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00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:03,820

This episode is brought to you by Thorne and I have some incredible news for any of you

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00:00:03,820 --> 00:00:07,960

that are in the military, first responder or medical professions.

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00:00:07,960 --> 00:00:15,860

In an effort to give back, Thorne is now offering you an ongoing 35% off each and every one

4

00:00:15,860 --> 00:00:19,780

of your purchases of their incredible nutritional solutions.

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00:00:19,780 --> 00:00:27,280

Now Thorne is the official supplement of CrossFit, the UFC, the Mayo Clinic, the Human Performance

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00:00:27,280 --> 00:00:31,480

Project and multiple special operations organizations.

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00:00:31,480 --> 00:00:36,440

I myself have used them for several years and that is why I brought them on as a sponsor.

8

00:00:36,440 --> 00:00:42,080

Some of my favorite products they have are their Multivitamin Elite, their Whey Protein,

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00:00:42,080 --> 00:00:45,840

the Super EPA and then most recently, Cynaquil.

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00:00:45,840 --> 00:00:50,120

As a firefighter, a stuntman and a martial artist, I've had my share of brain trauma

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00:00:50,120 --> 00:00:55,520

and sleep deprivation and Cynaquil is their latest brain health supplement.

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00:00:55,520 --> 00:01:02,640

Now to qualify for the 35% off, go to thorn.com, T-H-O-R-N-E dot com.

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00:01:02,640 --> 00:01:05,460

Click on sign in and then create a new account.

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00:01:05,460 --> 00:01:09,800

You will see the opportunity to register as a first responder or member of military.

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00:01:09,800 --> 00:01:14,680

When you click on that, it will take you through verification with GovX.

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00:01:14,680 --> 00:01:19,000

You'll simply choose a profession, provide one piece of documentation and then you are

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00:01:19,000 --> 00:01:20,920

verified for life.

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00:01:20,920 --> 00:01:26,720

From that point onwards, you will continue to receive 35% off through Thorn.

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00:01:26,720 --> 00:01:34,360

For those of you who don't qualify, there is still the 10% off using the code BTS10

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00:01:34,360 --> 00:01:36,240

for a one time purchase.

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00:01:36,240 --> 00:01:42,040

To learn more about Thorn, go to episode 323 of the Behind the Shield podcast with Joel

22

00:01:42,040 --> 00:01:45,560

Titiro and Wes Barnett.

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00:01:45,560 --> 00:01:51,360

This episode is sponsored by a company I've used for well over a decade and that is 511.

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00:01:51,360 --> 00:01:56,780

I wore their uniforms back in Anaheim, California and have used their products ever since.

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00:01:56,780 --> 00:02:03,360

From their incredibly strong yet light footwear to their cut uniforms for both male and female

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00:02:03,360 --> 00:02:08,200

responders, I found them hands down the best work wear in all the departments that I've

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00:02:08,200 --> 00:02:09,200

worked for.

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00:02:09,200 --> 00:02:13,720

Outside of the fire service, I use their luggage for everything and I travel a lot and they

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00:02:13,720 --> 00:02:20,040

are also now sponsoring the 7X team as we embark around the world on the Human Performance

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00:02:20,040 --> 00:02:21,040

project.

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00:02:21,040 --> 00:02:25,080

We have Murph coming up in May and again I bought their plate carrier.

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00:02:25,080 --> 00:02:30,080

I ended up buying real ballistic plates rather than the fake weight plates and that has been

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00:02:30,080 --> 00:02:33,920

my ride or die through Murph the last few years as well.

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00:02:33,920 --> 00:02:37,860

One area I want to talk about that I haven't in previous sponsorship spots is their brick

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00:02:37,860 --> 00:02:39,700

and mortar element.

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00:02:39,700 --> 00:02:44,400

They were predominantly an online company up till more recently but now they are approaching

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00:02:44,400 --> 00:02:47,140

100 stores all over the US.

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00:02:47,140 --> 00:02:52,200

My local store is here in Gainesville Florida and I've been multiple times and the discounts

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00:02:52,200 --> 00:02:55,460

you see online are applied also in the stores.

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00:02:55,460 --> 00:03:02,080

So as I mentioned 511 is offering you 15% off every purchase that you make but I do

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00:03:02,080 --> 00:03:07,160

want to say more often than not they have an even deeper discount especially around

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00:03:07,160 --> 00:03:08,760

holiday times.

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00:03:08,760 --> 00:03:18,720

But if you use the code SHIELD15 you will get 15% off your order or in the stores every

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00:03:18,720 --> 00:03:20,560

time you make a purchase.

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00:03:20,560 --> 00:03:25,880

And if you want to hear more about 511 who they stand for and who works with them listen

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00:03:25,880 --> 00:03:34,000

to episode 580 of Behind the Shield podcast with 511 regional director Will Ayres.

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00:03:34,000 --> 00:03:37,380

Welcome to the Behind the Shield podcast as always my name is James Gearing and this week

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00:03:37,380 --> 00:03:42,400

it is my absolute honour to welcome on the show Air Force veteran and the man behind

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00:03:42,400 --> 00:03:46,960

One People's Project Darrell Lamont Jenkins.

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00:03:46,960 --> 00:03:52,560

Now in this conversation we discuss a host of topics from his journey into the military,

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00:03:52,560 --> 00:03:58,400

his love of punk rock, anarchy in music, the incredible success he's had with some young

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00:03:58,400 --> 00:04:05,480

men escaping neo-Nazi groups, One People's Project, his perspective on racism in America

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00:04:05,480 --> 00:04:07,440

and so much more.

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00:04:07,440 --> 00:04:12,320

Now before we get to this incredible conversation as I say every week please just take a moment,

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00:04:12,320 --> 00:04:17,480

go to whichever app you listen to this on, subscribe to the show, leave feedback and

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00:04:17,480 --> 00:04:19,360

leave a rating.

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00:04:19,360 --> 00:04:24,480

Every single five star rating truly does elevate this podcast therefore making it easier for

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00:04:24,480 --> 00:04:30,980

others to find and this is a free library of over 900 episodes now.

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00:04:30,980 --> 00:04:36,620

So all I ask in return is that you help share these incredible men and women stories so

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00:04:36,620 --> 00:04:41,800

I can get them to every single person on planet earth who needs to hear them.

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00:04:41,800 --> 00:04:47,240

So with that being said I introduce to you Darrell Lamont Jenkins.

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00:04:47,240 --> 00:05:06,960

Enjoy.

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00:05:06,960 --> 00:05:11,960

Darrell I want to say thank you so much for taking the time and coming on Behind the Shield

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00:05:11,960 --> 00:05:17,560

podcast as we were discussing before I hit record I first came across you and just one

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00:05:17,560 --> 00:05:22,600

of the minute chapters of your life in the movie Skin and then have since obviously followed

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00:05:22,600 --> 00:05:27,280

you and we've interacted on Instagram but now we're talking so I want to say welcome

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00:05:27,280 --> 00:05:30,200

to the Behind the Shield podcast today.

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00:05:30,200 --> 00:05:33,620

Thank you I'm glad to be here, glad to be able to talk to you today.

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00:05:33,620 --> 00:05:37,480

So where on planet earth we finding you this afternoon?

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00:05:37,480 --> 00:05:48,920

I'm in the office in New Jersey and this is basically my sanctum sectorium and it gives

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00:05:48,920 --> 00:05:56,040

me an opportunity to just mull over things and just talk freely without any mixed company

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00:05:56,040 --> 00:06:02,640

around to try to explain what it is that I have been doing over the past 30 some odd

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00:06:02,640 --> 00:06:03,640

years.

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00:06:03,640 --> 00:06:07,640

Alright well let's start the beginning of that journey then so tell me where you were

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00:06:07,640 --> 00:06:13,120

born and tell me a little bit about your family dynamic what your parents did how many siblings?

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00:06:13,120 --> 00:06:23,560

Well I was born in North New Jersey in 1968 I'm old and my parents it was really interesting

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00:06:23,560 --> 00:06:31,520

when it comes to my family because black families usually especially black families of the age

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00:06:31,520 --> 00:06:38,200

that I come from there aren't a lot of people who go the professional route and pretty much

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00:06:38,200 --> 00:06:41,200

all of my family did that.

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00:06:41,200 --> 00:06:48,080

My father was raised in North New Jersey which was a little bit rough and tough I mean he

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00:06:48,080 --> 00:06:54,040

you know the cool thing about graduated from the school of hard knocks that was dad but

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00:06:54,040 --> 00:07:01,040

he also graduated from Rutgers University so and he was a counselor he was a teacher

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00:07:01,040 --> 00:07:08,520

he was in many respects a therapist and in particular a drug counselor at near the end

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00:07:08,520 --> 00:07:18,440

of his life he had to retire but that was the last job that he had and you grow up learning

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00:07:18,440 --> 00:07:29,120

how seeing him come home with that kind of you know baggage that not baggage but rather

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00:07:29,120 --> 00:07:37,600

the sympathy on his shoulders for those that he was trying to help and my father was a

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00:07:37,600 --> 00:07:43,200

tough dude my father was a tough dude and he and that will come out in just like sometimes

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00:07:43,200 --> 00:07:51,280

frustration or sometimes a success because um a feeling of success because this was what

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00:07:51,280 --> 00:07:56,080

he wanted to do all his life help people get through that life when they didn't feel they

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00:07:56,080 --> 00:08:02,280

can and so that so that was that that was that he grew up with a lot of these folks

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00:08:02,280 --> 00:08:07,280

that were going through hell and he spent the rest of his life trying to get them out

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00:08:07,280 --> 00:08:14,400

of that hell him and his brothers him and his brothers did that because my um because

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00:08:14,400 --> 00:08:18,440

everybody was the basically the family business with education my mother was a teacher she

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00:08:18,440 --> 00:08:23,480

was also a nurse and a missionary and she still is a missionary she's a mother in the

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00:08:23,480 --> 00:08:32,160

church um right now and um so you learned how to deal with people through how my dad

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00:08:32,160 --> 00:08:37,280

dealt with people my brothers and sisters they have families of their own they're doing

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00:08:37,280 --> 00:08:46,800

well and um i have um two sisters one brother and everybody for the most part no one for

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00:08:46,800 --> 00:08:53,320

the most part really knew what kind of work i was doing until you know the movie came

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00:08:53,320 --> 00:08:59,000

a movie was being produced and once the movie and by that time dad was already gone but

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00:08:59,000 --> 00:09:09,000

um by that time um when they got to see what it was that i was um i was doing what it is

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00:09:09,000 --> 00:09:13,840

that i produced to be um precise then they realized that there was something serious

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00:09:13,840 --> 00:09:20,200

going on and i had um done some work out there that they knew nothing about because one of

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00:09:20,200 --> 00:09:25,480

the reasons why you didn't know anything about the work was the fact that i was trying to

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00:09:25,480 --> 00:09:30,600

protect my family from um any kind of blowback that i might have to um deal with i didn't

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00:09:30,600 --> 00:09:39,080

want them to catch any of that shrapnel so so um but i grew up and um in new jersey i

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00:09:39,080 --> 00:09:42,880

graduated high school immediately went into the air force didn't take long for me to get

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00:09:42,880 --> 00:09:48,240

out because um that wasn't where i needed to be and um they agreed

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00:09:51,440 --> 00:09:59,280

and uh and needless to say i didn't have the best of time of it i actually was um discharged

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00:10:00,160 --> 00:10:05,040

um well before my time i was supposed to stay in i was only supposed to stay in four years

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00:10:05,040 --> 00:10:11,280

i ended up getting out two years eight months and ten days later because i was not a good fit

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00:10:11,280 --> 00:10:20,640

but it was only because that wasn't how i wanted to fight that wasn't how i wanted to um apply myself

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00:10:20,640 --> 00:10:29,200

um in the future as a as a um as a human being as a as a person who wanted to try to do something

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00:10:29,200 --> 00:10:33,440

with their lives that wasn't the direction i should have been going and i was a cop i

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00:10:33,440 --> 00:10:39,920

i don't think that um i would have been uh as successful a cop as i am maybe doing what i do

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00:10:39,920 --> 00:10:46,720

today there's no way it's so funny because when you hear people laugh and um joke about okay would

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00:10:46,720 --> 00:10:51,600

you want a cop to show up or a social worker to show up i'm gonna tell you flat out after what i

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00:10:51,600 --> 00:10:57,200

see my father my uncles my mother and a whole bunch of other people in my family do social worker

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00:10:57,840 --> 00:11:02,320

it's best to build those lives up instead of um having to tear them down you know

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00:11:03,760 --> 00:11:09,600

well speaking of that i want to go back to your dad because this is a such a an important

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00:11:09,600 --> 00:11:15,840

conversation there's so much and we'll get to obviously modern day but as we sit here this

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00:11:15,840 --> 00:11:20,640

the last eight years has been so much finger pointing well it's this person's problem that

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00:11:20,640 --> 00:11:24,480

the country is this way well this person hadn't opened the borders you know whatever it is it's

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00:11:24,480 --> 00:11:30,480

it's it's them them them them them and there's that quote if you want to change the world start a home

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00:11:31,120 --> 00:11:36,960

and you mentioned about you know your father and your uncle creating this environment where they

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00:11:36,960 --> 00:11:41,040

not only you know we're healing in their own homes but then going out and and healing others

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00:11:41,040 --> 00:11:44,720

it's funny because you talked about that kind of vicarious trauma it reminds me of michael

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00:11:44,720 --> 00:11:48,720

clark duncan's character in the green mile where he's just taking on that pain taking on that pain

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00:11:48,720 --> 00:11:54,000

and the first responders this thing you know we we totally understand that we're empaths too um yeah

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00:11:54,640 --> 00:11:59,840

but so talk to me about that what was it whether it was you know their parents what was the

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00:11:59,840 --> 00:12:05,520

environment that caused those young men to decide to to do such good in their own communities

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00:12:05,520 --> 00:12:14,480

i mean when you grow up with that kind of pain with that kind of trauma um and you have figured

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00:12:14,480 --> 00:12:22,240

out that you need to get out of it and then you look back and see all your friends and all their

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00:12:22,240 --> 00:12:28,320

families still struggling you don't want to leave that behind this is the this is the world that you

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00:12:28,320 --> 00:12:35,440

knew and you love that world you love everybody in your community and you want to leave that behind

