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01:04:47.850 --> 01:04:51.210

1604****200: assaulted by an intimate. Intimate Partner and

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01:04:52.830 --> 01:05:03.660

1604****200: Yeah, this is a you know a whole other long story, but it's kind of like the root of, of all the activism and. And so, you know, obviously.

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01:05:04.260 --> 01:05:16.380

1604****200: Trans people I knew historically trans women and transsexual women were not you know they were excluded from women's organizations all around the world and and and then

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01:05:19.740 --> 01:05:20.220

1604****200: So,

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01:05:21.600 --> 01:05:28.830

1604****200: I guess I had been assaulted, I sort of knew in my heart, the relationship could never be the same. It was over.

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01:05:29.850 --> 01:05:41.340

1604****200: You know, it was a quite a violent assault and from someone I never expected, you know, who said they loved you to do something like that and and then

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01:05:42.360 --> 01:05:50.760

1604****200: So I knew I had to get out. But, you know, it took me about another month to leave, which I was fortunate because most women don't

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01:05:52.140 --> 01:05:59.400

1604****200: You know, it takes about 18 times leaving to and, you know, sometimes they're they're killed before they get away

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01:06:00.480 --> 01:06:06.600

1604****200: So, so there's many factors involved but you know I was I just knew I just

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01:06:07.830 --> 01:06:10.740

1604****200: could never be the same. And there would be no future.

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01:06:11.850 --> 01:06:13.200

1604****200: That way, so

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01:06:14.520 --> 01:06:23.280

1604****200: But I was really grieving and. And this, to me, having that relationship and having everything right.

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01:06:24.510 --> 01:06:38.340

1604****200: For me was like the pot. At the end of the rainbow. And so for me it wasn't so much the the assault, which was really bad. It was the grieving and the loss of the relationship and that I was facing and

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01:06:39.360 --> 01:06:42.090

1604****200: Cuz as a trans woman and and I've only

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01:06:43.590 --> 01:06:44.790

1604****200: Dated or

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01:06:45.870 --> 01:06:49.230

1604****200: heterosexual men. So that's like a huge challenge and

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01:06:51.540 --> 01:06:52.200

1604****200: So,

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01:06:54.270 --> 01:07:04.320

1604****200: Yeah, so it was pretty pretty hard. I remember that I was, I was working. And then I went for lunch with my girlfriends at work and then we were sitting

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01:07:04.890 --> 01:07:23.280

1604****200: At lunch and I was telling her what had happened to me and about the assault and I didn't know. But there was a woman sitting near that overheard our conversation. And then at the end of the conversation or at the end of lunch.

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01:07:24.300 --> 01:07:27.990

1604****200: We were leaving, and she sort of walked over to me.

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01:07:29.700 --> 01:07:42.870

1604****200: And then took me aside and just introduced herself. She said sorry for overhearing the conversation, but she was a nurse and she worked at the gh and then she handed me a note and she said that there's places.

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01:07:43.440 --> 01:07:54.000

1604****200: That will provide support for someone going through a situation like I had gone through so you know it was kind of a bit shocked. I was bit shocked and taken aback, but

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01:07:55.200 --> 01:08:05.280

1604****200: But I thought it was a very, very kind thing. But then I was thinking, Okay. Well, that would be really wonderful. But the chances of being, you know, heard and believed in

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01:08:05.850 --> 01:08:23.160

1604****200: As a trans woman, if I called an organization was pretty remote because I knew the climate of those organizations at that time and that they excluded trans women and you know we're quite Milliken militant in their exclusion, so

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01:08:25.530 --> 01:08:31.650

1604****200: So anyway, yeah, I was just grieving so deeply the loss of the relationship and I lost

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01:08:33.390 --> 01:08:38.310

1604****200: And so I just decided that I would phone this number, which was

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01:08:38.850 --> 01:08:45.840

1604****200: The number. She gave me was for battered women support services. And so I was, you know, obviously.

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01:08:47.940 --> 01:08:52.920

1604****200: Yeah, it was. I didn't hold out a lot of hope that I would be at all.

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01:08:53.040 --> 01:09:14.700

1604****200: Listen to or believe but just probably. It was like a one in a million and I made the call. And I remember her name was Karen, the woman I was talking to and on the crisis line. And I told her my experience and that and that I was a transsexual woman. I talked to hang up on me.

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01:09:15.960 --> 01:09:25.890

1604****200: But she never. It was as if I never said it. And then, you know, I spent, you know, almost three years involved in that organization. And, you know, they

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01:09:26.670 --> 01:09:44.760

1604****200: welcomed me my lifeline line was everyone's the night support group. And that was, you know, I, I didn't have work at that time because of the discrimination that I faced as a trans woman. And so it was like a lot on my plate so

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01:09:46.620 --> 01:09:51.450

1604****200: And so then, yeah. Over, over three, two and a half years.

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01:09:52.770 --> 01:09:59.220

1604****200: And and that being my lifeline. Then you yeah I, you know, built a lot of

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01:10:00.300 --> 01:10:18.300

1604****200: Sort of friends. If you can call them and i i wasn't out as a trans woman so very few people knew because that's I've just always just live my life as a woman, so. So, and then, but usually ultimately anyone who's a friend.

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01:10:19.620 --> 01:10:27.900

1604****200: Of mine evolve. Eventually, you know, if they're going to be my friend, then, then they're going to know so I I usually tell

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01:10:28.380 --> 01:10:51.540

1604****200: People who I choose to. So I know you told about for women and there was especially one woman, her name is Gail as injure and she yeah she was really instrumental in my sort of surviving that period of time, and it was kind of like as if she had pulled me from, you know,

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01:10:53.310 --> 01:10:58.950

1604****200: From the front of a moving train. You know, it was like really the support I received was really

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01:11:00.330 --> 01:11:12.990

1604****200: So important and critical. And so, you know, once I I moved through that and and you know healed from that experience, then you know which so many

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01:11:14.550 --> 01:11:15.810

1604****200: Women experience.

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01:11:17.130 --> 01:11:23.880

1604****200: By I came to learn how important this those services were so that was kind of like

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01:11:26.730 --> 01:11:39.150

1604****200: The turning point I wanted to give back. And those organizations often encourage women to give back. And so

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01:11:42.030 --> 01:11:44.370

1604****200: I applied. Actually, there was a

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01:11:45.660 --> 01:12:05.130

1604****200: Announcement on on Global TV and Raipur leaf was looking for volunteers. I knew nothing about relief, other than they were doing the same week same work as you know battered women's support services as many other organizations especially on the Downtown Eastside do

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01:12:06.150 --> 01:12:09.600

1604****200: And so I i called maida

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01:12:10.950 --> 01:12:23.640

1604****200: I phoned I did a telephone interview with him. And then I was invited to come down for a one on one interview, which I did. And then I was after that I was invited

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01:12:25.080 --> 01:12:28.500

1604****200: on a certain date to start the volunteer training.

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01:12:29.760 --> 01:12:43.800

1604****200: With with the organization re release and but it was that night I attended and you know I was excited, but I was a little scared. There was 35 women in the in the room. It was a Britannia

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01:12:45.330 --> 01:12:47.520

1604****200: Community Center and

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01:12:48.600 --> 01:12:58.890

1604****200: And I just say it was a hot, hot day. It was August 29 1995 and it was just a hot summer day. And we were in the room. There was 35 women in a

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01:12:59.310 --> 01:13:05.670

1604****200: While sitting in chairs in a circle and there was, I believe there was three facilitators.

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01:13:06.360 --> 01:13:16.740

1604****200: And so we we all did around and introduce ourselves and that. And so, about an hour and a half went by and when eight o'clock came, then there was

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01:13:17.190 --> 01:13:34.230

1604****200: The call for a break and then one and then women came over one of the facilitators came over to me and asked me to come outside. And I'm like, oh, and so we sit down on a bench and she's sitting beside me and then she started asking

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01:13:37.800 --> 01:13:43.920

1604****200: She didn't come right out with it, but she started to say like

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01:13:45.510 --> 01:13:57.750

1604****200: Are you and I sort of stopped her mid, mid sentence. And I said, what if I was and what if I wasn't and then then she looked and I think she looked at my cleavage.

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01:13:58.470 --> 01:14:13.500

1604****200: And and then she said, Oh my god, am I making a big mistake and but then it's sort of just, I thought, well, we had this gone through the point to unity for Rape Relief, which I believe for

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01:14:15.360 --> 01:14:23.310

1604****200: Women rate racism is never okay violence is never okay. Women have the right to choose their partner.

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01:14:25.110 --> 01:14:25.620

1604****200: And

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01:14:26.910 --> 01:14:35.940

1604****200: And you both to be pro choice. So I agreed with all of those and but then after having, you know, the round and and

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01:14:37.860 --> 01:14:51.570

1604****200: And then to have it start going down this road, especially after three years of healing with an under like organization where I was welcomed and included and there wasn't ever an issue. This was the last

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01:14:53.220 --> 01:15:01.830

1604****200: Place I expected this kind of treatment. So it just went down a really bad, ugly road and and so I was really upset. And so they said that

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01:15:03.060 --> 01:15:03.690

1604****200: She said,

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01:15:05.010 --> 01:15:12.000

1604****200: Men aren't welcome. I said, I'm not a man, she said gay men aren't welcome. I said, I'm going to gay man and then

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01:15:13.680 --> 01:15:23.610

1604****200: And so then I will have, by the time that 10 minutes was over with. I was like, pretty visibly upset and I. Hi.