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00:12:35,440 --> 00:12:42,800

you want to see things better for them i mean these are your friends and these are your family

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00:12:42,800 --> 00:12:48,640

let's not forget these are family people that need help you don't want to just say okay i got i mean

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00:12:48,640 --> 00:12:56,320

my family was not of that mindset of i got mines you get yours kind of thing and uh it was it and

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00:12:56,320 --> 00:13:02,480

i think it was probably one of the most important things that um my um my family could have ever done

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00:13:02,480 --> 00:13:05,840

and we're not just talking like i said before you're not just talking about my father you're

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00:13:05,840 --> 00:13:14,960

talking about my uncle my um my uncle bob was a psychologist and my um my uncle lenzel worked

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00:13:14,960 --> 00:13:23,920

within the um north school system as as did my um my uncle pip they called him and you see

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00:13:23,920 --> 00:13:31,440

and they all used to just basically um compare notes but what it is they were doing and i mean i

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00:13:32,880 --> 00:13:41,280

when i hear people on the political level when i hear people um down that kind of work because

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00:13:41,280 --> 00:13:47,600

they'd rather go out and have a cop shoot somebody um and that's where the problem usually is when it

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00:13:47,600 --> 00:13:53,200

comes to issues with police and all that it's the people behind them who don't really care about the

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00:13:53,200 --> 00:14:00,800

communities um when you hear them down the uh the work that say my father did or even my mother as

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00:14:00,800 --> 00:14:09,120

a missionary or as a teacher herself um you're not dealing with serious people you want to solve

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00:14:09,120 --> 00:14:15,920

problems and that's what my father was trying to do and he did and and it and it did frustrate him

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00:14:15,920 --> 00:14:23,520

like i said they did get to um there were times when it would just get to him not in any kind of

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00:14:23,520 --> 00:14:30,720

um rage-filled way or where he took it out on his family or some nonsense like that but just

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00:14:32,240 --> 00:14:40,960

what do i do here because remember i grew up in the 80s 80s was aides crisis my father had to deal

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00:14:40,960 --> 00:14:47,760

remember as a drug counselor my father had to deal with people who he knew were going to die of aids

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00:14:48,560 --> 00:14:53,360

you know who was going to was not going to be there in the next couple of months in the next

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00:14:53,360 --> 00:14:58,320

couple of years and i remember him saying to me one time and remember i'm a teenager i'm a

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00:14:58,320 --> 00:15:06,960

teenager when he's telling me this how do you tell them that everything's going to be okay

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00:15:06,960 --> 00:15:12,240

when he knows full well that it isn't and i've seen and i saw that time and time again with my

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00:15:12,240 --> 00:15:17,040

father that's the kind of frustration that you had or if somebody washes out of the program that's

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00:15:17,040 --> 00:15:21,760

frustrating especially when he um liked the person and wanted that person to do better

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00:15:21,760 --> 00:15:26,880

and even what and there are times when even when they do wash out of the program he figures out a

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00:15:26,880 --> 00:15:34,080

way to actually try to help them from um falling down the hole sometimes i mean sometimes they just

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00:15:34,080 --> 00:15:40,400

have to they're on their own i mean it all depends on the person but he will do what he can to help

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00:15:40,400 --> 00:15:47,600

people he will do what he can to help clean folks up and that's one of the things that i took away

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00:15:47,600 --> 00:15:55,680

from um his work i mean i think that i have to approach things the same way that my father did

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00:15:55,680 --> 00:16:03,600

with the drug lens um my perspective of being a first responder for 14 years and seeing you know

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00:16:03,600 --> 00:16:08,960

all the all the ripple effects plural of drug prohibition so you've got the gangs you've got

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00:16:08,960 --> 00:16:15,600

the homelessness you got the prostitution you've got the overdoses um you know coming from from

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00:16:15,600 --> 00:16:21,040

the uk which has a similar prohibition stance as the u.s which was actually forced upon it as i did

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00:16:21,040 --> 00:16:26,640

the research um you you just realized it's been an epic failure the the war on drugs criminalizing

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00:16:26,640 --> 00:16:32,320

addiction have you ever had any discussions on the kind of the root cause of a lot of the addiction

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00:16:32,320 --> 00:16:37,760

that your dad interacted with and and maybe that same empathy and compassion being applied to an

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00:16:37,760 --> 00:16:46,880

addict versus the legal system i think really my father was focused more on how to fix the addiction

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00:16:46,880 --> 00:16:52,640

as opposed to how to fix the system i mean he was not a politician he didn't approach this

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00:16:52,640 --> 00:17:03,520

um from a political um from a political perspective i don't i mean very seldom would you hear my father

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00:17:03,520 --> 00:17:10,480

talk politics unless it was right up front and in your face but his whole thing was you need to get

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00:17:10,480 --> 00:17:16,320

some work done we need all the all the complaining and all the lobbying in washington isn't going to

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00:17:16,320 --> 00:17:24,320

do a damn thing for my man who's sitting there getting ready to um stroke out on um on an

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00:17:24,320 --> 00:17:30,400

overdose or something like that you know um somebody who just doesn't know how to um basically change

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00:17:30,400 --> 00:17:34,800

their life that's what you're trying to do you're trying to deal with that you're trying to deal with

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00:17:34,800 --> 00:17:40,480

that person and the people um around him so he didn't really focus on it and i think that's the

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00:17:40,480 --> 00:17:47,120

other thing that um i have to take away from um the work that he and my mother did because

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00:17:48,480 --> 00:17:57,440

in the end we're dealing with human beings who need help and we are also dealing we're dealing

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00:17:57,440 --> 00:18:05,760

with folks who can't wait for you know your politician to get it right they're not going to

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00:18:05,760 --> 00:18:13,360

get it right for various reasons unfortunately i'm a cynic that way but uh but if that's the case

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00:18:13,360 --> 00:18:22,800

what can you do what can you do i mean that's uh that's the question you have to do and uh

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00:18:22,800 --> 00:18:27,600

you have to ask yourself rather whenever um whenever you're approaching the situation what can

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00:18:27,600 --> 00:18:34,720

you do absolutely well with your kind of your childhood firstly what were you playing as far

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00:18:34,720 --> 00:18:42,480

as sports when you were a young man i tried to play football i didn't i couldn't stay in that but um

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00:18:43,280 --> 00:18:49,920

baseball softball that was my thing but there was no real league or anything like that so

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00:18:49,920 --> 00:18:55,600

that was my thing but there was no real leagues going on there was nobody really doing little

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00:18:55,600 --> 00:19:02,880

league around so we used to just play um baseball with the neighborhood kids or or or softball with

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00:19:02,880 --> 00:19:08,800

the neighborhood kids and uh but that that was my thing that was my thing and i used to talk all

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00:19:08,800 --> 00:19:15,920

day long about um the various uh baseball players back in the day whether you're talking about

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00:19:15,920 --> 00:19:24,400

willy star joe or catfish hunter or something like that um but uh but that was uh that that was my

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00:19:24,400 --> 00:19:31,920

thing um as time went along it wasn't really sports or anything that i was interested in

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00:19:31,920 --> 00:19:39,920

rather some sort of comic book or history or music music really just began was the thing for me once

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00:19:39,920 --> 00:19:47,280

i got out of the air well no well before that but really once i got out of the air force and i

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00:19:47,280 --> 00:19:52,800

started getting into some of the scenes out there so what about when you were in the school age you

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00:19:52,800 --> 00:19:56,640

mentioned about going into the air force is that what you were initially dreaming of becoming or

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00:19:56,640 --> 00:20:02,640

was there another career aspiration well see that was that wasn't where i was going i mean my father

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00:20:02,640 --> 00:20:08,640

um just suggested it to me because he figured that that was just a way to build some sort of

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00:20:08,640 --> 00:20:17,120

a foundation and all um my mistake was looking at it as solely that and not recognizing that there

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00:20:17,120 --> 00:20:24,480

was a lot more behind um being in the military that you had to respect and that you had to

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00:20:24,480 --> 00:20:32,080

basically apply yourself to i never did that so once i got out once i got out i immediately went

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00:20:32,080 --> 00:20:40,000

to college i immediately went to college and then i found my footing now in your upbringing prior to

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00:20:40,000 --> 00:20:45,920

leaving the military um had you been exposed to any kind of supremacist groups or overt racism up

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00:20:45,920 --> 00:20:52,000

to that point well that was a crazy thing because no and i didn't really start seeing them face to

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00:20:52,000 --> 00:21:00,800

face um until i would say maybe 92 or when i was probably like three or four years out of the

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00:21:00,800 --> 00:21:08,400

military i think um what i was um what whatever it was i saw it would have been on television

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00:21:09,120 --> 00:21:18,000

um in the news um in your newspapers and things like that and i think my involvement was just

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00:21:18,880 --> 00:21:29,360

was started really out of a curiosity about them they didn't really to me at the time pose um the

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00:21:29,360 --> 00:21:36,000

kind of threat the clan didn't pose a kind of threat that they did maybe um at that time

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00:21:36,000 --> 00:21:44,400

remember it was the 80s i mean 20 30 years ago um but the thing that really raised an eyebrow as

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00:21:44,400 --> 00:21:52,480

time went along was the fact that you heard things said by those that had influence that you heard

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00:21:52,480 --> 00:21:59,920

some clansmen say on donahue and that was what made me say okay let me follow this and see where it goes

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00:22:02,000 --> 00:22:07,840

well before we get into that journey talk to me about your journey into to punk because firstly

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00:22:07,840 --> 00:22:11,920

you know it's an interesting journey you know regardless i know i've had some guests i don't

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00:22:11,920 --> 00:22:17,120

know if it's the same era as you but i was educated on the fact that you had straight edge punk so you

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00:22:17,120 --> 00:22:21,840

had guys in the punk scene that weren't drinking and you know we're living a very clean lifestyle

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00:22:21,840 --> 00:22:27,600

with water yep there we go but then also punk is associated with some of the skinhead movements

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00:22:27,600 --> 00:22:34,640

and some of the the neo-nazi movements as well so what was your journey into punk and kind of which

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00:22:34,640 --> 00:22:39,440

which of those subsets did you find yourself amongst well it was interesting because i was

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00:22:39,440 --> 00:22:44,560

like listening to um when i was growing up i was listening to strictly hip-hop and r&b

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00:22:44,560 --> 00:22:53,120

excuse me the original like the early hip-hop um too when we're talking about um stuff that only

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00:22:53,120 --> 00:23:04,480

came from new york city and my first exposure to punk for real um there were several uh record

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00:23:04,480 --> 00:23:15,440

stores in this town new brunson and i have my own particular um record store called varsity but there

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00:23:15,440 --> 00:23:25,520

were other record stores that sold what us as kids called the white music excuse me and

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00:23:27,600 --> 00:23:33,840

when i went to those stores out of curiosity and it was more than just the white music more

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00:23:33,840 --> 00:23:39,360

than just the metal bands and all of that more than direct more than just the random you started

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00:23:39,360 --> 00:23:44,880

seeing um the whole punk um the whole punk groups and everything the stuff that you didn't hear on

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00:23:44,880 --> 00:23:50,240

the radio at all i mean you could find iron maiden on the radio back then you can find judas preach

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00:23:50,240 --> 00:23:58,640

you can find ozzy osbourne you wasn't going to find the agnostic front on the radio okay and

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00:23:58,640 --> 00:24:07,040

and warzone and you know and fugazi i mean you're not so that was really when it was like

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00:24:07,600 --> 00:24:13,840

underground and i was really curious i noticed something that was really curious in that

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00:24:14,400 --> 00:24:19,600

when i looked at those kinds of records when i saw the punk albums i noticed they looked like

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00:24:19,600 --> 00:24:29,040

the hip hop albums of the day because the hip hop albums the hip hop records of the day

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00:24:30,320 --> 00:24:35,680

were all indie labels still they weren't major labels yet they didn't have any music videos

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00:24:36,240 --> 00:24:41,520

you basically had to know where to find songs because a lot of the hip hop wasn't being played

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00:24:41,520 --> 00:24:51,840

on the radio yet and basically every time you went to go get a record of theirs you saw you saw how

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00:24:51,840 --> 00:24:57,600

bare bones it was same thing with some of these punk albums um but a lot of these punk albums

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00:24:57,600 --> 00:25:05,440

to be honest um there wasn't any full color albums um the um the artwork was basically graffiti

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00:25:06,640 --> 00:25:11,440

like just like the hip hop especially when you're talking about the uh the new york scene when

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00:25:11,440 --> 00:25:16,400

you were talking about hip hop and when you're talking about the new york punk it was really

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00:25:16,400 --> 00:25:22,560

um influenced by the hip hop scene at the time so and you saw it and you saw it on in their albums

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00:25:22,560 --> 00:25:27,280

so um i was starting to get interested in them but then i would play one of the records and i

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00:25:27,280 --> 00:25:34,320

was like no i'm not into this just yet what got me into is i got out of the air force um and i

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00:25:34,320 --> 00:25:42,240

started going and i went to a punk show the important thing for me was how much everybody

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00:25:42,240 --> 00:25:51,440

was involved and i mean whether he was on the stage or um or just watching them play and you'll see

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00:25:51,440 --> 00:25:57,200

them jump up on stage and i mean i was used to stage diving at this point anyway because even at

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00:25:57,200 --> 00:26:02,720

the arena shows i was going to at that point um you saw that happening or floating on um

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00:26:02,720 --> 00:26:09,840

um floating in the audience and things like that but you know getting up on stage and singing along

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00:26:09,840 --> 00:26:17,120

with the band that kind of thing that was new i was getting into it and then after after the show

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00:26:17,120 --> 00:26:23,360

we all went and hung out i mean it wasn't like it wasn't like uh these guys were on the pedestal

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00:26:23,360 --> 00:26:27,840

when they're gonna go somewhere with the girls and all of that like i was used to at that time no

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00:26:27,840 --> 00:26:36,080

we all hung out we all um if you drank got got stone cold drunk or talk everybody that was there

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00:26:36,080 --> 00:26:41,120

we was talking about starting our own bands and i was just like this is what i was looking for

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00:26:42,720 --> 00:26:50,240

this is what i was looking for this kind of camaraderie this kind of um um atmosphere

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00:26:50,240 --> 00:26:57,680

where everybody no one rather was waiting for um somebody to hit give them a record deal nobody

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00:26:57,680 --> 00:27:06,080

was waiting for them to let them play at a club and all of that um they just said they weren't

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00:27:06,080 --> 00:27:11,520

even waiting to see if they knew how to play an instrument they was basically saying we're good

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00:27:11,520 --> 00:27:17,040

we're just gonna do it we're just gonna do it and uh that's that's the attitude i was looking for

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00:27:17,040 --> 00:27:24,240

that's the attitude that i needed where you heard where you heard people decide that um i want to do

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00:27:24,240 --> 00:27:31,120

it and i'm gonna do it that's what got it was interesting what you're saying about the commonalities

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00:27:31,120 --> 00:27:37,760

between punk and hip-hop because you've got you know young men and women who are frustrated at

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00:27:37,760 --> 00:27:44,240

that some sort of system or establishment and his was quite funny i got deeply into hip-hop in my

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00:27:44,240 --> 00:27:50,560

kind of i guess late teens and i was a farm boy in england and before that i was going to phil

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00:27:50,560 --> 00:27:55,680

collins and people like that and then i don't know what it was and all of a sudden like the you know

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00:27:55,680 --> 00:28:00,480

boys in the hood and some of these films just resonated so deeply i don't even know i probably

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00:28:00,480 --> 00:28:06,080

couldn't even explain it back then but it was just i think it was uh you know a sense of wanting

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00:28:06,080 --> 00:28:10,880

to break the mold because if you think about you know boys in the hood their cage is the hood there

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00:28:10,880 --> 00:28:16,000

and they're both you know trying to break out and you know obviously it's a very tragic end but you

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00:28:16,000 --> 00:28:23,440

know there is that that real resonating with some of the the music the the messages even though the

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00:28:23,440 --> 00:28:30,240

actual lyrics might be completely foreign to you and that's one of the reasons why a lot of people

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00:28:30,240 --> 00:28:39,920

get upset when um when you apply say um nazis in the skinhead culture because when you talk about

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00:28:39,920 --> 00:28:46,480

the punk scene in the uk and remember i have never been to the uk so bear with me on this one um

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00:28:48,000 --> 00:28:58,960

what my vibe has been was that you saw a lot of um coexistence shall i say with between the punk

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00:28:58,960 --> 00:29:08,480

scene and the reggae scene back then and when you talk about um skinhead culture it was really a

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00:29:08,480 --> 00:29:14,000

lot of white kids that was emulating the jamaican rude boys that was coming into england to find

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00:29:14,000 --> 00:29:22,160

work and then because the way that the rude boys looked i mean not the rude boys yeah rude boys or

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00:29:22,160 --> 00:29:29,280

um skinheads looked that was how a lot of your hate groups and all thought that they can um angle

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00:29:29,280 --> 00:29:35,840

themselves into the culture into the punk culture which was big at the time they looked at um we

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00:29:35,840 --> 00:29:40,400

we don't have to wear mohawks we don't have to have our hair color we don't have to be against

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00:29:40,400 --> 00:29:47,600

anything skin we can we can um adapt the skinhead culture and make it our own because this is the

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00:29:47,600 --> 00:29:53,760

way we want people to look so and and that's how that was born but people fought it when i got out

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00:29:53,760 --> 00:30:00,240

of the air force when i came into the um just before i went into the air force um i started

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00:30:00,240 --> 00:30:07,120

hearing about skinheads i remember i wasn't in the punk scene yet after i got out of the air force

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00:30:07,120 --> 00:30:16,480

i started meeting them and it was a very different dynamic than what i saw on opera or dana here or

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00:30:16,480 --> 00:30:22,160

something like that and it was really important it was really important to um see and that was

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00:30:22,160 --> 00:30:27,520

another thing that said okay this is the direction i'm going in so let's start walking through that

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00:30:27,520 --> 00:30:33,200

direction because it was interesting i heard you on a podcast and i forget the the name of it now

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00:30:33,200 --> 00:30:40,320

it was um a gentleman in oh my goodness i'm gonna butcher the state even but it was a few years ago

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00:30:40,320 --> 00:30:50,160

i think it was right after covid it hit but um this just like you said this idea is presented to

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00:30:50,960 --> 00:30:56,320

sometimes an entire nation this group of people are like this and you could insert you know so

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00:30:56,320 --> 00:31:02,000

many different examples there and what i've learned you know over my 50 years and also in

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00:31:02,000 --> 00:31:08,480

all these conversations is this is the problem it's you know it's not all of anything and even you

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00:31:08,480 --> 00:31:13,840

know and i know this is my kind of opinion on this even slavery which is like a you know big

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00:31:13,840 --> 00:31:19,120

taboo topic i know but i was curious like you and i was like all right let me let me look at

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00:31:19,680 --> 00:31:25,520

how the uk was doing during the height of slavery bearing in mind that the british slave traders were

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00:31:25,520 --> 00:31:30,800

exchanging people in africa and then they were going to america washing their hands you know

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00:31:30,800 --> 00:31:34,800

getting tobacco and then coming to the uk i don't know what you're talking about there's no slaves

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00:31:34,800 --> 00:31:41,440

here um but the uk the british people were at some of their deepest uh poverty they've been

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00:31:41,440 --> 00:31:47,440

in years and years and years the way it's presented is the white people all benefited from slavery and

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00:31:47,440 --> 00:31:55,680

it's like no just like with so many other examples of tyranny a small group of people benefited from

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00:31:55,680 --> 00:32:01,280

the suffering of many but the moment you tire an entire country an entire race an entire religion

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00:32:01,840 --> 00:32:08,640

and tar and feather all of them you totally remove the ability to actually understand the

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00:32:08,640 --> 00:32:15,280

nuance and then move forward from it right and i think that um i think that's always important

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00:32:15,280 --> 00:32:23,280

whenever you're trying to um um prevail as the leader of a country so so to speak or leader of

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00:32:23,280 --> 00:32:31,360

a region or a society it's like there is that divide and conquer um mentality that you got to

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00:32:31,360 --> 00:32:39,920

work with you know and i think one of the reasons why we called ourselves one people's project is

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00:32:39,920 --> 00:32:46,080

because we wanted to show people that you're not going to divide us and you're damn sure won't

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00:32:46,080 --> 00:32:52,080

conquer us and uh and and it's important to maintain that thought it's important to maintain

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00:32:52,080 --> 00:33:00,400

that idea because uh it doesn't make any sense to go forward if you're not about that um and that's

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00:33:00,400 --> 00:33:07,040

one and again going back to the punk scene that was one of the um major things that got me um

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00:33:07,040 --> 00:33:16,880

really into it because a lot of the trappings a lot of the things that we grew up with as you know

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00:33:16,880 --> 00:33:25,440

this is how you're going to be and and so on i think that the punk scene is comprised of people

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00:33:25,440 --> 00:33:31,840

who didn't want to be that who wasn't going to be that but knew that they could still flourish

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00:33:31,840 --> 00:33:37,920

still flourish still still grow and still contribute i mean i talked about how after i got

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00:33:37,920 --> 00:33:44,720

out of the effort started getting into the scene i saw my first skin you know i also also met my

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00:33:44,720 --> 00:33:52,640

first gay person openly gay person at that time so a lot of things after i got out of the military

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00:33:52,640 --> 00:33:59,040

which is very regimented um remember the military was also the first time i got out of the house

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00:33:59,040 --> 00:34:06,880

and started experiencing life once i got out of the military i started experiencing everything

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00:34:07,840 --> 00:34:17,840

so going to um going to shows all the time really started giving me an idea of um what is really

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00:34:17,840 --> 00:34:24,160

out there and what is really important and what was really important to me at the time was

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00:34:24,160 --> 00:34:33,200

changing society in a way that um we all benefited as one people and we all worked together in

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00:34:33,200 --> 00:34:38,080

fellowship that's always been my attitude the other part of that however is if you're trying

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00:34:38,080 --> 00:34:42,960

to keep and this is the major part obviously um if you're trying to keep that from happening we're

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00:34:42,960 --> 00:34:50,160

going to fight you we're going to fight you um and that's where it comes into um dealing with the

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00:34:50,160 --> 00:34:56,240

nazis and in this day and age you know i had a guest on the show ron starworth i'm not sure if

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00:34:56,240 --> 00:35:01,040

you're familiar with with his story but he he was a subject of the film the black clansman

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00:35:01,840 --> 00:35:07,760

oh no no no that ron star okay yes actually saw the movie yes i'm teaching someone else i said
he

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00:35:07,760 --> 00:35:14,320

was a boxer i'm sure there's a somewhat common name i'm sure but um but it was just fascinating

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00:35:14,320 --> 00:35:19,760

to hear again you know here's this this black police officer and he's a black man and he's

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00:35:19,760 --> 00:35:24,320

a young police officer at the time you know and then they infiltrate it between him and you know

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00:35:24,320 --> 00:35:29,040

the guy that she shows up in person who ironically and the movie is jewish i can't remember if he

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00:35:29,040 --> 00:35:33,600

actually was jewish i don't think he was in real life but anyway between the two of them they have

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00:35:33,600 --> 00:35:39,520

this thing going on and ironically one of the the top people in the clan of that chapter was actually

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00:35:39,520 --> 00:35:44,800

a local firefighter so here's here's an irony this guy risks his life for people whatever color and

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00:35:44,800 --> 00:35:50,160

creed they are and yet as part of the clan yeah there goes the insanity of some of these you know

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00:35:50,160 --> 00:35:55,520

these people's thought processes but you know it was really interesting kind of hearing you know

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00:35:55,520 --> 00:36:01,760

some of these little pockets that existed and this was back in the 80s so you mention about hearing

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00:36:01,760 --> 00:36:06,800

you know a political figure parroting something that a clan member had said so walk me through

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00:36:06,800 --> 00:36:11,600

that journey you're you're enjoying the punk rock scene you start to have this kind of aha moment

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00:36:11,600 --> 00:36:18,080

where do you go from there well it's funny because i was always a political well when i had um when

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00:36:18,080 --> 00:36:23,360

i while i was in the air force i started dealing with being more and more of an activist strike one

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00:36:23,360 --> 00:36:29,440

if you're in the military you're in trouble if you do that in the military and like i said

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00:36:30,240 --> 00:36:39,360

i was in trouble um so i started being a little politically astute um even more so once i got out

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00:36:39,360 --> 00:36:47,280

so by that point by the time i got out um my main um thing in politics politically speaking i should

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00:36:47,280 --> 00:36:51,600

say was dealing with civil rights dealing with the history of black people in this country

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00:36:51,600 --> 00:36:58,720

and most importantly dealing with the adversaries that we faced and where they were in this day and

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00:36:58,720 --> 00:37:08,160

age um talk radio started becoming a thing around that time and you started hearing um

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00:37:08,160 --> 00:37:14,400

people like rush limbaugh talk trash that you heard some plans to speak or somebody up here

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00:37:14,400 --> 00:37:19,600

in new york a guy named bob grant who would call martin luther king a scumbag on his airwaves

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00:37:20,560 --> 00:37:29,840

and would actually allow and invite um white supremacists to leave their um contact information

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00:37:29,840 --> 00:37:39,600

over the air and and his um station was abc you're talking mainstream um when you start seeing that

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00:37:39,600 --> 00:37:46,640

and then you realize just how deep this goes and you start trying to figure out okay how do they

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00:37:46,640 --> 00:37:53,760

get from point a to point b or maybe point a and point b was non-existent and it was it was all at

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00:37:53,760 --> 00:38:01,680

point a so um and that was one of the things that um i basically tried to um document over the

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00:38:01,680 --> 00:38:12,640

course of the past 30 years i still have a couple of um tapes from excuse me from bob grant and rush

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00:38:12,640 --> 00:38:20,160

limbaugh where they say some things that they probably would never say today i mean and um

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00:38:20,160 --> 00:38:25,680

and i think they're important for people to listen to now um so folks can understand

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00:38:26,960 --> 00:38:35,680

what it is um the mindset was back then versus now unfortunately neither of those individuals

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00:38:36,640 --> 00:38:44,640

are here today to um to answer for it um they answered for it in their day eventually um but

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00:38:44,640 --> 00:38:52,560

but um overall it's just basically right now today is just a um teachable moment for the rest of us

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00:38:53,120 --> 00:39:01,120

that that history a question for you because this is again you know something that i've observed um

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00:39:01,120 --> 00:39:07,280

i'll give you a prime example there was a famous news story a few years ago just up the road from

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00:39:07,280 --> 00:39:13,920

where i live where a preacher was going to be a preacher and he was going to be a preacher and

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00:39:13,920 --> 00:39:20,640

preacher was going to burn an entire you know pile of corans and and yes and someone told me that and

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00:39:20,640 --> 00:39:26,720

i was like i bet you that motherfucker has got a book and he's about to release it and sure as

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00:39:26,720 --> 00:39:32,800

shit this piece of shit had written some book this wasn't anything about some holy you know virtuous

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00:39:32,800 --> 00:39:39,280

movement it was simply so he could sell his shitty book and i hope it sold terribly but it really

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00:39:39,280 --> 00:39:45,200

frames the fact that when when i observe extremism by people with a large platform

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00:39:46,320 --> 00:39:52,880

usually there's a book or a tv show or a tour or something that they're basically promoting through

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00:39:53,680 --> 00:40:00,960

their toxic you know divisive spiel that they're putting out there what have you seen about some

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00:40:00,960 --> 00:40:08,080

of these you know bigger figures out there as far as the the thing beneath the thing they may say

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00:40:08,080 --> 00:40:14,240

that you know they may be preaching about whatever you know islamophobic or whatever it is but is

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00:40:14,240 --> 00:40:20,400

there a common thread where behind that there's there's greed and power to be gained yeah and

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00:40:20,400 --> 00:40:25,360

pretty much that's pretty much what you have these days that is what you have these days um

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00:40:26,640 --> 00:40:31,120

before reagan i mean remember reagan was the great communicator why was he the great communicator

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00:40:31,120 --> 00:40:38,240

because he was the first president to um actually look at a camera and say this is my friend you know

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00:40:38,240 --> 00:40:44,480

uh other um other presidents before then yeah they knew that they had to sell themselves to the public

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00:40:44,480 --> 00:40:52,160

of course reagan comes out of um comes out of a profession in which you knew how to do that