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01:15:24.510 --> 01:15:37.020

1604****200: I. They said I wasn't welcome to return to the training group. And so I walked away. And I was like, could barely see for the tears in my eyes and then it just you know AFTERS YOU KNOW THE

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01:15:38.040 --> 01:15:38.490

1604****200: The

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01:15:40.530 --> 01:15:43.230

1604****200: Issues of battering that I went through.

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01:15:43.860 --> 01:15:48.210

1604****200: And then the healing. I went through it sort of unraveled all of that and

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01:15:49.530 --> 01:15:51.570

1604****200: And then I just sort of thought, well,

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01:15:53.070 --> 01:16:00.540

1604****200: So then I phoned hi I had a friend. I went to a pay phone and I was telling her what happened and then by then I sort of caught my breath and

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01:16:00.990 --> 01:16:11.550

1604****200: I decided I was going to go back and just see if the rest of the group felt the same way. So I went back and then the three facilitators.

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01:16:12.060 --> 01:16:27.990

1604****200: So that were in one room and they were talking to me and I was asking the other facilitators if they were of the same mind and they said they were and that transsexuals weren't welcome and men weren't welcome and

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01:16:30.000 --> 01:16:39.810

1604****200: And so then I said, well, I'll leave on one condition that I can say goodbye to the rest of the group. So they were all waiting and and on another room. They didn't know what was going on. So,

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01:16:40.740 --> 01:16:48.570

1604****200: The facilitator said I could do that. So I went back into the main room, and then I stood up in front of everyone. And then I told them that

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01:16:49.170 --> 01:17:12.270

1604****200: I was there for the same reasons. I was told I wasn't one come to continue in the group. And I just want to say goodbye. And so I remember one voice out of the 35 women just spoke up and and one woman just said goodbye. Kimberly. And so, man. I love. And so I decided, you know, obviously.

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01:17:13.980 --> 01:17:15.930

1604****200: I can't even tell you how

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01:17:17.700 --> 01:17:27.150

1604****200: I had, I felt like in human and and or less than human. And, and so I thought you know this is wrong. So instead of

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01:17:27.840 --> 01:17:39.480

1604****200: You know, doing something drastic I decided to do something about it. So the only avenue of recourse was the following. Human Rights complaint. So the next morning I did that those sort of things so much

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01:17:40.020 --> 01:17:54.420

1604****200: Said about why would you ever, you know, file a complaint against this organization and helping organization such as Raipur leaf and an institution such as there

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01:17:55.560 --> 01:18:08.910

1604****200: They are and you know the answer is simple. The points of unity and their points, the Unity is the answer. And it's about inclusion and and gender identity and

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01:18:09.750 --> 01:18:22.680

1604****200: self identifying as a woman. And if you do that, then you know, obviously, you know, the case, then when case when well now yeah I I filed a human rights complaint and and so

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01:18:24.570 --> 01:18:28.440

1604****200: The matter was pardon, pardon me, at the very next morning.

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01:18:29.520 --> 01:18:30.540

Evan Taylor: Yes. Wow.

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01:18:30.630 --> 01:18:32.580

1604****200: And that was my way of

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01:18:33.810 --> 01:18:47.340

1604****200: You know coping and and sort of hanging on to hope that they might be accountable and it was just so wrong what they were doing. I felt and

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01:18:48.150 --> 01:18:59.520

1604****200: You know, I knew that they had turned other trans women away and but when you're in crisis, you know, turning someone away any women in crisis, which would be unconscionable.

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01:19:00.960 --> 01:19:07.650

1604****200: That it could cause a death and you know it's such a critical kind of

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01:19:08.790 --> 01:19:23.220

1604****200: Situation emotionally. You know when when you're in the at that place and reaching out. It's so hard. You know, for women to reach out for support and and if you do it takes so much courage and to have

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01:19:23.910 --> 01:19:39.120

1604****200: You know, thrown in your face. At that time, you know, like, like I said, could result in a suicide. So, um, yeah. So that was actually the reason that I filed the Human Rights complaint and

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01:19:40.440 --> 01:19:46.920

1604****200: You know, I had the support of battered women's support services and and

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01:19:48.330 --> 01:20:02.310

1604****200: And and so it was it you know I embarked on a 15 year. What was the case was span 15 years and yeah took four or five years to be heard.

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01:20:04.320 --> 01:20:08.880

1604****200: And which was, you know, it's a lot of takes a lot of patience to sort of

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01:20:09.930 --> 01:20:19.440

1604****200: wait out the course of the system. And yeah, it was really challenging and difficult and and then

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01:20:20.790 --> 01:20:21.360

1604***200: The first

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01:20:22.800 --> 01:20:31.020

1604***200: The first week, we went to mediation and they offered me I think \$500 and I could volunteer with

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01:20:33.030 --> 01:20:34.650

1604***200: So they wonder

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01:20:37.020 --> 01:20:37.350

1604***200: Yeah.

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01:20:37.770 --> 01:20:37.980

Oh,

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01:20:39.330 --> 01:20:39.660

1604***200: Yeah.

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01:20:41.040 --> 01:20:41.940

Evan Taylor: We hear that. Okay.

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01:20:43.440 --> 01:20:48.000

1604****200: Yeah, I could only participate in and volunteer with men so

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01:20:49.950 --> 01:20:56.730

1604****200: And so that was their resolution to they said sorry about your hurt feelings, but this is what we'll do.

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01:20:57.750 --> 01:21:02.640

1604****200: And so that obviously wouldn't work because I'm not a man and

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01:21:03.930 --> 01:21:12.900

1604****200: So anyway, it took about three more years to go to went to judicial review because of the length of time that it took to be heard and so

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01:21:12.960 --> 01:21:19.290

1604****200: Raipur leaf was trying to have it thrown out and I want to do to show review and then it went to tribe, you know,

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01:21:20.580 --> 01:21:41.400

1604****200: It was supposed to be five days it was at Christmas and you know it was that was tough time to like Christmas time, you know, the whole you know I know there's a lot of poverty and and hurt in the world. And, and, but, you know, here we're going through Christmas time. And it was such a

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01:21:42.660 --> 01:21:54.870

1604****200: Contradiction and and hypocrisy, you know, and, and when everything around you is about, you know, love, peace inclusion and and

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01:21:56.040 --> 01:22:01.440

1604****200: And at Christmas, especially it's heightened and then we're going through this and

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01:22:02.790 --> 01:22:03.750

1604****200: So yeah, it was

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01:22:05.400 --> 01:22:10.470

1604****200: Quite took a lot to enter that. And each round you know i won the tribunal and

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01:22:11.970 --> 01:22:17.760

1604****200: I changed over 400 points in law around trans rights with the Tribunal ruling.

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01:22:19.350 --> 01:22:25.440

1604****200: Eventually, I think I went to the Supreme Court three more times. And then it was

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01:22:29.610 --> 01:22:36.300

1604****200: appealed to the Supreme Court of Canada, the Supreme Court of Canada. When route when hear it but

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01:22:37.920 --> 01:22:41.820

1604****200: Which was a big disappointment, but they agreed with the

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01:22:42.840 --> 01:22:51.960

1604****200: The Supreme Court of VC on the fact that, yes, I was a woman. And yes, I had been discriminated against by Rape Relief

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01:22:53.070 --> 01:22:56.670

1604****200: But Rape Relief ultimately actually fell through the cracks and

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01:22:57.750 --> 01:23:05.010

1604****200: The ruling was that the Human Rights Code didn't did not apply to re release because they were

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01:23:06.870 --> 01:23:09.750

1604****200: Not publicly funded well

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01:23:11.280 --> 01:23:12.510

1604****200: Years down the road.

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01:23:12.750 --> 01:23:23.070

1604****200: And especially, I guess just over 14 months ago, the City of Vancouver pulled their funding of Rape Relief because they are actually a public

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01:23:23.610 --> 01:23:30.150

1604****200: Publicly funded and they're federally funded to some degree as well. So, so that was an error.

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01:23:30.720 --> 01:23:46.350

1604****200: If they've been heard again to this day. It probably the outcome would probably be different, but it was my case said an international precedent and it was the first case of its kind to go to that high of a court anywhere in the world and

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01:23:47.520 --> 01:24:05.190

1604****200: In the latter part of the years of the case, the, you know, the Court and the judges were so phobic that, you know, it was just as with the same sex marriage case which was lost the first time around, and BC, you know, it was unfortunate that

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01:24:06.330 --> 01:24:08.160

1604****200: That that was

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01:24:09.570 --> 01:24:13.860

1604****200: The decision was reversed on appeal, at the very end, so

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01:24:14.970 --> 01:24:16.830

1604****200: But knowing that

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01:24:18.630 --> 01:24:26.280

1604****200: You know that most of most of the Tribunal decision still stands. To this day is and the fact

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01:24:26.940 --> 01:24:37.530

1604****200: Even more important to me is that, you know, across Canada and North America around the world in the 70s, 80s and 90s, you know, they went through their own

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01:24:37.860 --> 01:24:50.160

1604****200: women's organizations went through their own growing pains and, you know, in the 70s, they discriminated against lesbians and in the 80s. It was like

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01:24:51.240 --> 01:25:13.080

1604****200: Bisexual women and the mid 90s women of color. So, you know, these organizations in the late 90s address a lot of them address institutionalized and organizational racism within their organizations and also the thing that really means the most to me is that now because of my case, the

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01:25:14.370 --> 01:25:25.200

1604****200: Over 90% of these organization in North America and around the world are well and and, in particular, across Canada are trans inclusive.