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00:40:52,160 --> 00:41:01,760

and after reagan after reagan your politicians started to um adopt that to the point where that

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00:41:01,760 --> 00:41:08,000

is the only thing they know to do so you have a lot of politicians that as james brown said in the

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00:41:08,000 --> 00:41:14,240

seventies are talking loud and saying nothing and uh and um in the eighties and nineties and

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00:41:14,240 --> 00:41:22,160

two thousand talking loud and doing nothing will be more apt um it's all about it's all about the

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00:41:22,160 --> 00:41:32,240

grip now so to speak and they know and i think it's a pretty telling thing in regards to how

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00:41:32,240 --> 00:41:39,760

successful the rest of society is because you're talking about conservatives out there who know

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00:41:39,760 --> 00:41:48,080

their ideals will not um go any further than um than their chatter

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00:41:50,880 --> 00:41:57,760

but their bank account will be amazing i mean i remember one time i heard ben shaper on um bill

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00:41:57,760 --> 00:42:06,800

mars show say flat out um when someone talked to him about um the kind of a criticism kind of um

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00:42:06,800 --> 00:42:12,640

um things that he's the slings and avocés gets for the things that he believes he says hey um i'll

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00:42:12,640 --> 00:42:16,880

cry about it on my bed of money or something to that effect and it's like that's what matters

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00:42:17,440 --> 00:42:24,080

that's what matters to the um for the ben shaperos and the candace homes and uh and michael

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00:42:24,080 --> 00:42:29,920

knolls and all that they're not really going to um put forward anything that is going to

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00:42:29,920 --> 00:42:34,960

benefit society but it's most certainly going to benefit them and it's been like that for years

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00:42:34,960 --> 00:42:43,200

you did have back in the 90s and back in the 80s you still had people who um who were going to do

396

00:42:43,200 --> 00:42:50,720

some work but that became less and less especially as the liberals and the left and the democrats or

397

00:42:50,720 --> 00:42:56,960

whatever you want to say um started applying themselves and started um getting themselves into

398

00:42:57,520 --> 00:43:04,320

um the positions where we can actually make sure that things were done and that wasn't supposed to

399

00:43:04,320 --> 00:43:11,520

happen but it happened and as we came up you know you're talking about the right just going down

400

00:43:11,520 --> 00:43:18,880

to the point that all they have is the grift and um and then that's the issue that we have today

401

00:43:18,880 --> 00:43:24,000

you take a look at congress today we have people in congress who have not done a thing marjorie

402

00:43:24,000 --> 00:43:31,600

telegreen lauren bolbert matt gates but you see them all the time they haven't put any forth

403

00:43:31,600 --> 00:43:41,120

put forth any kind of legislation or excuse me or anything that benefits um even their own constituents

404

00:43:42,800 --> 00:43:51,120

but they say they say cute sound bites that will um that will get them at the next um right wing

405

00:43:51,120 --> 00:43:57,120

conference that they can speak at or something like that i mean it gets them there and that's

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00:43:57,120 --> 00:44:03,200

all that matters that's really all that matters and that's frustrating for people who really are

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00:44:03,200 --> 00:44:11,120

looking for um folks who are going to um put their time in and do what we need them to do when we

408

00:44:11,120 --> 00:44:18,400

elect them and uh and even if you're even if you are not going to agree with the darn thing that

409

00:44:18,400 --> 00:44:28,080

i'm about at least um make sure that you know the society stays afloat but that's not where they're

410

00:44:28,080 --> 00:44:35,760

at they couldn't care less i've made this observation recently it's extremely simple

411

00:44:35,760 --> 00:44:41,840

a leader unites a nation and a tyrant divides them and again i would argue the last eight years

412

00:44:41,840 --> 00:44:47,120

which spans both sides of the aisle we have seen nothing but division and so you know whether it's

413

00:44:47,120 --> 00:44:54,320

local government whether it's you know a state or or a nation itself if whoever we have you know used

414

00:44:54,320 --> 00:45:01,920

our tax money to fund to be at the helm of that organization if they are doing nothing but dividing

415

00:45:01,920 --> 00:45:07,680

or doing nothing as you just mentioned with some of these people then there needs to be an awakening

416

00:45:07,680 --> 00:45:14,160

by us all of the you know the the u.s you know the the entire nation to band together and demand

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00:45:14,160 --> 00:45:20,560

good people i mean it nauseates me i literally had the capacity to finally vote as an immigrant

418

00:45:21,200 --> 00:45:28,080

and that was i think trump and clinton were my two choices and all i heard over and over again was

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00:45:28,080 --> 00:45:35,760

people say the words the lesser of two evils and i'm just like 330 million people you should never

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00:45:35,760 --> 00:45:42,160

hear that phrase if the system is right you should be like i really like this person but if we get

421

00:45:42,160 --> 00:45:46,480

but if we get this person it's still going to be good it's not my favorite but it's still going

422

00:45:46,480 --> 00:45:52,480

to be good but we have to choose from these freaking horrendous people every single four years

423

00:45:53,440 --> 00:45:59,680

yeah and and it's by design because when now you're talking about um a political process that was

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00:45:59,680 --> 00:46:06,320

that's a complete mess right now voting for the lesser two evils is voting for evil

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00:46:06,320 --> 00:46:13,280

and evil is taking its toll to the point that this year you don't hear people saying lesser

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00:46:13,280 --> 00:46:20,720

or two evils anymore because they realize that saying that it's going to set up a lot turn on a

427

00:46:20,720 --> 00:46:27,600

light bulb in that and a lot of people's heads and said wait a minute we just spent 48 years

428

00:46:28,160 --> 00:46:34,640

of evil in control and you want me to vote for evil again no that's not the way this works

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00:46:34,640 --> 00:46:41,440

not the way this works and i think one of the things that um people are trying to do is i mean

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00:46:41,440 --> 00:46:47,440

a lot of people are trying to change that it's just a matter of knowing how and i'll be fair i'll be

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00:46:47,440 --> 00:46:54,960

honest this is one of the things that got occupy started occupy and i and i'm spending a lot of

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00:46:54,960 --> 00:46:59,680

time telling going around the country telling people this and talking on podcast because

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00:46:59,680 --> 00:47:05,920

everybody tries to pretend that they didn't know what occupy was about occupy was about finding

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00:47:05,920 --> 00:47:12,800

solutions to our problems without having to go through a corrupt political process to um to do

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00:47:12,800 --> 00:47:24,560

it you know i mean it's funny how um we're looking at the bridge in baltimore and and biden promises

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00:47:24,560 --> 00:47:31,040

60 million dollars to get the bridge rebuilt this is not a controversial thing but you have one of

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00:47:31,040 --> 00:47:40,240

those one of those uh republican congressman who's trying to make a name for himself trying to balk

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00:47:40,240 --> 00:47:47,920

at the idea of joe biden giving them all this money when just a couple of years ago there was

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00:47:47,920 --> 00:47:55,760

a bridge that collapsed in mississippi and they got three or four times that much um
unanimously

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00:47:56,640 --> 00:48:03,040

without any controversy so there's i mean so now we're looking at there's really no controversies

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00:48:03,040 --> 00:48:11,200

going on except for the ones that um certain politicians create and create just to benefit

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00:48:11,200 --> 00:48:17,440

themselves so when you see a society um looking at that they say okay we really got to start

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00:48:17,440 --> 00:48:22,400

building and this is what i always um encourage start building up our institutions start building

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00:48:22,400 --> 00:48:29,200

um start building new institutions to replace old ones that will respond to our concerns and our

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00:48:29,200 --> 00:48:37,440

needs and like i said that's what occupy was trying to encourage people to do and i think to
some degree

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00:48:37,440 --> 00:48:45,680

there was um success in that but i think um we need to just keep that momentum going even
though

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00:48:45,680 --> 00:48:53,920

it's been what 2011 was when occupy happened so it's been about what 13 years or so and um

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00:48:54,720 --> 00:48:59,680

we're still trying to figure out how to get back to that so to speak how to um build off of that

449

00:48:59,680 --> 00:49:07,040

and i think we're doing okay things are getting addressed in ways that um they will otherwise not

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00:49:07,040 --> 00:49:12,160

get addressed you know i mean i think that when you take a look at police brutality for example

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00:49:12,160 --> 00:49:21,200

um people aren't saying aren't asking the government per se to um to identify and try to um

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00:49:21,760 --> 00:49:28,320

i try to gather the evidence that will get bad cops out of there they're videotaping the police

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00:49:28,320 --> 00:49:37,040

now and and they're and they are showing everybody what exactly it is that um that we're upset about

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00:49:37,040 --> 00:49:44,000

and our concerns and that's why police who are doing wrong are going to jail today that's why

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00:49:44,000 --> 00:49:49,920

um that's what got a lot of these um police officers in jail today it was the people it was

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00:49:49,920 --> 00:49:55,520

folks out there in the street it wasn't our government when it comes to this conversation

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00:49:55,520 --> 00:49:59,600

because i mean i've you know i've i've had people on here many many times where we talked about the

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00:49:59,600 --> 00:50:03,840

cases where a police officer has absolutely made a mistake you know and actually ironically in the

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00:50:03,840 --> 00:50:08,560

george floyd case you know i had a guy who really broke down the whole case and it was just ultimately

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00:50:09,120 --> 00:50:14,160

they were completely wrong the the police and the paramedics in that particular case but they were

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00:50:14,160 --> 00:50:19,120

actually brought to justice the way anyone else would have been they were actually you know

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00:50:19,120 --> 00:50:23,200

that they received the judgment that they should have so then you look at the kind of massive

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00:50:23,200 --> 00:50:28,000

reaction to that they that one was actually handled the way it should have been what's very unfair

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00:50:28,000 --> 00:50:33,120

though i think and i just shared an interesting video it was an author talking about the police

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00:50:33,120 --> 00:50:40,080

an author talking about another author's book and he said um he was talking about poverty in this

466

00:50:40,080 --> 00:50:45,600

particular case he said in the world of poverty in america it's like a burning building and

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00:50:45,600 --> 00:50:50,720

children are jumping from the windows to their death and all we're doing is focusing on the

468

00:50:50,720 --> 00:50:56,240

children and not who started the fire and who benefits from it and i think this is the other

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00:50:56,240 --> 00:51:01,520

side you never ever hear when it comes to law enforcement in the states there are some incredible

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00:51:01,520 --> 00:51:06,080

men and women in in uniform some of them train despite their department i've worked for the fire

471

00:51:06,080 --> 00:51:11,120

departments where i took my time off and my own personal money to get better at my job because

472

00:51:11,120 --> 00:51:17,440

my department didn't support me that way but what we don't say is why are the streets of america so

473

00:51:17,440 --> 00:51:23,840

unsafe why do we have gangs why do we have so much homelessness why i mean why do we consume 75 percent

474

00:51:23,840 --> 00:51:27,920

of the world's opioids even though we're four percent of the world's population why do we have

475

00:51:27,920 --> 00:51:34,240

20 percent are incarcerated of the entire world when we're only four percent so and i again back

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00:51:34,240 --> 00:51:40,880

to the drug prohibition i think that's a big part of it it really is and so as well as the let's make

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00:51:40,880 --> 00:51:46,240

sure that law enforcement are doing what they do let's also address the root cause of what's sending

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00:51:46,240 --> 00:51:53,280

innocent little children into gangs into violence in and out of all colors and creeds but into those

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00:51:53,280 --> 00:52:00,000

those kinds of human beings that are dangerous to other civilians and then also creating situations

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00:52:00,000 --> 00:52:06,080

in which sometimes they're justifiably killed in that particular situation or or sometimes

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00:52:06,080 --> 00:52:11,760

they're erroneously killed and shouldn't have been but the other side needs to be discussed and this

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00:52:11,760 --> 00:52:18,240

is all colors and creeds why is our multicultural nation so dangerous compared to so many other

483

00:52:18,240 --> 00:52:24,480

places in the world well i think that's the main reason why i started this conversation the way i

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00:52:24,480 --> 00:52:33,200

did i needed to point out a that um ultimately that rest at the feet of our elected officials

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00:52:33,760 --> 00:52:43,120

and unfortunately um we have a lot of elected officials that benefit from the uh the climate

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00:52:43,120 --> 00:52:51,680

out there being the way that it is i also said that um before you even have a cop on the scene

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00:52:52,560 --> 00:52:57,520

you want to get those folks who are social workers you do want a social worker on the scene you do

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00:52:57,520 --> 00:53:05,520

want a counselor um in the middle uh in the middle of um some drama and somebody getting ready to

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00:53:05,520 --> 00:53:14,800

cause it because in all in all truth truth i think that um those who will be considered perpetrators

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00:53:17,440 --> 00:53:22,160

excuse me i mean in truth those who would be considered perpetrators

491

00:53:23,760 --> 00:53:30,000

would listen to them quicker than they would a cop they don't look at the social worker as about

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00:53:30,000 --> 00:53:36,800

to ruin or end their life they look as at the social work as somebody who's trying to help them

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00:53:37,440 --> 00:53:43,920

and it is and that's true and it will be true for a lot of folks in law enforcement too except

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00:53:43,920 --> 00:53:51,440

they come with a gun in a badge they come with handcuffs and unfortunately they also come with

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00:53:51,440 --> 00:53:59,920

a very bad rep they come with a very bad rep and people are going to balk at that the moment that

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00:53:59,920 --> 00:54:04,160

um the moment that they step on the scene things are going to start getting heightened heightened

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00:54:04,160 --> 00:54:10,160

and it ironically enough police are supposed to be trained to de-escalate the moment a cop is on the

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00:54:10,160 --> 00:54:19,360

scene everything gets escalated and that is where i come in and try to say this is how you solve

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00:54:19,360 --> 00:54:30,320

problems by not by um trying to keep things from becoming a problem or too much of one if it's

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00:54:30,320 --> 00:54:40,080

already a problem um if things become a problem if you are dealing with um somebody who was a

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00:54:40,080 --> 00:54:47,440

bad actor um that is supposed to be protecting us and all that whether or not they intended

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00:54:47,440 --> 00:54:56,000

to be a bad actor it's going to it's going to reveal itself a lot more than um it would have if

503

00:54:56,000 --> 00:55:06,480

um if it was if we only focused on um on the police if we only focused on that various incidents

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00:55:06,480 --> 00:55:11,680

that those various incidents that take place if you start holding um if you start holding

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00:55:11,680 --> 00:55:18,400

elected officials accountable for trying to benefit from that kind from that kind of activity um then

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00:55:18,400 --> 00:55:26,320

you will start seeing some sort of changes i think about um let's go back to 99 2000 when

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00:55:26,320 --> 00:55:35,360

Ahmadou Diallo was um was murdered in um in new york city something changed then because

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00:55:36,320 --> 00:55:40,000

we didn't focus on the police i still don't know the police officer's names

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00:55:40,000 --> 00:55:46,320

um we focused on um Giuliani who was the mayor at the time how was safer who was the police

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00:55:46,320 --> 00:55:54,720

commissioner at the time and said that you caused this because they were trying to use the police to

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00:55:55,360 --> 00:56:01,120

um advance themselves politically at the expense of a community that they were told that they had

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00:56:01,120 --> 00:56:09,280

to fight and uh that made all the difference in the world back in 99 that made all the difference

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00:56:09,280 --> 00:56:15,520

in the world unfortunately not for Diallo but the Abner Louima trial was happening at the same time

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00:56:15,520 --> 00:56:25,120

um where four cops were um in were on trial for assaulting him and um police precinct they ended

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00:56:25,120 --> 00:56:31,280

up going to jail some of them ended up going to jail one just got out just got out and

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00:56:31,280 --> 00:56:40,640

we realized then that we had a lot of strength a lot of um power within ourselves to solve

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00:56:40,640 --> 00:56:45,840

the problem even even before the cops show up we have the power to solve the problem

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00:56:46,480 --> 00:56:53,760

and when bad actors show up to say that they were going to and they ended up killing somebody we

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00:56:53,760 --> 00:57:01,520

also had the power to um to correct that one and that's what we start that's what we're seeing now

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00:57:01,520 --> 00:57:08,800

that's what we're seeing now um so uh in the end i think my main message is that it all the um the

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00:57:08,800 --> 00:57:15,680

solutions do begin and end with us i mean after all we are the ones that elect these officials

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00:57:15,680 --> 00:57:21,360

we are the ones that um put police on the street and make sure that they have money and that they

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00:57:21,360 --> 00:57:26,480

put police on the street and make sure that they have money and and and any kind of first responder

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00:57:26,480 --> 00:57:37,200

remember Elijah McLean um his death was um due to due to the uh incompetence of um not just police

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00:57:37,200 --> 00:57:47,920

but in particular the EMTs so we know what we have to do and we know how to do it it's just a matter

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00:57:47,920 --> 00:57:54,880

of being able to just buckle down and getting it done well i think again you know it's it's when you

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00:57:54,880 --> 00:58:03,120

look at the the environment we have created an environment that really does encourage failure

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00:58:03,120 --> 00:58:07,280

and people say criticize the police well they look like they're going to war it's like well yeah have

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00:58:07,280 --> 00:58:12,080

you seen some of the streets that they work in i mean i have you know personally pulled blankets

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00:58:12,080 --> 00:58:18,000

over so many dead young people in gang killings you know and it happens all the time in what people

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00:58:18,000 --> 00:58:23,600

think are very good areas too well can i make a point about something please here's where here's

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00:58:23,600 --> 00:58:30,160

here's where um we should start how we should start looking at things when we talk about um

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00:58:30,160 --> 00:58:37,360

the kind of jobs that police go deal with the kind of areas that they have to um uh police

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00:58:37,360 --> 00:58:43,520

uh that they have to patrol and they come home with a lot of ptsd and they're going through it

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00:58:43,520 --> 00:58:53,120

themselves i mean i recognize that but imagine they get to go home imagine those who get them

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00:58:53,120 --> 00:58:58,480

he'll have to live there what kind of ptsd are you dealing with there oh absolutely

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00:58:58,480 --> 00:59:06,080

that's why you see the kind of drama that you see in those streets you know and when people start

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00:59:06,080 --> 00:59:14,720

um respecting that and recognizing that um it can go a long way but again it does matter who it is

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00:59:14,720 --> 00:59:22,160

that we put in these positions of authority and in positions of power they have to care they have to

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00:59:22,160 --> 00:59:29,520

care and if they don't care then we put do we place them with people who do and um that goes back

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00:59:29,520 --> 00:59:34,320

and that's one of the things that i had said earlier about how we are able to put ourselves

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00:59:34,320 --> 00:59:42,320

in these positions um where we can solve problems whenever we see them and as we are coming up a

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00:59:42,320 --> 00:59:48,080

lot of your more right-wing figures like more conservative figures are going down they're losing

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00:59:48,080 --> 00:59:56,640

their influence and um that's why all you see from them now is just a grift it's just a grift or

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00:59:56,640 --> 01:00:06,960

somebody calling for a national divorce succession or whatever or a civil war i mean that's all

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01:00:06,960 --> 01:00:12,240

rhetoric because you really don't want us to have a civil war in this country you're not prepared

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01:00:12,240 --> 01:00:18,400

for that we are not prepared for that it will not go down the way that you think it will well i

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01:00:18,400 --> 01:00:24,000

think it's also i mean that's thrown around and and here's what i see and maybe i'm just naive

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01:00:24,000 --> 01:00:30,160

but what i see is that most people have so much more in common than they have differences and most

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01:00:30,160 --> 01:00:37,600

people live side by side and have no issues with color or sexual orientation or who they they pray

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01:00:37,600 --> 01:00:42,880

to they're you know they're in the communities we are a very diverse nation overall built on

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01:00:42,880 --> 01:00:49,600

immigration but in 2020 you know from 2020 especially forward i mean i mean if you can

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01:00:49,600 --> 01:00:55,920

divide over a bloody virus then you can divide over anything but it's like they put they gave the

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01:00:55,920 --> 01:01:02,960

microphone to the biggest fucking idiots in our entire nation and said have at it we represent

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01:01:02,960 --> 01:01:08,400

this entire country when they don't but the problem is i don't know why but the middle 80

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01:01:08,400 --> 01:01:14,880

percent just seemed to lose their voice that is the more dangerous part of that is the dangerous

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01:01:14,880 --> 01:01:21,280

part of these folks turning things into a grift um those come from conspiracy theories they were

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01:01:21,280 --> 01:01:28,560

all living conspiracy theories and a lot of them were in fact trying to their their focus was trying

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01:01:28,560 --> 01:01:35,200

to make sure that their political beliefs were still in the mainstream as they were leaving the

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01:01:35,200 --> 01:01:41,920

mainstream i always tell people you know what if we all decided that we didn't have to wear masks

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01:01:42,480 --> 01:01:47,920

and we didn't have to quarantine those same individuals we running around with masks saying

562

01:01:47,920 --> 01:01:54,160

that if you're not wearing the mask you're hurting my child you know that it's it's all about it's

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01:01:54,160 --> 01:02:02,720

all about trying to maintain for themselves and none of it is real none of it is real

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01:02:03,520 --> 01:02:12,320

and i think their biggest problem in this year going forward until november is trying to convince

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01:02:12,320 --> 01:02:19,280

everybody that um that it's what they are about is real when we all know better we all know better

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01:02:19,280 --> 01:02:25,840

what they are about is real when we all know better we all know better we all know that um that they're

567

01:02:25,840 --> 01:02:33,600

just running the game to try to stay in some sort of power and 2020 really irked people 2020 they

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01:02:33,600 --> 01:02:40,880

really irked people well we saw the leaders that we paid had no idea how to lead not i mean there

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01:02:40,880 --> 01:02:47,440

is a fact that we were still trying to figure out what was going on excuse me they exploited that

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01:02:47,440 --> 01:02:52,320

to say they didn't know what they were doing no they didn't but they were going to learn um

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01:02:53,680 --> 01:02:59,600

but they acted like they knew what they were they were doing and they didn't so here we have here

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01:02:59,600 --> 01:03:08,000

um at ruckus for example ruckus university is not too far from me here they just lifted um a um

573

01:03:08,640 --> 01:03:14,080

a covet era requirement or something i cannot recall off the top of my head right now what it was

574

01:03:14,080 --> 01:03:21,440

but now all the um branch convidians out there are out there saying we won we proved ourselves

575

01:03:21,440 --> 01:03:28,800

no we are now at the point where we don't need those provisions anymore because we got this under

576

01:03:28,800 --> 01:03:35,840

control no thanks to you and and it's and it's frustrating as all get out because you got all

577

01:03:35,840 --> 01:03:44,480

these conspiracy theories um confusing people when folks are actually trying to just work through

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01:03:44,480 --> 01:03:50,720

this help each other out we basically showed everybody what it was like to be a community

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01:03:50,720 --> 01:04:00,000

that cares in 2020 that segment of society for that segment of society that attitude is poison

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01:04:00,000 --> 01:04:07,040

that attitude is poison because that division is there basically life's blood

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01:04:08,320 --> 01:04:16,880

you know and you have to figure out i think the mission in life is to build as build everything

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01:04:16,880 --> 01:04:24,000

build grow evolve but beware of that crowd that doesn't want you to do that that doesn't want the

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01:04:24,000 --> 01:04:29,280

society to do that for whatever reason well i saw i saw it just as strongly the other side don't get

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01:04:29,280 --> 01:04:34,160

me wrong i heard the whole chinese conspiracy thing it was a real virus i've got i've got friends

585

01:04:34,160 --> 01:04:38,240

that you know we're in icus that were seeing people dying you know we've had those stories on

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01:04:38,240 --> 01:04:45,280

the show but if we're talking again that middle 80 percent what should have happened and i'm not

587

01:04:45,280 --> 01:04:50,480

talking hindsight four years ago i'm talking you know after we realized okay this isn't as horrendous

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01:04:50,480 --> 01:04:55,280

as we thought it was going to be everyone kind of reevaluated and went okay it's bad but it's not

589

01:04:55,280 --> 01:04:59,680

that bad that we thought you know initially like it's going to sweep through and kill everyone so

590

01:04:59,680 --> 01:05:03,920

then it should have been all right how can we make americans as healthy as possible let's focus on

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01:05:03,920 --> 01:05:09,280

everything we can do for mental health physical health you know emotional health and it wasn't it

592

01:05:09,280 --> 01:05:15,040

was if you don't wear a mask and isolate and get vaccinated you're a murderer stay in the house we'll

593

01:05:15,040 --> 01:05:19,920

tell you what to do and bear in mind i'm coming in from the middle i got vaccinated to travel to see

594

01:05:19,920 --> 01:05:25,120

my my family i'm not anti-vax even though i wouldn't have had it if i didn't need to because i'm

595

01:05:25,120 --> 01:05:28,080

you know healthy and i think it would have been another shitty flu and then i would have been

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01:05:28,080 --> 01:05:34,960

fine but the what should have happened with that captive audience where if we're talking about

597

01:05:34,960 --> 01:05:40,800

coming together if we'd had a leader at the helm we would have absolutely done everything to isolate

598

01:05:40,800 --> 01:05:45,200

the people that were vulnerable that was our main goal our selfless goal was to make sure the people

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01:05:45,200 --> 01:05:51,840

who really need medical care and isolation are given all the best areas there the people that

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01:05:51,840 --> 01:05:58,000

are the most um uh they're the strongest the least likely to have an issue keep the country running

601

01:05:58,720 --> 01:06:03,440

but we make sure that you know in the meantime let's look at our pe programs in school let's

602

01:06:03,440 --> 01:06:09,600

put real food back in school let's get rid of soda from school let's let's work on pedestrianized

603

01:06:09,600 --> 01:06:15,200

areas let's give local farmers you know subsidies so they can start making clean food in every

604

01:06:15,200 --> 01:06:21,040

neighborhood not just the mega farms but none of that happened so i saw it as a complete failure

605

01:06:21,040 --> 01:06:27,200

of leadership from both sides one the scaremongering from one side and the other one the the dictatorship

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01:06:27,200 --> 01:06:32,160

that was stay in your house shut up we'll tell you we can get out which was you couldn't have done

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01:06:32,160 --> 01:06:38,960

anything worse to make people more vulnerable to a virus and as we've emerged now obesity is getting

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01:06:38,960 --> 01:06:47,440

worse mental health is worse so we are a more sick country now after such an incredibly powerful near

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01:06:47,440 --> 01:06:55,760

miss than we were in 2020 and that is a complete example of an absence of leadership from left and

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01:06:55,760 --> 01:07:00,720

right well what i will tell you is that i mean because i was definitely on that side of um if

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01:07:00,720 --> 01:07:05,120

you're not wearing a mask um you're not helping at the very least i don't know if i'm gonna sit

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01:07:05,120 --> 01:07:09,360

in and say you're a murderer or anything like that but i was definitely angry when people started

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01:07:09,360 --> 01:07:15,840

um playing games with it because we did not know what was going on yet did we have people that were

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01:07:15,840 --> 01:07:22,560

incompetent sure did we have people that was going to exploit our fears sure but by this but it was

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01:07:23,200 --> 01:07:28,640

something that we was just basically trying to get a handle on in those early days especially

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01:07:28,640 --> 01:07:34,000

what i would say however is that yeah you're right it was a perfect opportunity for us to do the

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01:07:34,000 --> 01:07:38,880

things and build the things that we needed to um needed to build and i think we still have those

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01:07:38,880 --> 01:07:45,200

opportunities we still have the opportunity to protect ourselves from that next wave whatever

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01:07:45,200 --> 01:07:52,160

it is that um however it is that it comes um forward and that's the thing we should be doing

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01:07:52,160 --> 01:07:59,920

a lot more pre-emptive stuff um that will keep us from falling into the trap that we fell into in

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01:07:59,920 --> 01:08:09,040

2020 and i mean across the board not just talking about covid but just economically um we we had

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01:08:09,040 --> 01:08:15,280

safety measures in place all right i'm not talking about the pandemic um pandemic office that was

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01:08:15,280 --> 01:08:19,600

shut down during the trump administration i'm not talking about that i'm talking more about

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01:08:20,160 --> 01:08:26,400

the um the things the mechanisms that we've always had in place the way we normally go about things

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01:08:27,040 --> 01:08:36,400

that um that we took advantage of at that time that we really didn't know existed until um until

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01:08:36,400 --> 01:08:44,240

we really needed to have them and a lot of that has gotten strengthened and i'm by that i mean

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01:08:45,120 --> 01:08:54,960

how we communicated um at the time how we um managed to um make sure that we still had the