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01:25:27.030 --> 01:25:33.660

1604****200: And so that means more to me than you know what the final decision was because women.

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01:25:35.310 --> 01:25:50.940

1604****200: did the right thing, not because they had to, but because it was you know the right thing to do. And that means more to me than anything. And so for that. I'm grateful and I think all the women that believe and trusted me and supported me

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01:25:51.960 --> 01:25:59.340

1604****200: With that also, it also was, you know, all along. It was, I could see that you know Raipur leaves.

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01:26:00.390 --> 01:26:03.840

1604****200: Beliefs were narrow, they say.

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01:26:07.710 --> 01:26:16.740

1604****200: That the, you know, as a feminist. We're supposed to support all women and they weren't true to their mandate, so

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01:26:18.300 --> 01:26:21.570

1604****200: And and to their rules of

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01:26:23.940 --> 01:26:34.710

1604****200: Community. So yeah, they, you know, it's just really amazing to me now that most, most of these organizations are now inclusive.

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01:26:36.540 --> 01:26:37.590

Evan Taylor: What do you think

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01:26:38.640 --> 01:26:48.390

Evan Taylor: In terms of the the sustainability aspect. I'm just what I'm wondering about because 15 years is a long time to be going in and out of court. What is it that kept you going all that time.

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01:26:50.310 --> 01:26:55.770

1604****200: Um, yeah, it was a real long lonely journey. I can tell you that. And it was sort of a

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01:26:57.300 --> 01:27:02.820

1604****200: You know, in the beginning, I had to face, like other you know trends.

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01:27:04.860 --> 01:27:17.280

1604****200: Sexual women that you know before my time and trans women, which were few but publicly. I had to enter a lot. And initially, the media was so it was so cool.

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01:27:18.360 --> 01:27:36.090

1604****200: And giving and and you know it was sort of like being, you know, it was like a circus and aside show and and and it was in a very public forum, actually, you know, the court house.

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01:27:38.700 --> 01:27:46.260

1604****200: Was very, very public it was open to the public. And so it was very scary because you know what came to mind to me was such a public

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01:27:48.240 --> 01:28:02.310

1604****200: Forum was December six massacre in Montreal and women and feminists and lesbians and women of color and, you know, like there was quite. It was a recipe for, you know,

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01:28:03.510 --> 01:28:05.820

1604****200: Something bad to happen so

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01:28:07.710 --> 01:28:09.090

1604****200: Yeah, so it was some

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01:28:10.470 --> 01:28:26.130

1604****200: Before you know I was on my own until about 19 almost 1999 and then I I met Barbara Finley and I chose her to be my lawyer. And so it was kind of

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01:28:27.690 --> 01:28:43.590

1604****200: It was strategic and it was also an honor because she had such a long, lengthy history and and you know in the gay, lesbian lesbian LGBT community q plus community and

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01:28:45.300 --> 01:28:48.690

1604****200: Yeah, she was really, you know, had such a

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01:28:50.580 --> 01:28:55.410

1604****200: About history and I thought she knew the

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01:28:56.700 --> 01:28:57.480

1604****200: Kind of like the

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01:28:59.160 --> 01:29:03.030

1604****200: Person, her, her life experience could parallel mine.

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01:29:04.350 --> 01:29:13.230

1604****200: And and so she can understand the issues and. And so, yeah, we'd be yeah it was so, so then it became

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01:29:14.310 --> 01:29:26.730

1604****200: Barbara and I and we endured a lot over many, many years. I remember because Barbara was my lawyer. She was like, I think she was on the board.

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01:29:27.420 --> 01:29:41.130

1604****200: At the Downtown Eastside Women's Center. And I remember because someone because she was my lawyer there was they were having some kind of discussion and I'm one of the

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01:29:42.480 --> 01:29:46.080

1604****200: Participants so that discussion spit honor and

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01:29:47.250 --> 01:29:57.150

1604****200: And so because at that time the Downtown Eastside Women's Center was as most were were anti trans and

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01:29:59.040 --> 01:30:08.910

1604****200: And so that has since changed. You know, there they are now trans inclusive, so also because of the case, you know and and so

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01:30:10.050 --> 01:30:13.350

1604****200: From yeah there's they've they evolved.

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01:30:14.940 --> 01:30:30.840

1604****200: As did the media, you know, as the years went by and and i was a very public face to to the issue and it was in the court some every six months for over the course of almost 15 years so

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01:30:31.440 --> 01:30:45.960

1604****200: And every time it went to court, it would be in the papers across the the country and around the world and and every time I went to court. I would lose my job. So sometimes it took a year to get another job.

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01:30:47.130 --> 01:31:05.370

1604****200: Or two and and then when they saw the you know the case about read about the case in in the papers and and saw me and then we can where I was a transsexual woman, then I would lose a job. Each time you would go to court. So it was

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01:31:06.720 --> 01:31:09.060

1604****200: Yeah, it was so a lot too. And, dear.

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01:31:10.530 --> 01:31:15.600

1604****200: When it would go to court, you know so much was so many attacks by Raipur leaf.

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01:31:16.770 --> 01:31:21.480

1604****200: On my gender identity. It was it was sort of like looking in a mirror.

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01:31:22.500 --> 01:31:33.030

1604****200: The way I felt, you know, basically in my head. It was like looking at a mirror and then just seeing the mirror cracking and that's how it felt. Each round to court.

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01:31:34.230 --> 01:31:37.860

1604****200: Because of the attacks on my gender identity and

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01:31:38.910 --> 01:31:51.870

1604****200: And so I would feel sort of like after the court round each round of court was over, it would take me about a month to sort or recover from that feeling because

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01:31:52.380 --> 01:32:06.000

1604****200: It felt like a hangover for about a month, just because of the attacks on my gender identity. So it's a lot to endear but then going back to your other question, you know, obviously, growing up and and you know the

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01:32:07.260 --> 01:32:07.530

1604****200: The

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01:32:08.910 --> 01:32:22.290

1604****200: Things I pursued and and just character instilled by, you know, growing up in a family is wonderful, as I had and being allowed to pursue, you know,

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01:32:25.680 --> 01:32:29.670

1604****200: Things you know sports and and

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01:32:30.870 --> 01:32:52.470

1604****200: You know my flying especially sort of gave me the strength and and so you know I did go through a battered women's support services. I went through peer counseling training. So I was over a year long. And so I did a lot of education around anti racism and homophobia and and

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01:32:53.610 --> 01:33:13.140

1604****200: And and so I learned a lot from that. And so as a white person you know I educated did a lot of education educating myself around those issues. And so those issues were extremely important to me. So, I mean, in fact,

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01:33:14.520 --> 01:33:22.800

1604****200: The case the Human Rights case and around the, you know, trans rights fell in my lap. My, my main

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01:33:26.250 --> 01:33:39.420

1604****200: Motivation and and my, my main purpose was to support other women in crisis, and that were battered or abuse and and also

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01:33:40.920 --> 01:33:50.070

1604****200: Doing addressing you know the institutionalized and systemic racism and homophobia and indigenous

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01:33:52.050 --> 01:33:59.220

1604****200: And the rights of indigenous indigenous people and especially around the Downtown Eastside so that was

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01:34:00.570 --> 01:34:13.050

1604****200: What became so important to me the trends issues were just sort of on the back burner and I just had to sort of deal with them because they just came along and

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01:34:14.160 --> 01:34:16.920

1604****200: And and so that you know

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01:34:19.200 --> 01:34:21.480

1604****200: It was a lot more motivation.

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01:34:22.710 --> 01:34:31.530

1604****200: To to hopefully do a lot of good and I knew, like most trends people and trends women in particular.

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01:34:33.450 --> 01:34:34.440

1604****200: You know, don't

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01:34:36.270 --> 01:34:37.290

1604****200: Find employment.

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01:34:38.460 --> 01:34:46.260

1604****200: Or work and and you know like in the mid in the early 80s. The only trans women. I knew were sex trade workers so

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01:34:47.580 --> 01:34:54.150

1604****200: I knew that there was so many trans women in the downtown Eastside that the announcer voice and so

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01:34:55.230 --> 01:35:08.160

1604****200: I had that voice. And that was sort of like what I where I found the strength is you know i i knew in myself. I had the strength to endure you know all that was

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01:35:09.510 --> 01:35:24.810

1604****200: thrown my way and going through it publicly and and so that was a lot to endure, but I was able to do that just because of my own sense of self and my the strength

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01:35:25.830 --> 01:35:39.300

1604****200: Of my own gender identity and so I was very self assured and and just everything I did was based on truth. And I think that that's why

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01:35:40.890 --> 01:35:49.890

1604****200: So many women and feminists believed in me and so many women women's organizations did make the necessary change.

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01:35:51.090 --> 01:35:58.020

1604****200: Across the country is I base everything on truth and you know wrapper leaf did not

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01:35:59.820 --> 01:36:00.510

1604****200: You know they were

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01:36:01.590 --> 01:36:09.450

1604****200: And still do perpetuate the stereotypes and, you know, sweeping generalizations about trans people in general. So

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01:36:10.500 --> 01:36:27.420

1604****200: You know, over time, and during the court, even the media became to know me. And so even the media evolves. And so the media over you know about 10 years became actually, you know,

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01:36:28.980 --> 01:36:40.290

1604****200: Started out as basically a expecting a sideshow but then it they evolved into supporting me. So, and, as do most

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01:36:41.790 --> 01:36:53.460

1604****200: Of society now. I mean, I know like racism and homophobia and trans Sophia, it's still prevalent. But, but, you know, generally speaking.