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01:08:54,960 --> 01:09:02,560

things that we needed um no one starved during um during the pandemic you know we was able to

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01:09:02,560 --> 01:09:09,040

we was able to get around to the places that we can get around to at that time uh because we were

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01:09:09,040 --> 01:09:15,200

all because we all had some sort of infrastructure so to speak and we're still maintaining that

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01:09:15,200 --> 01:09:22,640

we're sitting up here on a stream yard um conversation right now the stream yard and

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01:09:22,640 --> 01:09:28,960

all the other uh all the other um video conference platforms got strengthened during the um during

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01:09:28,960 --> 01:09:36,000

the pandemic we're able to teach our kids remotely now even more so than we were before the pandemic

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01:09:36,000 --> 01:09:44,080

you know we are able to have things delivered to us if we if we're in if we're sick if we cannot um

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01:09:44,080 --> 01:09:51,440

get around you know all of that kind of thing says that we have put some sort of infrastructure

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01:09:51,440 --> 01:09:59,840

in place so that we can function as a society when we need when we need to be um and when we can't

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01:10:00,400 --> 01:10:09,600

in some aspects so um so so i i would say that while there are things that we need to do

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01:10:10,480 --> 01:10:18,000

there are things that we did do that we should appreciate today and um and i yeah i i'm one of

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01:10:18,000 --> 01:10:28,160

the things that um is really important for me is that i have to be an optimist i have to um

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01:10:28,960 --> 01:10:36,880

recognize that um the reason why i fight so hard that hard that i do is because um

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01:10:38,160 --> 01:10:45,120

i believe in us i really do appreciate um the things that we do as a society and i want to

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01:10:45,120 --> 01:10:52,960

preserve that i want to make it stronger and um if i'm going to come from that position

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01:10:53,600 --> 01:11:00,320

definitely appreciate it definitely help contribute to it definitely point out to everyone

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01:11:00,320 --> 01:11:08,720

just what it is we have that we should maintain and that will go a long way into people um being

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01:11:08,720 --> 01:11:15,120

um being a lot more proactive than they are today where they're not just sitting around and just

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01:11:16,640 --> 01:11:21,040

going enjoying their lives just going through their day to day and coming back and watching

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01:11:21,040 --> 01:11:31,840

television or something like that um excuse me um they see themselves as um a cog in the wheel that

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01:11:31,840 --> 01:11:41,440

they can um and they can be a very effective cog in that wheel so um never um never look at uh

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01:11:43,360 --> 01:11:48,320

us as being in the worst of times don't you don't have to look at us being in the worst of times

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01:11:48,320 --> 01:11:55,360

there we do have ways of getting out of whatever times we are in that are bad um we just have to

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01:11:55,360 --> 01:12:02,720

be mindful of them and appreciate them from down to down yeah i agree completely and i always call

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01:12:02,720 --> 01:12:08,400

myself an angry optimist i'm i'm super happy you know but i will push back sometimes if it's you

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01:12:08,400 --> 01:12:13,440

know if what it is is detrimental to people's health and happiness so i agree a thousand percent

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01:12:13,440 --> 01:12:18,320

and i see the potential and this is why i'm so passionate and what what i do you know why i do

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01:12:18,320 --> 01:12:24,000

what i do is because i people should be living healthy lives you know young boys and girls should

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01:12:24,000 --> 01:12:28,480

be growing up and actually doing the thing they dreamed of in preschool not getting dragged into

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01:12:28,480 --> 01:12:34,400

some you know street life or you know meth life or whatever it is that that they're dragged into

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01:12:35,040 --> 01:12:41,600

so um with that let's kind of share a pretty uplifting story from from your uh life up to

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01:12:41,600 --> 01:12:48,240

this point um talk to me about how you met Byron Whittner and uh let's kind of discuss excuse me

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01:12:48,240 --> 01:12:57,280

discuss his journey well Brian um it was really interesting because um excuse me i would say that

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01:12:57,280 --> 01:13:03,520

a lot of time a lot of times when i'm dealing with the um the nazis um it's always going to be

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01:13:03,520 --> 01:13:11,280

aggressive it's always going to start off aggressive i should say um but i always leave that little door

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01:13:11,280 --> 01:13:16,720

open so that they know that they can talk to somebody if they want to get out or if they want

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01:13:16,720 --> 01:13:24,720

to talk further about where you know things are i remember one of the nazis i remember one of the

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01:13:24,720 --> 01:13:32,640

nazis that i chased down at a glenn beck rally in dc um he found my number and i think he was

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01:13:32,640 --> 01:13:39,600

thinking about trying to just call me out on whatever it is um i did to him and we had about

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01:13:39,600 --> 01:13:46,400

an hour-long conversation he didn't know that i would be knowledgeable about this and that

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01:13:46,400 --> 01:13:54,000

and we still talk today i mean he's a trump supporter unfortunately but baby steps baby steps

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01:13:55,760 --> 01:14:04,400

and it's so funny because that conversation could not be had if i don't recognize the humanity in

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01:14:04,400 --> 01:14:13,440

everybody my mission in life is trying to get them to recognize their humanity before um something

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01:14:13,440 --> 01:14:20,240

bad happens because that's the only thing that um that that kind of hate migrant those kinds of

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01:14:20,240 --> 01:14:26,560

hate politics is going to lead to and unfortunately this is something that i'll get from my father too

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01:14:26,560 --> 01:14:36,560

by the way um this particular thing you can't uh go to them so speak some people can some people

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01:14:36,560 --> 01:14:43,920

can't but my approach has never been um to go to them and try to encourage them like i said i leave

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01:14:43,920 --> 01:14:50,320

the door open for them to walk through i try to leave a crack of the door open but the whole thing

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01:14:50,320 --> 01:15:00,480

ultimately is going to be up to them to walk through it and at some point brian did um his

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01:15:00,480 --> 01:15:08,800

wife called me said he wanted to talk and we talked about music about the punk scene about

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01:15:08,800 --> 01:15:16,880

everything but politics because you know as i said before we're human beings and that's the first

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01:15:16,880 --> 01:15:22,240

and foremost thing you want to talk about you want to talk about who you are and why it is you're

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01:15:22,240 --> 01:15:28,880

coming and coming to me and what is the direction you're going into now and that went on for about

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01:15:28,880 --> 01:15:34,880

three years that went on for about three years before we actually met erasing hate the documentary

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01:15:34,880 --> 01:15:42,160

erasing hate um when you saw when you see me in um that documentary that was the first time we

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01:15:42,160 --> 01:15:48,480

actually met face to face yeah i remember that yeah because uh up to that point that uh they were

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01:15:48,480 --> 01:15:54,880

worried that being seen with you was going to be dangerous for them and their little one absolutely

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01:15:54,880 --> 01:15:58,960

i mean you're talking about someone who was one of the biggest enforcers of this white supremacist

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01:15:58,960 --> 01:16:06,480

group and um and he was pulling himself out and there was a lot of things that he was trying to

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01:16:06,480 --> 01:16:14,000

deal with and he didn't know how to deal with it and um and i was one of the reasons why he was

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01:16:14,000 --> 01:16:21,200

able to and why they were able to um i mean sadly things aren't where they um where they should be

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01:16:21,200 --> 01:16:28,960

now they're no longer together um him and his wife but he's also no longer a nazi you know he's

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01:16:29,680 --> 01:16:35,520

that that is important and he is um going on with his life they both are and

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01:16:37,600 --> 01:16:46,560

that is that's is really the um the mission i mean you want people who are going to be productive in

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01:16:46,560 --> 01:16:54,480

their lives you don't want to destroy those lives um it's just an unfortunate byproduct

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01:16:55,440 --> 01:17:00,960

that if you're trying to preserve and protect a society there are some people who just need to be

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01:17:00,960 --> 01:17:07,920

dealt with but when those individuals show that they are not the people you have to deal with

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01:17:07,920 --> 01:17:14,880

anymore jump in with both feet and see if you can just make sure that um they're going to be okay

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01:17:14,880 --> 01:17:19,600

and the rest of the world is going to be okay it was beautiful getting the chance to um know brian

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01:17:19,600 --> 01:17:26,560

over these past couple of um past decade or so um and they're not the only and he wasn't the only

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01:17:26,560 --> 01:17:33,040

one there was um there's a lot of people um in this that was about that life that are no longer

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01:17:33,040 --> 01:17:38,720

about that life some of them actually became roommates and best friends of mine you know and

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01:17:38,720 --> 01:17:45,120

and i think that's really important um and when it comes to growth when it comes to how things go

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01:17:45,120 --> 01:17:52,480

forward uh and there's more out there that i can look at and say they're going to need help

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01:17:52,480 --> 01:17:59,440

eventually but again they have to come to us my obligation is always going to be to the people

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01:17:59,440 --> 01:18:06,640

they have the potential of hurting and that's the other thing um unfortunately no matter how much

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01:18:06,640 --> 01:18:11,920

they grow and no matter how much they build there's always going to be those folks out there

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01:18:12,400 --> 01:18:17,760

that are not going to forget what they were some of them have been hurt by them when they were that

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01:18:17,760 --> 01:18:25,760

thing and that's just going to be a big hurdle that they have to um they have to deal with they

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01:18:25,760 --> 01:18:29,520

probably would never be able to deal with that because a lot of the things that they were about

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01:18:29,520 --> 01:18:37,120

were frankly unforgivable um but um they still must try we all still must try and um

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01:18:39,600 --> 01:18:47,760

i guess well how should i say i guess the best thing to say is that it's not going to be easy

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01:18:47,760 --> 01:18:55,840

it's never easy but it's worth it's worth trying to pursue it's worth trying to pursue i could tell

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01:18:55,840 --> 01:19:00,400

you with via my friendship with brian and others that were a part of that scene once upon a time

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01:19:00,400 --> 01:19:05,680

it's definitely worth trying to pursue i'm glad i have the friendships that i have coming out of

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01:19:05,680 --> 01:19:12,000

that i mean if anyone hasn't seen the film i urge you to watch skin because i mean it's so well done

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01:19:12,000 --> 01:19:20,320

as well i mean the actual film um what i'm curious about what when you talk to these people whether

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01:19:20,320 --> 01:19:24,880

they reformed or whether you had conversations with them about what they were doing and what

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01:19:24,880 --> 01:19:30,880

conversations with them and they're still in that now what if any were the common denominators you

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01:19:30,880 --> 01:19:35,920

found between their early life because i don't believe that any toddler is you know baby is born

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01:19:35,920 --> 01:19:42,880

a racist it's a learned behavior so their early life and finding that particular tribe to be the

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01:19:42,880 --> 01:19:48,560

one that they latches on well i've been seeing it for years i actually studied on the montel

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01:19:48,560 --> 01:19:55,760

williams show it goes back in 2008 it's like you're talking about people who are in many respects

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01:19:56,400 --> 01:20:04,800

coming from a life that um doesn't appreciate them coming from a life that just basically

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01:20:05,680 --> 01:20:11,280

is a complete mess in many respects where they get frustrated and they're trying to make their

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01:20:11,280 --> 01:20:17,440

lives worth a damn trying to figure out how to make their lives worth a damn and it all depends

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01:20:17,440 --> 01:20:24,480

on who gets to them sometimes we all have that all of us come from them

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01:20:26,480 --> 01:20:35,120

sometimes we have family that are there which is basically you and i you know um but those who are

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01:20:35,120 --> 01:20:43,440

going through that real trauma that real pain um maybe you can't look towards family sometimes

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01:20:43,440 --> 01:20:50,640

you'll go to a church or a community center um you want to try to latch on to people who can help you

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01:20:50,640 --> 01:21:00,560

build and unfortunately there's the folks who just know how to exploit for their ends and you're good

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01:21:00,560 --> 01:21:09,040

at good for that in the movie skin there is a somebody that they recruit and and um i remember

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01:21:09,040 --> 01:21:19,680

in an interview that brian and he was he was a homeless kid in the movie and uh they came up to

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01:21:19,680 --> 01:21:28,000

him and they invited him to uh to hang out with him for a while excuse me to hang out with him

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01:21:28,000 --> 01:21:34,880

for a while in an interview brian said that you know really there were two people playing me

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01:21:34,880 --> 01:21:43,360

there was um jamey bell who played him in the movie and um the actor and i apologize for not

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01:21:43,360 --> 01:21:49,760

remembering the name off the top of my head but uh um the actor that played that kid that was um

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01:21:49,760 --> 01:21:55,520

the homeless kid that they recruited because that's how he got in that's what he um that's how he

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01:21:55,520 --> 01:22:01,280

became what he became so they used that younger kid just to show the two timelines of his journey

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01:22:01,280 --> 01:22:06,320

in the neo-nazi group yeah yeah and i think um and i think that's really important because

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01:22:07,040 --> 01:22:15,920

it means for the rest of us that when you do see somebody in pain and you're a positive mind and

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01:22:16,560 --> 01:22:26,880

ability um and you can do something do something remember that everybody comes from somewhere

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01:22:26,880 --> 01:22:35,040

and it's all a matter of what roads they take what roads we all take sometimes those roads are a

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01:22:35,040 --> 01:22:43,360

little bit rocky and other times you can be at the um end of that rocky road or somewhere along the

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01:22:43,360 --> 01:22:52,720

rocky road to try to get them on the proverbial straight and narrow you know so uh unfortunately

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01:22:52,720 --> 01:22:58,880

like if you if there are times when it can be too late and other times you can get them just in the

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01:22:58,880 --> 01:23:06,000

nick of time but i think that's one of the reasons why um i do what i do because um frankly

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01:23:07,120 --> 01:23:15,200

i can i have the mindset i have to come with the mindset that it's never too late um but um

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01:23:15,200 --> 01:23:21,600

but i also have to come with the mindset that sometimes you just can't save everybody and uh

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01:23:21,600 --> 01:23:25,360

but you try to save as many people as you can try to help as many people as you can

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01:23:26,160 --> 01:23:31,200

that underlines something i talk about all the time people love to find those failures and point

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01:23:31,200 --> 01:23:37,600

to them and go see it didn't work rather than all the people that it did you know and i think that

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01:23:37,600 --> 01:23:42,800

when you when we talk about exactly what we're talking about you know there's this this cycle

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01:23:42,800 --> 01:23:46,560

and i'm actually writing a second book at the moment that hopefully will kind of illustrate