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01:36:54.510 --> 01:37:04.620

1604****200: People are more aware and and see us as people now so I think there. I think things have evolved over the last

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01:37:05.910 --> 01:37:11.970

1604****200: 2025 years especially in that way that they now see us as people

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01:37:13.350 --> 01:37:17.910

Evan Taylor: Do you think looking ahead to next sort of 2025 years. What do you think of the next sort of

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01:37:18.060 --> 01:37:22.170

Evan Taylor: big pieces of France rights that we might address or that might change.

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01:37:23.610 --> 01:37:27.120

1604****200: Um, I'll be sorry I haven't. I'll be right back.

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01:37:28.050 --> 01:37:35.940

1604****200: Check on my little birdie. Again, it goes on walk about and then just keep just remind me of that question. Okay. Not Be right back.

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01:37:58.950 --> 01:38:00.330

1604****200: Okay, I'm back. Sorry.

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01:38:05.580 --> 01:38:06.600

1604****200: I think I'm

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01:38:07.980 --> 01:38:08.610

1604****200: You know,

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01:38:11.460 --> 01:38:19.110

1604****200: For for so many decades, you know I experienced a lot of poverty, as you know, back in the mid

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01:38:19.140 --> 01:38:19.740

80s.

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01:38:21.270 --> 01:38:24.060

1604****200: Or or earlier, the only

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01:38:26.370 --> 01:38:30.540

1604****200: Opportunity of an income was as a sex trade worker so

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01:38:33.390 --> 01:38:34.500

Evan Taylor: I chose

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01:38:34.530 --> 01:38:35.970

1604****200: At the time to

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01:38:37.470 --> 01:38:49.170

1604****200: Endure living on solar systems for a number of years. Then I started doing going through the retraining and as I said, the rate retraining. It didn't matter. Die marks didn't matter.

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01:38:50.100 --> 01:39:05.310

1604****200: It was the fact that I was trying to actual that I was discriminated against and couldn't find employment. So eventually I found the upper, you know, an employer that could see pasa but I lost. I lost over

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01:39:06.570 --> 01:39:11.430

1604****200: Probably out of 32 jobs I either had are applied for I lost

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01:39:11.430 --> 01:39:16.470

1604****200: Once they became aware but I was a transsexual woman and

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01:39:18.060 --> 01:39:22.230

1604****200: And I have only actually only ever kept about three jobs.

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01:39:23.460 --> 01:39:27.450

1604****200: Once you know with an employer once they became aware

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01:39:28.770 --> 01:39:30.540

1604****200: So that's pretty shocking so

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01:39:32.880 --> 01:39:34.740

1604****200: The job I've had recently.

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01:39:36.120 --> 01:39:37.770

1604****200: I, they weren't aware. I was

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01:39:38.970 --> 01:39:39.930

1604****200: Transgender

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01:39:42.720 --> 01:39:43.860

Evan Taylor: For some time.

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01:39:43.980 --> 01:39:47.220

1604****200: And again, when I was you know why they are

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01:39:48.810 --> 01:39:51.390

1604****200: In the fire department and airfield.

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01:39:54.330 --> 01:40:04.860

1604****200: About 14 months ago it was in the papers across the country again that rape, really, the City of Vancouver was pulling Raipur leaves funding.

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01:40:06.210 --> 01:40:16.080

1604****200: If they didn't change their policy so so so then you know my co workers became aware from the papers again.

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01:40:17.100 --> 01:40:22.230

1604****200: I seem to sort of whether it sort of okay did become

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01:40:23.490 --> 01:40:29.370

1604****200: An issue that I had, I spoke about with with my boss.

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01:40:30.660 --> 01:40:34.380

1604****200: But I seem to sort of whether it okay but

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01:40:35.430 --> 01:40:41.250

1604****200: Still, it's such a big issue with employment and housing and healthcare.

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01:40:42.750 --> 01:40:57.090

1604****200: That, um, you know, it's still not where anywhere, it should be and the same you know with racism and homophobia and it's it's not where it should be, and you and you know

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01:40:59.160 --> 01:41:11.580

1604****200: As we see today, you know so much is going on around change to address all these issues, and I hope that it will be changed and things will be better.

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01:41:13.080 --> 01:41:15.450

1604****200: And people won't have to die.

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01:41:16.920 --> 01:41:22.830

1604****200: Because you know as well, many trans people die and

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01:41:24.300 --> 01:41:28.110

1604****200: And so for the coming 25 years. I hope that you know

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01:41:29.670 --> 01:41:39.720

1604****200: You know, the focus isn't on one of these issues. I hope it's on all of them. And we do reach a better place for for all

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01:41:40.800 --> 01:41:46.650

1604***200: You know, around issues of race or sexual orientation or gender identity.

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01:41:47.400 --> 01:41:48.030

Mm hmm.

691

01:41:49.890 --> 01:42:03.120

Evan Taylor: And so thinking about you know all this. This change that we are hoping is going to take place next 25 years. Um, what advice do you have for activists who will be doing that work in human rights or, you know, in the courts or whatever but not on the streets.

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01:42:03.360 --> 01:42:07.230

Evan Taylor: The folks are gonna be doing that activism. You know, you've you've had so much experience in it.

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01:42:07.470 --> 01:42:12.120

Evan Taylor: And what advice do you have for folks over the next 25 years to keep themselves motivated in the work.

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01:42:13.530 --> 01:42:21.150

1604***200: Well, I guess, a side, left side from that question. Um, you know, you see on him because of these times.

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01:42:21.150 --> 01:42:21.960

And

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01:42:22.980 --> 01:42:28.410

1604****200: The incidents that have occurred to especially black men.

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01:42:33.150 --> 01:42:33.690

1604****200: That

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01:42:35.700 --> 01:42:46.440

1604****200: You see protests and and you see mostly people of color protesting. You see, people of color speaking and and demanding change and

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01:42:48.510 --> 01:42:52.710

1604****200: And doing and still you know beeping digging.

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01:42:54.150 --> 01:43:11.370

1604****200: Deep down and trying to educate white people and they've still got the generosity and room in the heart to try to do that. But what's so important is that white people, educate themselves. It's not up to people of color.

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01:43:12.450 --> 01:43:14.160

1604****200: To to educate

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01:43:15.540 --> 01:43:28.140

1604****200: White people. It's up to white people to educate themselves. So I hope that, you know, and the same around other than the other, other issues, you know, trans rights and and

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01:43:30.180 --> 01:43:32.880

1604****200: GB LT to two plus rights and

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01:43:34.230 --> 01:43:42.570

1604****200: And I, I just hope you know like sometimes when we're affected personally by something, then that becomes our cause, but

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01:43:43.830 --> 01:43:45.480

1604****200: You know, for example, I've

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01:43:47.340 --> 01:43:48.630

1604****200: Been honored with

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01:43:49.980 --> 01:43:53.130

1604****200: I present I human rights.

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01:43:54.390 --> 01:44:08.730

1604****200: Award annually in my name and and so the the Human Rights award is like, it's called the Kimberly Nixon trends to spirit gender non conforming community.

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01:44:09.150 --> 01:44:21.870

1604****200: Contribution contribution to community award. And so I presented that for for the past five years. And so, you know, the trans people.

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01:44:22.620 --> 01:44:43.320

1604****200: Have so many struggles and and usually they don't experience anything positive, so I wanted this it's through the Vancouver pride society, and it was initially the legacy awards, but it now. Now it's called the standout award and and so it's recognizing

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01:44:44.910 --> 01:45:00.330

1604****200: LGBT q plus people in the community that make a contribution contribution to the community. So it's my reward that's in my name is like, it's so amazing or incredibly important to me.

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01:45:01.680 --> 01:45:06.870

1604****200: Because my experience was that the trans issues for kinda

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01:45:08.370 --> 01:45:15.090

1604****200: Not my main focus. I wanted to contribute, you know, to

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01:45:16.890 --> 01:45:18.540

1604****200: Society society.

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01:45:19.680 --> 01:45:26.220

1604****200: At large and and so the award reflects that.

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01:45:27.540 --> 01:45:31.740

1604****200: And and the recipients repeat recipients of the award.

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01:45:32.970 --> 01:45:41.250

1604****200: That I presented the cheer are our trends or non binary people that and to spirit that

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01:45:42.270 --> 01:45:56.040

1604****200: Sort of, aside from being trans activists, they contribute to the community at large in in other ways. And so that's something that's really important to me. So

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01:45:57.060 --> 01:46:00.390

1604****200: I'm sort of hope that you know when when

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01:46:01.650 --> 01:46:19.260

1604****200: When you know issues fall in our lap, you know, in family and were touched by a cause. Personally, I just hope that rather than focusing on one cause at one time that you we can educate ourselves so that we can apply

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01:46:20.700 --> 01:46:21.600

1604****200: What we learn

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01:46:23.580 --> 01:46:30.450

1604****200: To to everyone and be inclusive of everyone and and and work to making

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01:46:31.920 --> 01:46:34.980

1604****200: It better for everyone. No.

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01:46:37.140 --> 01:46:38.370

1604****200: I would think.

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01:46:39.000 --> 01:46:45.840

Evan Taylor: That anti oppression, the intersection of the intersection of approach to anti oppression seems to be something that is really close and dear to your heart.

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01:46:47.130 --> 01:46:51.330

1604****200: It is, um, you know, like back in. I guess 2000

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01:46:52.980 --> 01:46:59.520

1604****200: Just after the tribunal. It was, as I said, it was five days, but it actually turned into

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01:47:00.570 --> 01:47:02.430

1604****200: Six weeks or almost two months.

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01:47:03.660 --> 01:47:08.460

1604****200: And during that period of time wave women against violence against women.

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01:47:11.130 --> 01:47:22.350

1604****200: Publicly spoke out and they were the first to do so and and publicly, you know, in the papers and so they supported me and they supported

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01:47:22.890 --> 01:47:46.620

1604****200: Trans women accessing and now non binary people accessing service their services. Their, their rape crisis center and and then so i've i've i've worked closely with them and worked for a number of years with them. I did workshops for them that were

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01:47:48.270 --> 01:48:10.800

1604****200: Anti racism, anti oppression and trans oppression workshops. I did for about over four years at waiver and and so yeah those issues are very important to me. And yeah, ending violence and abuse and, you know, and the abuse in particular of women in society.

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01:48:13.800 --> 01:48:21.090

Evan Taylor: I think it's really interesting that you mentioned the this this award that used to be called the legacy awards. And I have a question that I asked everybody

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01:48:21.240 --> 01:48:24.270

Evan Taylor: And at the, you know, sort of, that's where you start to the get to the end of the interview.

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01:48:24.480 --> 01:48:35.430

Evan Taylor: And then so, and it's about about legacy. So I'm interested in you know obviously got a lot of time left but you know we're encoded on certain times people get hit by bosses, life happens. And that happens so

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01:48:35.670 --> 01:48:44.940

Evan Taylor: If you know you if you got hit by a bus tomorrow. You know, like, life happens. And what would you, what's the legacy that you would like to leave. What would you like to be remembered for

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01:48:45.510 --> 01:48:49.860

Evan Taylor: You know, how do you want people what. Yeah. What does that. What does that that legacy that you would like to leave.

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01:48:51.660 --> 01:48:53.640

1604****200: Um, I, I go

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01:48:55.140 --> 01:48:56.310

1604****200: To be believed.

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01:48:57.690 --> 01:48:58.500

1604****200: You know, and

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01:48:59.850 --> 01:49:12.840

1604****200: One of the most important thing for women who have been battered abuse is to be believed, and is no different for me and to be believed, as a woman and

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01:49:14.820 --> 01:49:15.660

1604****200: Obviously,

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01:49:17.670 --> 01:49:18.090

1604****200: I hope

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01:49:19.200 --> 01:49:22.530

1604****200: To be you know remembered

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01:49:23.880 --> 01:49:27.000

1604****200: As being kind and for my compassion and

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01:49:28.320 --> 01:49:36.120

1604****200: And for being trying to be the best and a strong ally to people of color and indigenous people.

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01:49:40.650 --> 01:49:54.180

1604****200: I just like, yeah, I'd be. I hope that you know what I what I've done, and my life will have made a difference and improve people's lives in particular.

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01:49:55.320 --> 01:49:55.650

Evan Taylor: Um,

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01:49:57.120 --> 01:50:11.190

Evan Taylor: Well, I can certainly tell you that, as somebody I try not to talk too much on these on these interviews, but it's important for me to be able to tell you on the recording that I very much. Remember this all happening at the time as a young trans person in Vancouver and

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01:50:12.420 --> 01:50:14.400

Evan Taylor: I'm so inspired and so

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01:50:15.240 --> 01:50:19.230

Evan Taylor: The work you were doing and the fact that you were so public about it and it was just

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01:50:19.860 --> 01:50:33.240

Evan Taylor: Absolutely seemed like it would just, it must have just taken so much out of you. And as somebody who was a young trans person in Vancouver. It was it allowed me the opportunity to to look ahead and to see that.

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01:50:34.470 --> 01:50:39.540

Evan Taylor: To see that rights were coming. You know, they weren't there yet, but I could see that they were coming and I could see it gave me hope.

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01:50:40.350 --> 01:50:48.990

Evan Taylor: For the future that that our community could be healthy could be respected could be visible in a positive way. And that's something that

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01:50:49.500 --> 01:51:04.470

Evan Taylor: Was so inspiring to me. I was only about it was my very, very early 20s and it was so it was so wonderful to me that this work was happening and that you were so public about it and I can absolutely tell you without a shadow shadow about. I hope you have very many years left to

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01:51:04.800 --> 01:51:13.410

Evan Taylor: To get to do your ally work, but I can absolutely tell you that you change Chan trans rights and transmute experiences and certainly for for young folks coming up.

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01:51:14.010 --> 01:51:19.950

Evan Taylor: You gave absolute hope to an entire generation of Canadian trans folks that we could be respected.

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01:51:21.270 --> 01:51:25.080

1604****200: Yeah, thank you. Evan. Yeah. Appreciate that was important for

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01:51:25.350 --> 01:51:28.980

Evan Taylor: Me to get to say because it's it was. It's very personal. And I remember actually.

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01:51:29.250 --> 01:51:31.140

Evan Taylor: In my social work, school we invited

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01:51:32.670 --> 01:51:37.980

Evan Taylor: Somebody from Rape Relief and boy, he should have seen all of the social workers yelling, screaming at each other.

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01:51:38.250 --> 01:51:42.600

Evan Taylor: And eventually we uninvited the speaker, because we felt was the right thing to do.

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01:51:42.840 --> 01:51:50.700

Evan Taylor: And it was this was absolutely all while this was, you know, this was in the courts for you. So it was I talked to Barbara. Little bit about it. So I'm glad I got to

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01:51:53.580 --> 01:51:59.910

1604****200: Yeah, it's like, yeah, unfortunately, you know, like through all us through all the

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01:52:02.370 --> 01:52:03.000

1604****200: Years.

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01:52:04.680 --> 01:52:16.080

1604****200: In court and, you know, just to the whole journey and you know I've always supported the work that wrapper leaf has done, I respect.

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01:52:17.160 --> 01:52:19.170

1604****200: All that they have done and

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01:52:21.150 --> 01:52:22.290

1604****200: I just, you know, like

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01:52:25.410 --> 01:52:34.080

1604****200: An organization isn't bad, it's just a reflection of the people that are in it and the people can change so

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01:52:35.250 --> 01:52:38.610

1604****200: You know, maybe one day they too will evolve.

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01:52:39.690 --> 01:52:48.090

1604****200: I sort of, I hope that you know in 25 years there will be an end to the just a

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01:52:49.470 --> 01:53:03.390

1604****200: Perfect perpetuating the hatred and the stereotypes that Rape Relief has done and and people like tennis, Raymond or Sheila Jeffries, and, and, especially, you know,

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01:53:06.540 --> 01:53:26.640

1604****200: Recently JK Rowling, you know, they thought that kind of rhetoric that's used against trans people is just poison and so hurtful and harmful and and degrading and and it's it's sort of like when you hear it. It's like, What world are they in and like

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01:53:28.020 --> 01:53:32.310

1604****200: I, I just hope that that that will change, you know, to think that

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01:53:33.510 --> 01:53:34.050

1604****200: You know,

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01:53:35.910 --> 01:53:42.660

1604****200: In their words that a man would choose to be a woman to infiltrate an organization is just so

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01:53:44.370 --> 01:53:45.900

1604****200: Ridiculous. It's like

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01:53:48.390 --> 01:53:50.520

1604****200: You know that kind of rhetoric is just

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01:53:52.650 --> 01:54:10.260

1604****200: It doesn't make sense. You know if it was directed that any other group or person, then there would be outraged, but I just hope in 25 years there will be the outrage, as there is now for, you know, for around the issues around race.

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01:54:10.830 --> 01:54:12.240

Evan Taylor: Mm hmm.

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01:54:12.900 --> 01:54:15.720

Evan Taylor: Absolutely, I think, I think that's an interesting point that I think that

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01:54:16.290 --> 01:54:28.800

Evan Taylor: Our that that that awareness is it's coming. But it's not there yet, but it's going to take a huge scale social change for people to actually start to recognize that as a population trans folks aren't really treated as humans.

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01:54:29.910 --> 01:54:31.230

1604****200: Right, yeah.

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01:54:32.460 --> 01:54:34.500

1604****200: Well, I sure hope that happens, I can

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01:54:34.500 --> 01:54:39.600

Evan Taylor: Definitely, I can definitely say you know beyond a shadow shadow of a doubt that that work that you did.

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01:54:40.260 --> 01:54:51.870

Evan Taylor: set the stage for it and and made it possible for that for that future to happen and it will happen. There's no question it's on its way. It's just a matter of time and and letting that that glacial pace of change happen and it's on its way.