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01:23:46,560 --> 01:23:52,560

this kind of multi-generational trauma if you for example are a young you know young boy somewhere

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01:23:52,560 --> 01:23:59,200

out in you know rural america and you know your you lost your father to an overdose and your

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01:23:59,200 --> 01:24:05,520

mother's you know incarcerated what are the consequences of that you know and what are the

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01:24:05,520 --> 01:24:12,480

incarcerated what are the chances of you then having this healthy nurtured life and then going

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01:24:12,480 --> 01:24:17,680

on and becoming you know a functional member of society they are reduced doesn't mean it's not

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01:24:17,680 --> 01:24:22,240

going to happen but we have now reduced the chance and the paramedics and firefighters and police

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01:24:22,240 --> 01:24:28,640

officers of the world see these homes on a daily basis the answer though is mentorship people

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01:24:28,640 --> 01:24:33,760

point and go oh it's these broken homes okay yeah it partly yes but what are we going to do to fix

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01:24:33,760 --> 01:24:39,440

it you know this is how this is 2024 welcome to america so and don't get me wrong there's there's

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01:24:39,440 --> 01:24:44,720

so many homes that are intact and doing very well but the other answer is if you are in you know in

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01:24:44,720 --> 01:24:50,240

a home firstly to to make sure your home is good you know be a good dad be a good husband or wife

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01:24:50,240 --> 01:24:57,040

or mother or whatever it is but then step outside your front door and be a mentor do something for

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01:24:57,040 --> 01:25:02,720

someone whether you're a mechanic or a plumber or a football coach or a chess master whatever it is

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01:25:02,720 --> 01:25:09,680

find a person or a group of people to bring in and do something positive and if we all did that

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01:25:09,680 --> 01:25:14,880

we would push the needle but if we just point at government buildings meanwhile the gang bangers

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01:25:14,880 --> 01:25:21,280

or the dealers or whoever or the fascists are scooping up our children then the cycle is going

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01:25:21,280 --> 01:25:27,440

to continue and it goes back to what i said at the beginning a leader brings people together and that

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01:25:27,440 --> 01:25:32,320

includes in your own community are you a leader or you're going to allow your community to be

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01:25:32,320 --> 01:25:38,640

divided and these children continuously go down this path that sadly guarantees you know a less

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01:25:38,640 --> 01:25:45,120

than happy you know teen and adult life or more to the point can your community lead you don't have

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01:25:45,120 --> 01:25:50,160

to be the leader or by yourself and i think that's one of the reasons that one of the things that

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01:25:50,160 --> 01:25:54,560

could be scaring folks too because they probably think i can't do this by myself you don't have to

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01:25:54,560 --> 01:25:58,960

because there's a whole bunch of people out there that are trying to do the same thing trying to

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01:25:58,960 --> 01:26:05,520

make sure that their society and their community is going forward and doing the right thing

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01:26:06,000 --> 01:26:12,240

work with others if you are about that and i'm talking about you don't even have to put too much

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01:26:12,240 --> 01:26:17,600

of an effort it's not like anybody's asking you to go out into the sticks or something like that and

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01:26:17,600 --> 01:26:25,200

just try to help somebody one-on-one or anything like that i mean your church if you go to a

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01:26:25,200 --> 01:26:32,000

church or if you have a community center help them with the programs that they have already built

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01:26:32,000 --> 01:26:39,360

there are people that are already doing it and they need your support even if you threw a couple

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01:26:39,360 --> 01:26:47,280

of dollars to them or whatever if you can do that anything that helps somebody not go in that wrong

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01:26:47,280 --> 01:26:57,840

direction is going to benefit in a in phenomenal ways believe me because i've seen it i have been

783

01:26:57,840 --> 01:27:05,760

a part of it and that's the kind of people we are if there's anything that we've seen during the

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01:27:05,760 --> 01:27:15,600

pandemic is that that is the kind of people we are some folks actually um some folks close to me

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01:27:15,600 --> 01:27:21,280

i don't know if you ever seen um the documentary i was in called alt-right age of rage at the end

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01:27:21,280 --> 01:27:27,280

we were talking about someone the question was that we were at our most divided this was done

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01:27:27,840 --> 01:27:35,600

in um 2017 2018 and i said that i disagreed i don't believe us to be divided that we're frustrated

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01:27:35,600 --> 01:27:40,560

and we have questions but i don't believe that we are divided i remember when we did the premiere

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01:27:40,560 --> 01:27:47,840

somebody asked me about that and i said just you know what we are better people than we give

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01:27:47,840 --> 01:27:57,040

ourselves credit for you know and we are always going to be trying always going to try to do right

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01:27:57,040 --> 01:28:03,680

by each other it doesn't always come out that way but we will always try to do right by each other

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01:28:03,680 --> 01:28:11,920

pandemic showed that we showed that during the pandemic we would even if we disagree even if

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01:28:11,920 --> 01:28:20,640

we disagree with how we should be doing things we were doing things in a way doing things to make

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01:28:20,640 --> 01:28:29,920

our lives and our health better and um that is the takeaway from 2020 we were looking out for each

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01:28:29,920 --> 01:28:37,040

other and we will always do that see i agree again it goes back to the 80 i think that's

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01:28:37,040 --> 01:28:41,920

where most people were but people were just being kind of pulled like lean towards one way or

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01:28:41,920 --> 01:28:46,080

another but i think in the middle when you actually sat down with people they were like oh no this is

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01:28:46,080 --> 01:28:51,120

this makes sense like i just want to be healthy and happy well let's be honest that happens

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01:28:51,120 --> 01:28:56,480

we're always going to have disagreements of the direction that we're going in if you really do

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01:28:56,480 --> 01:29:05,120

care about society and about your community and about the lives that we all lead the disagreements

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01:29:05,120 --> 01:29:12,880

can be hammered out you may still be mad at folks but you're still going to be out there trying to do

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01:29:13,600 --> 01:29:20,720

um something and even if um there are disagreements there are things that you agree about

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01:29:20,720 --> 01:29:28,880

and you work along those lines but the fact of the matter is you are out there because you want to

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01:29:28,880 --> 01:29:35,360

do what's right i'm not talking about the folks who are um who are just basically negative and

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01:29:35,360 --> 01:29:39,440

trying to capitalize on that negativity i'm not talking about that i'm talking about

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01:29:40,560 --> 01:29:48,000

the folks who are actually trying to do right trying who actually do care and they actually

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01:29:48,000 --> 01:29:55,520

were the majority of people in 2020 we're buttonheads yes that's how it works like i said

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01:29:55,520 --> 01:30:03,440

we were still trying to figure out how to get things done and uh one person has an idea another

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01:30:03,440 --> 01:30:10,160

person has another idea they conflict that happens that happens but we work it out

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01:30:11,840 --> 01:30:16,080

i want to put one more area to you and then we'll go to some closing questions but it's it's uh

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01:30:16,080 --> 01:30:22,800

it's a probably an unpopular conversation but this is just the way that i saw things but

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01:30:23,680 --> 01:30:26,480

i'll give i'll give you another example first and i'll go to what i'm going to say so

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01:30:27,680 --> 01:30:36,160

you have to be very careful what you put out into the world in pursuit of your own personal gain

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01:30:36,160 --> 01:30:43,040

so for example nwa fuck the police you know i get that it was initially you know coming from a place

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01:30:43,040 --> 01:30:47,200

where that was their reality you know back in the 80s that was a war zone you know and like you said

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01:30:47,200 --> 01:30:53,360

at war with the police as well now you've got iced tea who wrote cop killer and you know ice cube in

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01:30:53,360 --> 01:31:02,320

nwa playing police officers on tv all the time i never hear that platform being used to be like hey

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01:31:03,040 --> 01:31:08,160

this is the gang lifestyle used to be part of but we need to get away from that there's nothing

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01:31:08,160 --> 01:31:14,000

glamorous about killing each other and slinging dope and all those kind of things and so i find

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01:31:14,000 --> 01:31:22,160

that very kind of um irresponsible to not use a platform to do good now conversely just to kind

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01:31:22,160 --> 01:31:30,080

of flip it on the other side now you have someone who's in a presidential role who you know a couple

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01:31:30,080 --> 01:31:36,240

of decades before called for the execution of five black teenagers in in central park who were

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01:31:36,240 --> 01:31:43,360

innocent of a crime now fast forward he's the person at the helm and he's making very inflammatory

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01:31:43,360 --> 01:31:49,280

statements that in my opinion james gehring's perspective poured the gasoline on the racism

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01:31:49,280 --> 01:31:56,320

that was evident now i do not think that a lot of people in the u.s are racists but you pour gas on

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01:31:56,320 --> 01:32:01,760

a single match you're going to get a big flame so it's not pointed just to ice cube but it's just

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01:32:01,760 --> 01:32:11,440

to me it's the responsibility or irresponsibility of causing that division of uh fanning the flames

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01:32:11,440 --> 01:32:18,000

of hate whether it's in the hood or whether it's you know from dc and the impact that it has on

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01:32:18,000 --> 01:32:26,560

actual real human beings lives in that country what i think in the case of um um that particular

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01:32:26,560 --> 01:32:34,000

person um and his um supporters i think they have given up on trying to appeal to the greatest

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01:32:34,000 --> 01:32:42,560

society and they only want um what's theirs they only want to um basically destroy so they can have

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01:32:42,560 --> 01:32:51,680

their own little society i don't think it would be fair to um look at them as um being responsible

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01:32:51,680 --> 01:32:56,560

to us because they don't think so there are people within the republican party there are

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01:32:56,560 --> 01:33:02,400

conservatives out there that are in fact trying to maintain this society maintain this um country

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01:33:02,400 --> 01:33:10,000

or what have you um that you can listen to they say you know what this is not what i signed up for

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01:33:10,000 --> 01:33:16,160

when i became republican or whatever now in regards to ice tea and ice cube and what it is they said

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01:33:16,160 --> 01:33:23,200

i'm sending songs they also um were saying in their regular songs back then too i mean there are

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01:33:23,200 --> 01:33:30,800

songs where um in particular i see talked about how things were um this is not the life for you

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01:33:30,800 --> 01:33:35,680

if you want to be a high roller you know this is what it means there's a song called high rollers

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01:33:35,680 --> 01:33:43,040

that he did back in the day and he talked about where this will lead there's also songs like um

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01:33:43,040 --> 01:33:50,560

self-destruction and we're all in the same gang and at that time there was in fact um hip-hop

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01:33:50,560 --> 01:33:57,680

coming from public enemy and boogie down productions that was about um some of it was about that

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01:33:57,680 --> 01:34:02,400

lifestyle but others was about trying to build yourself up so you don't have to be in that

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01:34:02,400 --> 01:34:06,480

lifestyle you know yeah like let's get all this music by the way i was listening to it religiously

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01:34:06,480 --> 01:34:13,680

yeah so so you so you know i mean as you get older as ice tea and ice cube and everybody look

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01:34:13,680 --> 01:34:20,800

what ice cube does now he does more family fare you know so and yes you do see ice tea playing a

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01:34:20,800 --> 01:34:29,360

cop but he still goes on stage singing cop killer because that is what um you have to try to reach

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01:34:29,360 --> 01:34:36,800

people in some way and um the um the audience that he deals with when he's on that stage

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01:34:38,640 --> 01:34:46,000

is not going to be receptive to i guess how should i say things that make it for lack of a better

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01:34:46,000 --> 01:34:51,520

term things that try to apologize for the things that um that we have seen in the streets you know

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01:34:52,080 --> 01:34:58,320

um so he knows basically he knows how to talk to them basically anybody that has come from that

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01:34:58,320 --> 01:35:05,920

world knows how to talk to his audience and i gotta trust him on that one i gotta trust him on that

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01:35:05,920 --> 01:35:14,000

one and uh it's frustrating when you are taking on a job where you're trying to help people and all

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01:35:14,000 --> 01:35:23,760

of this bs is happening um but i will strongly suggest that it's not going to be the entertainers

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01:35:23,760 --> 01:35:30,880

that are singing the songs that are going to be um necessarily the solution to the problem i mean

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01:35:30,880 --> 01:35:38,000

to some respects to some um to some point at some point they can be but in the end it's all going

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01:35:38,000 --> 01:35:46,400

to be about what we do as individuals and as a community um when we do see bad actors we have

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01:35:46,400 --> 01:35:53,040

to remove them no matter where they are and we if we're going to talk about trump we got to remember

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01:35:53,040 --> 01:36:02,160

he's a bad actor he's a bad actor and uh we have to deal with that he's a he's one of the um he's

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01:36:02,160 --> 01:36:08,560

a bad actor on high i think one of the things that's really important by the way is that not

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01:36:08,560 --> 01:36:15,440

just in the area of politics but in the area of um commerce um when you see a lot of your um

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01:36:15,440 --> 01:36:22,640

billionaires and such getting in trouble um you do see a society that's trying to um right the ship

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01:36:23,920 --> 01:36:29,760

where they are trying in fact trying to hold people accountable for the um for the things they've

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01:36:29,760 --> 01:36:37,600

done i don't care if you're talking about ken lay or bernie made off or or sug night all right i

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01:36:37,600 --> 01:36:44,480

don't want to say p-ditty right now because uh let that play itself out but i mean even with the

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01:36:44,480 --> 01:36:50,880

me too movement or whatever you know i mean you see a lot of people just i mean this is this

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01:36:50,880 --> 01:36:57,040

generation are giant killers they are trying to hold um hold you accountable no matter how much

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01:36:57,040 --> 01:37:02,960

money you have i want to see them go down michael jackson too i mean it's it's crazy how you know

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01:37:02,960 --> 01:37:08,400

there was so much abuse there and even if you none of us were physically there but firstly when you

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01:37:08,400 --> 01:37:12,800

watched the documentary those people weren't even paid so there's only one reason that you would

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01:37:12,800 --> 01:37:18,960

take all that time to tell that story but then you know there's no dispute at all that irresponsible

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01:37:18,960 --> 01:37:24,560

parents allowed their child children to be in a bed with michael jackson for days on end so you

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01:37:24,560 --> 01:37:30,000

know if take michael jackson out and put any other man that you know in there you would have not been

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01:37:30,000 --> 01:37:38,080

as us before you know before the day was out michael michael um actually um was clear to that