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01:54:52.800 --> 01:55:10.530

1604****200: Yeah, no I that that's so important. And you know, I see, I see that reflected and I see that reflected in in youth and you know like I you know the the i've i've also experienced many good opportunities you know because of

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01:55:12.630 --> 01:55:33.840

1604****200: You know, the, the activism that I've done, and the court case in particular. So I'm certainly, you know, like, you know, universities and scholars academics and you know pieces that have been written. I mean, there's still some pretty ugly stuff out there. I remember reading

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01:55:36.720 --> 01:56:00.480

1604****200: A woman did a thesis and you know she was, she was saying, you know, like Rape Relief her thesis was all about words and language and and and so her thesis was going down the road of that rape reliefs language of

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01:56:01.620 --> 01:56:09.930

1604****200: Sex female woman is different than my language of sex female woman, and I'm here to say it is not

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01:56:12.030 --> 01:56:12.780

1604****200: It is not

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01:56:13.950 --> 01:56:14.400

1604****200: So,

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01:56:14.970 --> 01:56:33.780

1604****200: Um, you know, there's still stuff like that that's out there and and you know like I'm publicly i've i've spoken so much and tried to share so much of my experience and you know it's it's not about me, it's about, you know, the larger group, but

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01:56:34.980 --> 01:56:44.220

1604****200: You know if sometimes people put a name to a face and then you know that might make them a little more human than

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01:56:45.360 --> 01:56:46.950

1604****200: That's a good thing. So

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01:56:50.520 --> 01:56:52.440

Evan Taylor: Yeah, I've experienced, you know, in the last

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01:56:52.740 --> 01:56:59.340

1604****200: You know so often, you know, I've had the opportunity to speak. You know, like, a year ago I was invited

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01:57:00.690 --> 01:57:06.600

1604****200: To Ryerson University in Toronto and and just, you know, hearing and getting

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01:57:07.800 --> 01:57:32.130

1604****200: The feedback that I have from from youth and and young people and and you know and and the impact of of the activism that I have done and and what that that case has meant to them is actually meant quite a lot to me I you know all along, we we based our

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01:57:34.350 --> 01:57:35.250

1604****200: The court case.

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01:57:38.340 --> 01:57:48.570

1604****200: We we fought based on the grounds of sex. So I was protected off all along. Under the grounds of sex as being female and

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01:57:50.490 --> 01:57:57.030

1604****200: But it didn't, it, it was really important to me to even potentially see

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01:57:58.290 --> 01:58:17.130

1604****200: The provincial and federal government and men, the human rights codes and include gender identity. So it's sort of more of a learning tool, but just the fact that it's there, you know, tells everyone if they don't know that it is wrong to discriminate and

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01:58:18.480 --> 01:58:27.150

1604****200: And so that was sort of quite fulfilling to me because, you know, though the work that people have done was

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01:58:28.800 --> 01:58:29.970

1604****200: From watching me.

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01:58:31.020 --> 01:58:45.420

1604****200: Go through the years of the court case. And so it was very much in the public eye and and so it raised the issue to such a higher level.

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01:58:46.560 --> 01:58:53.490

1604****200: That you know now, it is, it was really important and I sort of feel a lot

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01:58:55.560 --> 01:59:03.990

1604****200: Better than it is included under you know they think human rights code. So right grounds for discrimination, so

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01:59:05.370 --> 01:59:05.640

1604****200: Yeah.

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01:59:05.730 --> 01:59:09.090

Evan Taylor: That's a big. That's a big change since when you were pursuing it.

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01:59:10.440 --> 01:59:16.740

1604****200: Yeah. And ultimately, like I said, it's just a learning tool, but, um, but it

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01:59:18.930 --> 01:59:27.300

1604****200: Because I, you know, we were always protected, but I think it's really important to have it, you know, on paper, yeah.

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01:59:27.570 --> 01:59:35.640

Evan Taylor: Yeah, well it when it's when it's encoded in law in that way it's it's it's so it's so direct there's no needing to read into anything

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01:59:36.480 --> 01:59:40.560

1604****200: Yeah yeah yeah I remember talking to. I met

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01:59:42.720 --> 01:59:51.840

1604****200: Jody Wilson labels and I remember you know after it went to the Senate and was passed, and she said that asked me how I felt.

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01:59:53.520 --> 01:59:55.680

1604****200: So, so yeah, was

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01:59:57.090 --> 01:59:57.600

1604****200: Pardon me.

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01:59:57.930 --> 01:59:58.590

Evan Taylor: Would you say

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01:59:59.790 --> 02:00:09.780

1604****200: Oh well, I said, you know, I've devoted my life to to that and and and then. Yeah. And then she asked for a selfie with me.

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02:00:13.230 --> 02:00:15.450

1604****200: I thought it was supposed to be the other way around.

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02:00:16.560 --> 02:00:17.310

1604****200: Me with her.

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02:00:18.570 --> 02:00:23.340

1604****200: Well, I was thinking about that earlier when you're talking about about working why the arms race. And I'm like,

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02:00:23.550 --> 02:00:35.100

Evan Taylor: How on Earth do people not know your name. By now, like I at this point. It surprises me that people have to you know that you're out and buy a newspaper article and I'm surprised that people just automatically know who you are.

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02:00:35.970 --> 02:00:40.470

1604****200: Yeah, well I had amazingly. Oh, I gotta grab my bird just

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02:00:41.520 --> 02:00:43.800

1604****200: Pardon me for a moment. Again, I'll be right back.

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02:01:02.430 --> 02:01:05.700

1604****200: Yeah, she went on, walk about in the kitchen, again, sorry everyone

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02:01:08.730 --> 02:01:09.570

1604****200: Yeah.

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02:01:10.680 --> 02:01:13.530

1604****200: I amazingly through all of

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02:01:15.180 --> 02:01:20.340

1604****200: All the ordeal of, you know, the years going through

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02:01:21.660 --> 02:01:22.530

1604****200: The human rights.

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02:01:24.030 --> 02:01:32.070

1604****200: tribunal process I I managed to keep my life private and I had like two worlds.

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02:01:33.480 --> 02:01:43.890

1604****200: I had, you know, the activism worlds and then I kept my, you know, my personal life, private, so I was able to compete, you know, that's when I did.

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02:01:44.400 --> 02:01:55.800

1604****200: I competed until I was 50 in golf. Eventually, and so I kept that world separate and then also my personal world with my relationship and

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02:01:56.370 --> 02:02:11.130

1604****200: And my partner had a daughter. And as I said, and and who lived half time with us. So I had to I. It was really hard because obviously the intensity of the court process and the human rights.

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02:02:13.350 --> 02:02:21.390

1604****200: complaint process. It was really intense and it was sort of you know I devoted my all my middle years to that.

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02:02:21.480 --> 02:02:32.280

1604****200: I did sort of, you know, I had to somehow try to, you know, keep that separate from my personal life, so it wouldn't affect me and how

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02:02:33.600 --> 02:02:37.020

1604****200: You know my spirit and and you know

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02:02:38.700 --> 02:02:45.030

1604****200: With with the you know the family that I had and and my relationships so

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02:02:46.110 --> 02:02:55.830

1604****200: You know, my partner was really good. He was, you know, the this these issues or all very foreign to him and but

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02:02:57.180 --> 02:03:16.620

1604****200: And I remember you know before we had a personal relationship, you know, you know, working with him, he, he wasn't aware for over six months until I told him and and then you know he's, he was actually probably one of the most kindest and most accepting

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02:03:17.910 --> 02:03:25.710

1604****200: Even even during the course of the 24 years working with him. He was always, and we were all always sewing inclusive and

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02:03:26.220 --> 02:03:37.410

1604****200: You know, every opportunity that we had. We were inclusive in our hiring and, you know, giving new Canadians often meet you know opportunity and

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02:03:38.010 --> 02:03:55.890

1604****200: And support and and so yeah he. Yeah. It took took you know a lot of years to find that special person that could sort of see beyond the, you know, as, as you know, with people of color, like, look, see beyond

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02:03:57.030 --> 02:04:08.760

1604****200: You know, skin color and know the person. And it's the same like CP on the trans issues and and know that the person. So I mean, these are just labels and and you know

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02:04:09.870 --> 02:04:17.430

1604****200: The power of spirit and and the person is so great that you know people lose out by

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02:04:18.840 --> 02:04:19.200

1604****200: You know,

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02:04:20.520 --> 02:04:22.950

1604****200: Discrimination or discriminating against

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02:04:24.930 --> 02:04:28.770

1604****200: Groups diversity is such a beautiful thing.

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02:04:33.630 --> 02:04:36.480

Evan Taylor: Sorry to talk to mute there and cough. Um, yeah.

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02:04:37.200 --> 02:04:37.740

1604****200: Let me

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02:04:38.670 --> 02:04:48.900

Evan Taylor: Saying, they're going to use that little quote there that that diversity is a beautiful thing. Because I think exactly what you're saying that we're moving away from some of these identity politics, hopefully, and into

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02:04:49.680 --> 02:04:49.890

1604****200: You know,

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02:04:49.950 --> 02:04:51.900

Evan Taylor: We relate to each other differently, hopefully.

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02:04:51.900 --> 02:04:52.260

Soon.

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02:04:53.580 --> 02:04:54.780

1604****200: Yeah yeah

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02:04:56.310 --> 02:04:57.540

Evan Taylor: It's them with trans

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02:04:57.540 --> 02:04:59.010

1604****200: Issues, I guess we're sort of

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02:05:00.480 --> 02:05:01.950

1604****200: Getting closer to

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02:05:02.970 --> 02:05:05.310

1604****200: Maybe the end of our conversation but

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02:05:06.570 --> 02:05:13.350

1604****200: You know, for I wish that you know organization and and would apply the rules.

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02:05:15.150 --> 02:05:19.950

1604****200: You know as as around, you know, say rules of disability or

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02:05:23.760 --> 02:05:32.370

1604****200: You know, judging people on ability or disability and and you know around trans issues is is not

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02:05:33.510 --> 02:05:36.630

1604****200: reverting to the double standards and

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02:05:38.520 --> 02:05:39.000

1604****200: You know,

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02:05:40.350 --> 02:05:54.810

1604****200: accepting the fact that this is just nature and it expresses nature expresses itself in many different ways, and many wonderful ways and and it's like so full and rich and and

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02:05:56.760 --> 02:05:58.830

1604****200: In experience if you open your heart.

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02:05:59.340 --> 02:06:00.300

1604****200: Yeah yeah

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02:06:01.980 --> 02:06:18.510

Evan Taylor: Think that's interesting what you're saying about just that its nature, right at this very ability around gender around size around, you know, whether whatever it is abilities race all the stuff. All of these things are the own nature is Nature isn't binary right nature follows a

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02:06:19.200 --> 02:06:19.470

Drum

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02:06:20.760 --> 02:06:21.060

1604****200: Yeah.

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02:06:22.140 --> 02:06:33.060

1604****200: Yeah. And there used to be such harsh harsh judgment and criticism and and yeah, of being you had to be one or the other and and it's

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02:06:34.170 --> 02:06:37.710

1604****200: You know, we've come far enough that we've learned

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02:06:40.170 --> 02:06:47.520

1604****200: That that's just not the case. And we know it started to improve so many people's lives and and

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02:06:49.170 --> 02:06:53.280

1604****200: And just to be a VIP at who they are.

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02:06:58.920 --> 02:07:09.060

1604****200: Yeah, there's so much more. You know, like, obviously, you know what I what I faced was based you know I encountered so much politics and and you know

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02:07:10.890 --> 02:07:23.100

1604****200: You know when when, as I said earlier, you know, this so little pie of religion, politics and nature and and they say collide.

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02:07:24.360 --> 02:07:33.780

1604****200: In society and and create so much hurt and and judgments and and violence and and

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02:07:35.190 --> 02:07:49.110

1604****200: I just, you know, I hope, I hope that you know you know the Janice Raymond's the Sheila Jeffries, the, you know, maybe, maybe this is there's a moment in time for for

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02:07:50.640 --> 02:07:50.850

1604****200: Was

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02:07:52.470 --> 02:08:08.010

1604****200: JK Rowling. Um, but they're, they're just a reflection of how society was and and how Rape Relief was and you know like grape relief actually had dennis rodman come up and they would do.

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02:08:11.880 --> 02:08:12.330

Sort of

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02:08:13.650 --> 02:08:19.800

1604****200: They would have little evenings, they would have dennis rodman come up as a speaker and stuff.

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02:08:21.540 --> 02:08:27.180

1604****200: And and so yeah I knew early on, while it was obvious what they're there.

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02:08:28.440 --> 02:08:35.670

1604****200: Were where they were coming from. I just hope that kind of thing will will retain or will change because you know

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02:08:36.870 --> 02:08:45.840

1604****200: defaulting to those you know stereotypes in generalizations around trans people is just actually, that's just

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02:08:49.500 --> 02:09:00.210

1604****200: Just the easiest easy way. And, you know, it takes a lot of strength and courage and work to sort of see through that and see people

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02:09:00.840 --> 02:09:17.610

1604****200: For who they are and and trust and believe. I mean, there's good and bad in every group. But, you know, generally, as a society, you know, hopefully it's it has involved evolved and is evolving into

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02:09:19.470 --> 02:09:21.780

1604****200: being much more inclusive.

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02:09:22.800 --> 02:09:23.190

1604****200: Mm hmm.

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02:09:25.140 --> 02:09:33.420

Evan Taylor: Well, I think that's the be if you look at you know history right it's it's it's always you know through whatever three steps forward, two steps back sort of thing. But it is a con. Yeah.

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02:09:33.510 --> 02:09:36.900

Evan Taylor: You should have rights and inclusion. It's a constant evolution of

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02:09:37.200 --> 02:09:49.320

Evan Taylor: Creating, you know, a more liberal and you know society that works for a larger segment of the population right it's it's it's history. Will you know you'll be on the right side of history in the long run because you're part of that three steps forward.

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02:09:50.340 --> 02:09:50.730

1604****200: Yeah.

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02:09:52.500 --> 02:09:54.240

1604****200: Yeah, absolutely.

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02:09:56.160 --> 02:09:56.430

1604****200: Well,

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02:09:56.490 --> 02:10:04.080

Evan Taylor: I'm aware of the time, because that you had mentioned that you need to get going around around 11 so I'm aware of it. It's actually about 40 minutes after that.

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02:10:04.710 --> 02:10:15.360

Evan Taylor: But I'm happy to stay on the line. If there's other things that you that you're thinking about that we haven't talked about. I want to make sure we get them on on record. While we're here, but I also don't want to keep you where you need to be

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02:10:16.620 --> 02:10:21.330

1604****200: Okay, I've got to just find my bird and I'll be

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02:10:22.080 --> 02:10:22.530

Evan Taylor: Right back

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02:10:22.920 --> 02:10:26.010

1604****200: I hear some some chewing going on.

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02:10:27.600 --> 02:10:29.820

1604****200: I have to go see if it's something important.

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02:10:50.310 --> 02:10:54.930

1604****200: Yeah, sorry about those little interruption. So don't don't apologize.

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02:10:55.110 --> 02:10:58.110

Evan Taylor: It's part of its part of the end but the immersive experience.

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02:11:01.020 --> 02:11:01.530

1604****200: Yeah.

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02:11:03.300 --> 02:11:20.910

1604****200: I mean, there's so much. I wish I but it, but it's all you know it's, you know, people can go online, if they're interested they can you know Google, you know, there's so many resources, but if they're interested as

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02:11:21.930 --> 02:11:32.490

1604****200: They probably maybe if they're listening to this piece, you know, Google. Google my name and transcend Kimberly next and transgender rights.

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02:11:33.600 --> 02:11:46.620

1604****200: And you know so much comes up and there's so much you can read that is just so stereotypical and stuff that you know is poison from from but there's also a lot of

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02:11:48.000 --> 02:12:06.000

1604****200: You know good and heartwarming stuff and you can just serve see the evolution over like over time, you know, and how society and the chefs and the educating people have done and and the support and you know and you know like the the course of my case.

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02:12:07.170 --> 02:12:11.370

1604****200: changed the course of feminism and Canada and

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02:12:13.170 --> 02:12:21.000

1604****200: So that's something you know i'm i'm very proud of and and but it wasn't. I mean, some of the stuff is

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02:12:22.650 --> 02:12:26.700

1604****200: You read is so future it but you know I guess it

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02:12:28.770 --> 02:12:28.950

1604****200: Will

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02:12:31.500 --> 02:12:33.000

Eventually, I guess.

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02:12:34.590 --> 02:12:45.990

1604****200: For lack of a better word, the cream rises to the top and and people. Yeah, educate themselves and evolve. Mm hmm.

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02:12:46.920 --> 02:12:50.580

Evan Taylor: I like that idea of the cream rises to the top. Eventually, we can just wait that out.

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02:12:51.360 --> 02:12:51.660

Yeah.

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02:12:53.580 --> 02:12:55.350

1604****200: Yeah, so I'm just going to

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02:12:55.620 --> 02:13:02.490

Evan Taylor: pause the recording now and just turn it off so that we can just chat, chat next steps. Um, unless there's anything else that will still on.

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02:13:03.690 --> 02:13:10.140

1604****200: Um, I just want to say this is such a big heartfelt thank you to the women and the feminist

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02:13:11.670 --> 02:13:18.570

1604****200: women's organizations once again that trusted and believe me and and and made

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02:13:19.590 --> 02:13:24.570

1604****200: necessary changes and and who are inclusive.

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02:13:25.800 --> 02:13:26.190

1604****200: You know,

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02:13:27.870 --> 02:13:30.390

1604****200: So that that's something that is

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02:13:32.580 --> 02:13:41.340

1604****200: So meaningful to me and and all the. Yeah. And it makes all the, all that I had endured personally worthwhile.

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02:13:43.710 --> 02:13:47.850

Evan Taylor: Thank you for that. I wrote that down. When I asked you about the, about the

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02:13:48.180 --> 02:13:58.380

Evan Taylor: Legacy question and I wrote that down that phrase that you said to be believed, as a woman. As a survivor of violence as a human being, and I really love.

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02:13:58.620 --> 02:14:00.300

Evan Taylor: That phrase to be believed, so

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02:14:00.510 --> 02:14:05.880

Evan Taylor: If, if I'm going to, if I'm going to title this this interview I think that'll be the title is to be believed.

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02:14:06.840 --> 02:14:08.220

1604****200: Great. I love it.

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02:14:09.090 --> 02:14:10.560

Evan Taylor: Okay, very important. Yeah.

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02:14:11.340 --> 02:14:11.880

Evan Taylor: Let me

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02:14:12.750 --> 02:14:23.850

Evan Taylor: Get back on now. So yeah, I would really like to hear that story because we talked about at the beginning, but I didn't get it on on on record. So can you tell me a little bit about the image piece of that happened through the court case.