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01:37:38,080 --> 01:37:43,440

r kelly wasn't yeah but michael michael was clear to that because we're talking about childhood

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01:37:43,440 --> 01:37:50,080

trauma by people that hadn't really unpacked their own and it was and it was weird and uh

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01:37:51,360 --> 01:37:57,440

but i would say um that also happened at a time where we what where we were still putting um

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01:37:57,440 --> 01:38:02,560

celebrities on the pedestal we're not doing that the way we did it back then anymore we're not

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01:38:02,560 --> 01:38:07,920

doing that anymore and um and i think basically that should serve notice on anybody who's going

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01:38:07,920 --> 01:38:16,480

to get into get into today's society and get into that um echelon of um life um that your

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01:38:16,480 --> 01:38:24,800

celebrityhood or your prominence in um society is not necessarily going to save you um because if

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01:38:24,800 --> 01:38:31,840

we see something that is off if we see something that is not um i should i say compatible with

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01:38:31,840 --> 01:38:38,000

that if you're not out of a society um you're going to be held accountable for that and um and

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01:38:38,000 --> 01:38:43,280

i think that's important um basically put out there so people can um so so people can realize

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01:38:43,280 --> 01:38:47,200

that you better be on your um best behavior because we know how to do this

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01:38:48,880 --> 01:38:52,480

absolutely well just one more thing i guess i haven't really going to pull this out of you

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01:38:52,480 --> 01:38:57,920

there so you know there there is a tendency like we talked about you know you give someone the

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01:38:57,920 --> 01:39:03,520

you listen to some of the rhetoric you know in in the last few years you know everyone hates asians

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01:39:03,520 --> 01:39:07,760

all of a sudden supposedly it's asian hate everywhere and it's like no there's some

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01:39:07,760 --> 01:39:12,640

psychopathic horrible people that have absolutely preyed upon some asian people but that's not the

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01:39:12,640 --> 01:39:20,640

whole u.s with that being said you know you are physically there in these neo-nazi you know rallies

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01:39:20,640 --> 01:39:26,080

and you are you know documenting the activities of a lot of these you know racist movements

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01:39:26,080 --> 01:39:31,280

so talk to me about the landscape in the u.s so you can educate you know the people listening

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01:39:31,280 --> 01:39:35,760

like what are we what are we looking at right now and is it on a downward trend is it on an upward

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01:39:35,760 --> 01:39:42,400

trend it's on the downward trend and they are basically what we're seeing today are them getting

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01:39:42,400 --> 01:39:49,440

loud it's them pulling a hail mary really that's that's what we're looking at right now when trump

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01:39:49,440 --> 01:39:57,520

was elected they didn't expect that they saw an opportunity during none of us did or anyone else

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01:39:57,520 --> 01:40:03,520

it goes back to our 330 million people conversation yeah well we'll be here forever on that one my

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01:40:03,520 --> 01:40:09,520

attitude about that by the way and i don't want to get off track like it always do but i always tell

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01:40:09,520 --> 01:40:18,320

people that over the past 20 20 23 years um we have really been trying to get a hold um get a handle

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01:40:18,320 --> 01:40:24,640

i should say on um on our political process whether you're talking about and and and weird

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01:40:24,640 --> 01:40:29,520

things started happening because of that that's why jesse ventura became governor of minnesota

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01:40:29,520 --> 01:40:34,000

when he wasn't a democrat or republican whether or not you cared for him that's another story

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01:40:35,440 --> 01:40:42,960

that's why you saw um seattle blow up during the world trade organization meeting in um 99

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01:40:42,960 --> 01:40:49,920

that's why um after september 11th we really started becoming more active in on politics and so on

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01:40:50,560 --> 01:40:57,920

and that's also why donald trump um became president because one of the things that we was doing and um

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01:40:59,760 --> 01:41:04,240

one of the things that we were doing was trying to say okay we don't necessarily need to vote for

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01:41:04,240 --> 01:41:10,640

the lesser two evils we can still vote for who we want that fight is still on unfortunately

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01:41:10,640 --> 01:41:18,560

unfortunately and it's a bloody one i mean we got the first black president out of that you know so

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01:41:19,280 --> 01:41:28,560

and we are going to continue to fight that um but having said that um and i did lose my i did

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01:41:28,560 --> 01:41:33,120

lose where i was going we're talking about with the the upward spiral downward spiral and you said

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01:41:33,120 --> 01:41:41,040

when when the hail mary okay so here's the thing um as we know that we need to grow and i've said

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01:41:41,040 --> 01:41:46,320

this a couple of times today we know we need to grow we know we need to evolve we are going to

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01:41:46,320 --> 01:41:53,760

do both yes that is going to happen that means a lot of the old traditionalist ways are going to go

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01:41:53,760 --> 01:42:01,440

by the wayside there won't be the two major parties that we see today there won't be the um

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01:42:01,440 --> 01:42:06,560

the robber barons of today out there anymore i mean we are not going to go through the same

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01:42:06,560 --> 01:42:13,360

processes that we have seen over the past 200 years there are going to be changes a lot of

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01:42:13,360 --> 01:42:20,880

people who live their lives with what we are changing don't want that to change and yet they

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01:42:20,880 --> 01:42:26,800

have to see a change and they don't know what to do like i said when donald trump somehow became

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01:42:26,800 --> 01:42:37,920

president um it became more than just a campaign to call out the um to basically um champion those

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01:42:37,920 --> 01:42:44,320

causes now you had the opportunity to make sure that the things that you believe will stay in

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01:42:44,320 --> 01:42:51,040

place and they do not want to lose that they're still going to lose that but they do not want to

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01:42:51,040 --> 01:42:56,880

lose that um they know they're going to lose that which is why you hear them talk about

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01:42:56,880 --> 01:43:04,160

succession and civil war and all of that so and i will tell you right now again we're not prepared

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01:43:04,160 --> 01:43:08,560

for that because it's like what mike tyson once said everybody has a plan till they get punched

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01:43:08,560 --> 01:43:14,880

in the mouth you think it's going to break down a certain way when it comes to um a civil war

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01:43:14,880 --> 01:43:22,080

but it won't you're going to start seeing people um players that you did not um expect like those

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01:43:22,080 --> 01:43:25,920

um those robber banners that i was talking about the people with the most money are going to

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01:43:25,920 --> 01:43:33,360

benefit the most out of something like that and all of a sudden we got warlords and cartels that

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01:43:33,360 --> 01:43:43,520

are going to actually make up what we um what what counts as government and the government that um

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01:43:43,520 --> 01:43:48,320

that we have today is just going to be a puppet one for them so i mean that's the kind of thing

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01:43:48,320 --> 01:43:57,120

that you can expect i mean when um they think so to that end we the people who have not seen

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01:43:57,840 --> 01:44:06,560

a war on these shores since the civil war in um in the 1860s um i've been living in a

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01:44:06,560 --> 01:44:14,480

state of stability and peace with a few scuffles here and there amongst ourselves um and are not

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01:44:14,480 --> 01:44:23,520

really to give that up i don't think we're giving that up because um the hail mary um

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01:44:24,320 --> 01:44:31,280

is going to be intercepted well again i mean if if you get the 80 to communicate with each other

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01:44:31,280 --> 01:44:36,640

they're going to be like i don't want to fight you we all agree yes you know what i mean see that's

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01:44:36,640 --> 01:44:43,200

the thing there we are a society as i said before we're not divided we are all have been able to

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01:44:43,200 --> 01:44:48,880

come together for things like um trying to say protect ourselves with the pandemic you know we

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01:44:48,880 --> 01:44:56,880

we know the society that we want we know the society that we have so something like that fails

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01:44:56,880 --> 01:45:02,880

because it is not compatible with where we are going that's why shot when charlotte'sville blew

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01:45:02,880 --> 01:45:07,920

up everybody's um everybody started saying okay we're going to do this to make sure that doesn't

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01:45:07,920 --> 01:45:13,360

happen again that's why when january 6 happened we were like okay we're going to do something to

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01:45:13,360 --> 01:45:18,320

make sure that didn't happen again people who weren't involved in either people who weren't

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01:45:18,320 --> 01:45:23,120

paying attention to either saw both those things as being a threat and they took action

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01:45:23,120 --> 01:45:30,800

and that's as a society um even when even with the summer 2020 when every place on the planet

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01:45:30,800 --> 01:45:38,640

every place in the country was going crazy um even in the midst of a pandemic people now folks were

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01:45:38,640 --> 01:45:43,600

on um for the most part on the side of those that were in the streets at that time but they said you

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01:45:43,600 --> 01:45:48,080

know what we can do this a lot more responsible we don't have to um we don't have to tear everything

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01:45:48,080 --> 01:45:56,480

up we hear the message and we're going to we're going to see what we can do so as we are building

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01:45:56,480 --> 01:46:03,040

we also just have to be mindful of those who want to keep it torn down that's um that's

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01:46:03,760 --> 01:46:12,000

the never-ending um curse of freedom eternal vigilance you got to maintain that um that

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01:46:12,000 --> 01:46:17,520

vigilance otherwise you can lose everything that you're fighting for and in the end i think that's

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01:46:17,520 --> 01:46:25,360

what we are doing and even the folks who are part of these little kabobs that are trying to tear

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01:46:25,360 --> 01:46:31,360

things down even they appreciate that because ultimately as we were just talking about um just

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01:46:31,360 --> 01:46:35,760

a couple of minutes ago a lot of them are comprised with folks who are just trying to make their lives

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01:46:35,760 --> 01:46:42,320

worth a damn that's why i don't and and i think and i think it's important to remember that

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01:46:42,320 --> 01:46:47,200

um they don't really want to smoke either otherwise they would have brought it by now

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01:46:48,400 --> 01:46:53,920

so the question is okay so now what do we do with this and i think we're going to figure it out

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01:46:54,720 --> 01:46:59,440

yeah i mean that kind of goes back to what you said i think we've been moving there for a long

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01:46:59,440 --> 01:47:04,400

time and the thing is is that we've been moving to a place where we can't just go and do things

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01:47:04,400 --> 01:47:08,800

that we've been doing for a long time and the thing is it's the squeaky wheels pointing out oh

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01:47:08,800 --> 01:47:13,280

you know these guys don't get on with each other it's like just go to any town the way they they

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01:47:13,280 --> 01:47:16,880

portray that there's some big race war outside your front door okay we'll walk out your front

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01:47:16,880 --> 01:47:22,320

door what do you see oh actually i see you know kids of all colors playing football in the park

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01:47:22,880 --> 01:47:27,120

that's the america you actually live in are there pockets of places that are not so good

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01:47:27,120 --> 01:47:33,040

yes but most of this place we go to school together we work together we play together we pray together

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01:47:33,040 --> 01:47:38,320

we're all colors and creeds and orientations that is the beautiful tapestry that we live in so

969

01:47:39,280 --> 01:47:43,440

open you know take who knows what might happen in the next couple who knows what might happen in

970

01:47:43,440 --> 01:47:50,080

the next few decades america may not look like this um there may be some kinks in the armor that

971

01:47:50,080 --> 01:47:57,040

cause us to um separate maybe um but in the end we're always going to come back to that community

972

01:47:57,040 --> 01:48:02,480

that we have today we're always going to come back to what we have today and we're always going to be

973

01:48:02,480 --> 01:48:08,160

striving towards that we're not going to let it completely fall i do not believe that one darn

974

01:48:08,160 --> 01:48:15,280

bit a hundred years from now whatever society we have here in north america we're going to appreciate

975

01:48:16,160 --> 01:48:24,240

i really do think that and i hope i'm here to see it me too all right well for people listening

976

01:48:24,240 --> 01:48:31,040

where are the best places to find you online and or social media all right so some um well i will

977

01:48:31,040 --> 01:48:36,400

tell everybody um first and foremost because i'm old school um one people's project is at one

978

01:48:36,400 --> 01:48:46,400

people's project.com our news line is idavox.com um feel free to read whatever um read a lot about

979

01:48:46,400 --> 01:48:57,120

us there and donate if you can um and um social media wise i usually go by the tagline d lamont

980

01:48:57,120 --> 01:49:02,560

jenkins just look for d lamont jenkins on your favorite social media outlet whether it's instagram

981

01:49:02,560 --> 01:49:10,000

or threads and the one that i'm not going to mention um OPP and idavox are also um one people's

982

01:49:10,000 --> 01:49:14,240

project you can look for one people's project on instagram you can look for idavox on instagram

983

01:49:14,240 --> 01:49:22,480

and yes i'm on facebook you can find me on facebook and um yeah i there's a couple of them out there

984

01:49:22,480 --> 01:49:28,880

that i'm just getting on oh yeah tiktok i'm on tiktok i think under there i'm notorious doj

985

01:49:30,080 --> 01:49:35,760

i think i see i don't even know my own screen name yeah i'm i have tiktok but i'm not on it

986

01:49:35,760 --> 01:49:42,000

that much i just share some of my podcast promo videos basically yeah i'm on it all the time but

987

01:49:42,000 --> 01:49:46,640

it's just like am i d lamont jenkins there i'm notorious doj i can't remember yeah because i

988

01:49:46,640 --> 01:49:52,880

have two i have two screenings notorious doj and d lamont jenkins just let's throw that in the

989

01:49:52,880 --> 01:49:57,920

google machine and you'll find me perfect well i want to thank you so much it's been such an

990

01:49:57,920 --> 01:50:02,560

interesting conversation a very different perspective than a lot of people have but um you

991

01:50:02,560 --> 01:50:08,400

know a much needed conversation this is a beautiful thing there's so many people out there that their

992

01:50:08,400 --> 01:50:12,800

perspectives are just different and when we all talk to each other you know we meet in the middle

993

01:50:12,800 --> 01:50:17,840

and we're like oh there's you know again 80 percent commonality and 90 percent commonality

994

01:50:17,840 --> 01:50:24,960

so between what you've done and the the compassion that you brought from your dad and his brothers

995

01:50:24,960 --> 01:50:31,840

through to what you've done and literally rescued young people from extremist organizations and

996

01:50:31,840 --> 01:50:36,720

given them the ability you know to to lead normal lives i think it's phenomenal so i want to thank

997

01:50:36,720 --> 01:50:40,960

you so much not only for your work but also for coming on the behind the shield podcast today

998

01:50:40,960 --> 01:50:53,840

and i appreciate you having me thank you very much