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02:14:24.870 --> 02:14:45.540

1604****200: Um, well just through the court case the course of the court case, you know, refer leaf did a really good job of erasing my history and that was basically you know when they spoke to the media. Media that I somehow just landed on their doorstep and the day before I had surgery but

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02:14:46.410 --> 02:14:47.700

1604****200: You know, I do have

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02:14:50.550 --> 02:15:04.740

1604****200: I have such a lengthy history. In, in, you know, we're working with women's organizations and I had such a history before long before Rape Relief and and

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02:15:05.850 --> 02:15:09.450

1604****200: And you know, I also work for transition house. I work for

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02:15:10.530 --> 02:15:12.870

1604****200: The kettle friendships society. I was a

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02:15:13.980 --> 02:15:16.110

1604****200: I support worker in

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02:15:17.940 --> 02:15:25.710

1604****200: In Transition house for women only and it was called Peggy's place and you know I've done so much

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02:15:26.940 --> 02:15:35.490

1604****200: You know, work in and supporting you know women and I was doing that long, long before a Reaper leaves so

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02:15:36.750 --> 02:15:40.470

1604****200: You know, they basically just portrayed me as some

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02:15:42.030 --> 02:15:43.500

1604****200: Basically some

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02:15:44.790 --> 02:15:50.640

1604****200: Freak that landed on their doorstep. And so I had so much of a history.

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02:15:52.410 --> 02:15:53.970

1604****200: You know, long before that.

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02:15:56.220 --> 02:15:56.550

Evan Taylor: Thank you.

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02:15:56.640 --> 02:15:58.920

1604****200: I have so many interests, you know, I

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02:16:01.110 --> 02:16:03.210

1604****200: I have a really diverse

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02:16:04.320 --> 02:16:12.210

1604****200: Interests in and i've you know have accomplishments and in so many areas and

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02:16:13.470 --> 02:16:18.990

1604****200: And so, yeah, it's a, you know, I've turned down a movie.

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02:16:21.420 --> 02:16:33.960

1604****200: You know that there's been documentaries that have been done have been done. And yeah, there's, there are some that are online. So, you know, people can Google it and

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02:16:35.280 --> 02:16:35.910

1604****200: Um,

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02:16:36.660 --> 02:16:38.580

Evan Taylor: You also mentioned something earlier about

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02:16:40.200 --> 02:16:43.950

Evan Taylor: Image, you know, just like the visual sort of representation of you.

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02:16:44.940 --> 02:17:05.340

1604****200: Yeah yeah wrapper leaf. I mean, they didn't want the truth to be known and you know they portray it trade me that you know as a counselor, a peer counselor or a wrapper leaf counts Rick crisis counselor that trans women would frighten other women and

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02:17:06.480 --> 02:17:07.710

1604****200: Certainly you know

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02:17:09.360 --> 02:17:17.040

1604****200: Women who have experienced violence or abuse can be triggered you know obviously around PTSD and and other

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02:17:19.050 --> 02:17:22.230

1604****200: Issues, or mental health issues.

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02:17:23.250 --> 02:17:34.500

1604****200: And, and, but, you know, like my, my experience for three years before Rape Relief, you know, a battered women's support services and

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02:17:35.820 --> 02:17:49.590

1604****200: You know, the women I attended personally a support group every Wednesday night, which I said was my lifeline. And there was about 30 women in in the group each night. And there was never an issue.

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02:17:50.970 --> 02:18:10.500

1604****200: Ultimately, it's not about appearance. You know, like battered women's support services in 1997 started to address their own institutionalized and organizational racism. So there was a big Bry grouping.

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02:18:11.910 --> 02:18:16.410

1604****200: You know by the that organization at that time. And I was a part of it and

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02:18:17.490 --> 02:18:20.640

1604****200: Out of, you know, this the training.

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02:18:21.780 --> 02:18:24.030

1604****200: Volunteer training group that I went through.

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02:18:25.710 --> 02:18:26.160

1604****200: For

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02:18:27.480 --> 02:18:43.710

1604****200: As a crisis counselor at be WS S S out of 14 women only for finished and I was one of them and and you know that also involves so much educating as a white person, you know, around issues of

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02:18:44.970 --> 02:18:48.090

1604****200: Race and and anti racism and

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02:18:49.500 --> 02:18:51.420

1604****200: So that was really

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02:18:52.890 --> 02:18:54.690

1604****200: Important period of time for me.

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02:18:56.520 --> 02:18:57.150

1604****200: But

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02:18:58.800 --> 02:18:59.190

1604****200: You know,

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02:19:00.300 --> 02:19:01.860

1604****200: Raipur leaf does

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02:19:05.160 --> 02:19:07.860

1604****200: Need that all about invisible. Oh.

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02:19:09.090 --> 02:19:23.910

1604****200: So what they did, said publicly was what society all already had in their mind about what a trans person was and look like and that's how they portrayed me but you know I have

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02:19:25.260 --> 02:19:33.960

1604****200: The media and me being so public, you know, the media came to learn that that wasn't actually the case. And I remember in

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02:19:35.220 --> 02:19:39.990

1604****200: A number of articles that were written, which were there were thousands written

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02:19:41.160 --> 02:19:50.190

1604****200: And and I just remember ONE OF THE JOURNALISTS SAID THAT I just look like any other woman and and that was the truth so

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02:19:51.450 --> 02:19:59.100

1604****200: And that doesn't matter when when a trans person, you know, it's this is not about choice so natured

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02:19:59.520 --> 02:20:00.840

1604****200: You know, sometimes

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02:20:02.820 --> 02:20:06.390

1604****200: Is kinder to some of us than others and

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02:20:08.010 --> 02:20:19.980

1604****200: But that has nothing to do with it absolutely nothing to do with it. And the fact is is how we identify and you know there was already policy in place.

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02:20:22.170 --> 02:20:35.370

1604****200: You know, I could go on and on. Most, most organizations man didn't recognize same sex battering but there was policies in place, like a VW OSS and how to sort of recognize or

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02:20:40.560 --> 02:20:49.080

1604****200: Screen between the abuser because to two women in a relationship in a same sex relationship could be accessing

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02:20:50.280 --> 02:20:59.370

1604****200: The same services. And so there was tools to recognize who was the abuser, and who wasn't and anyone who was late you know anyone in

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02:20:59.790 --> 02:21:10.680

1604****200: You know, as a support group that I mean there's ground rules in general in every support group. And if you don't abide by the rules, even, you know, as a woman speaking those services.

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02:21:11.970 --> 02:21:12.870

1604****200: You know, if you're

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02:21:14.670 --> 02:21:29.850

1604****200: If you're you say something racist, then you know they usually gave a three warnings and then otherwise you're not welcome and no matter. You know what the circumstances are

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02:21:31.080 --> 02:21:44.850

1604****200: So there was always already in place, a way of dealing with if someone identifies as a woman and and you fulfill the mandate of the organization, then

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02:21:46.110 --> 02:21:53.460

1604****200: And those resources are appropriate for you, then you should be welcome based on your gender identity so

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02:21:54.570 --> 02:21:58.110

1604****200: And if not, then there would be other referrals made

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02:21:59.370 --> 02:22:17.940

1604****200: So, I mean, there's so much made that you know because of appearance that I mean right relief even it's part of the transcripts that Barbara Finley I'll ask them, Well, how would you feel about a woman that were was wearing a that would be count counseling.

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02:22:19.170 --> 02:22:26.160

1604****200: That was wearing a baseball cap backwards and Rape Relief, I actually said, you know, like they would ask

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02:22:27.540 --> 02:22:31.050

1604****200: Them to turn their head around. So

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02:22:32.220 --> 02:22:33.630

1604****200: I know, I know.

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02:22:34.680 --> 02:22:48.840

1604****200: So yeah you over time. I mean, this is hard to speak about, you know, myself, but I mean this is for research and and i don't like you know obviously

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02:22:49.860 --> 02:22:50.160

1604****200: To

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02:22:51.270 --> 02:22:52.920

1604****200: Talk about myself that much but

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02:22:54.180 --> 02:22:59.910

1604****200: But you know like relief. If they had so much as an issue. You know, you

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02:23:00.360 --> 02:23:19.230

1604****200: You know, in an audio recording and obviously you can't see me, but I mean I've made out pretty good. You know, I've made my way through the world pretty good and and most people don't know. But again, you know that I qualify that with. It's not about appearance, but the fact is, like,

999

02:23:20.310 --> 02:23:26.970

1604****200: If Raipur leaf had so much of a problem. I was, I was actually in Elle magazine, so

1000

02:23:28.350 --> 02:23:35.160

1604****200: I was when I was 20 years ago I was in Elle magazine which is high fashion.

1001

02:23:37.230 --> 02:23:41.790

1604****200: Magazine like cosmopolitan, it's a women's magazine and so

1002

02:23:42.930 --> 02:23:44.700

1604****200: You know if

1003

02:23:46.380 --> 02:23:52.890

1604****200: I'm yeah so that that's just stating that as a fact. So it may be a point of interest. So

1004

02:23:53.010 --> 02:23:56.250

1604****200: Basically, it was about the work work I did but

1005

02:23:57.420 --> 02:24:04.050

1604****200: I, I, I didn't have to turn my baseball cap around. So, is what I'm saying. Yeah.

1006

02:24:08.460 --> 02:24:09.390

1604****200: Interesting analogy.

1007

02:24:10.740 --> 02:24:11.100

Evan Taylor: Yeah.

1008

02:24:12.780 --> 02:24:15.270

1604****200: Well, they're there. Yeah, I mean their whole

1009

02:24:17.220 --> 02:24:21.180

1604****200: View their their their view on women was flawed and

1010

02:24:23.820 --> 02:24:25.110

1604****200: Then still, it still is my

1011

02:24:25.140 --> 02:24:27.780

Evan Taylor: Sound some things you do. Yeah.

1012

02:24:29.430 --> 02:24:33.900

Evan Taylor: Okay, I'm going to pause this recording and can't. Now, I'm glad we got that section. Thank you.