

19:32:55 Live captions provided by Rev.com. For 99% accurate post-meeting transcripts and captions, visit Rev.com.

20:07:57 So we can get started.

20:07:59 If that's okay, I'm going to start our recording.

20:08:04 And Bernard,

20:08:06 if you'll take care of any folks that come in the waiting room,

20:08:07 I appreciate that you.

20:08:08 You bet.

20:08:10 Thank you.

20:08:11 Well, welcome for homeschool, July 30th.

20:08:16 My name is Colby Caldwell.

20:08:17 I'm the program director here at revolve and I'm the vice principal in

20:08:20 our online initiative. Homeschool.

20:08:32 Tonight,

20:08:33 we're thrilled and honored to be hosting DIY able to presentation of a

20:08:36 celebration of 30 years of the ADA stories of disability.

20:08:39 This will be moderated by DIY able, founder,

20:08:42 and revolve advisory board member prearranged.

20:08:44 And there'll be more about her coming up.

20:08:46 She wrote this to me.

20:08:47 As we were preparing for tonight and I felt like it would be a good

20:08:49 way to kind of start tonight's proceedings.

20:08:50 July 26 marked marked the 30th anniversary of the ADA.

20:08:55 And as a side note pre and are really excited about having a 30th

20:08:57 anniversary on July 30th, but that's just how we are.

20:09:02 The disability rights movement in the United States was one of the

20:09:04 most powerful civil rights movements. And yet at the same time,

20:09:07 One of the most invisible movements to have occurred.

20:09:09 Disability is the largest minority in the world.

20:09:13 And unlike other minorities, it remains the most invisible minority.

20:09:22 Tonight,

20:09:23 we're going to hear from several folks who will share their stories

20:09:25 about living with disabilities 30 years on from the passage of the

20:09:28 ADA.

20:09:29 We will have a mix of prerecorded videos and some live presentations.

20:09:38 And before I introduce this evening's moderator Priya,

20:09:40 I just have a few housekeeping things to share.

20:09:42 So we will all be kind of on the same page as we are navigating this

20:09:45 interweb zoom software.
20:09:47 First and foremost,
20:09:48 I want to say we are thrilled to be able to offer closed
captioning
20:09:51 for tonight's program.
20:09:55 And those of you that would like to use the closed
captioning,
20:09:57 that there should be a button at the bottom of your screen
that gives
20:09:59 you the opportunity to use the closed captioning option.
20:10:09 And we were able to do this for tonight and all of our
program
20:10:12 programs in the future because of the generous support of our
20:10:15 subscribers and donors. I want to thank Priya,
20:10:17 especially for making this a vital element.
20:10:19 In our presentations and programming moving forward.
20:10:25 Please set your zoom due to speaker view during the muted
sections of
20:10:28 tonight's discussion when we're showing videos or when folks
are
20:10:30 speaking about their.
20:10:33 Times during this time.
20:10:35 And send that to the gallery view when we're opening up for
questions
20:10:38 or when you want to check and see who's in the room and be
able to
20:10:40 have a more group type discussion.
20:10:42 We'll indicate this as the program progresses.
20:10:51 There'll be multiple opportunities tonight at the questions
and
20:10:53 discussion throughout this presentation.
20:10:54 And I'm asking you to drop your questions in the chat and you
can push
20:10:57 the chat button and open up a little window and you can.
20:11:00 I write a chat to me, specifically Colby Caldwell or the
entire group,
20:11:03 and I'll correlate them. And during logical breaks,
20:11:05 I'll read your questions and unmute you.
20:11:06 And allow you to follow up for further discussion if needed.
20:11:08 This helps keep things kind of a streamlined and kind of
helps keep
20:11:11 all the noise and feedback from happening.
20:11:13 Throughout the night.
20:11:17 I'll also be dropping pertinent links throughout the program.
20:11:19 So keep an eye out or let me know if you'd like for me to
drop them in
20:11:22 again.
20:11:23 We will be recording tonight's program.
20:11:29 And we'll post it on our homeschool library website,
20:11:31 where you also can check out a previous homeschool events.

20:11:33 We have over 19 events that we've done since April.
20:11:36 So feel free to turn your video on and off as you feel comfortable.
20:11:41 We also have several wonderful programs coming up in August,
20:11:44 and I'll be happy to share those with you at the end of our program
20:11:46 tonight.
20:11:50 But finally, before I bring prion to moderate,
20:11:52 I'd like to thank our subscribers, like angelic Bruckner and Arthur,
20:11:55 Gary.
20:12:01 And I want to give a special thanks to Linda and Ron Larson for their
20:12:03 long time continued support and especially our friends at photo plus,
20:12:07 all these folks make what we do happen.
20:12:09 And most importantly,
20:12:10 I want to thank all of y'all for participating tonight or presenting
20:12:13 tonight and for being a part of the community that we're trying to
20:12:15 build here.
20:12:16 Via homeschool.
20:12:18 So I'd like to introduce prearrange now.
20:12:19 Who's going to moderate tonight's program.
20:12:23 Rearra has been a long time member or the DIY community as a musician
20:12:26 and an artist.
20:12:32 In 1999, she fell off a skateboard ramp.
20:12:34 That was a DIY space for bands. She sustained.
20:12:37 I teach well L one spinal cord injury.
20:12:46 When faced with a decision of what you wanted to do as a person living
20:12:48 with disability,
20:12:50 she decided she wanted to keep playing music when asked why she
20:12:53 chooses to continue to create what she does with the DIY ethic.
20:12:55 She tells people.
20:12:57 Because DIY is about community. And when I became disabled,
20:13:00 I needed to be a part of this community more than ever.
20:13:02 She started a nonprofit called DIY abled to inform people about the
20:13:05 civil rights of people living with disabilities.
20:13:10 And she is also part of revolves inaugural advisory board,
20:13:13 which will have our very first meeting tomorrow,
20:13:15 which I'll tell you more about later in the program.
20:13:17 But in the meantime,
20:13:18 I am super thrilled to turn this program over the PREA. Hey Brandon,

20:13:21 what's up.
20:13:22 Hey, what's up. Thank you so much.
20:13:31 Colby for like, you know,
20:13:33 letting us be part of a revolve homeschool series.
20:13:37 It's really exciting.
20:13:38 And.
20:13:43 Basically, you know, Colby gave her great introduction,
20:13:47 you know what I had written. So yeah, I,
20:13:48 I just feel throughout history, we all know that.
20:14:00 Disability has been around since life has been around. And,
20:14:03 but history, for some reason,
20:14:05 the narratives don't have disability don't exist as much.
20:14:08 So my goal is for people with disabilities to share their
stories,
20:14:12 so it can be recorded. And then in the future world,
20:14:15 There will be a history of disability and hopefully normalize
what
20:14:19 disability is.
20:14:23 So our first person is Tybee Flores.
20:14:27 She's a millennial millennial disability, activists.
20:14:30 She runs her own advocacy group called stomping with CP.
20:14:35 And.
20:14:43 She has performed a poem.
20:14:45 And so we made a video of her poem and also some thoughts she
had
20:14:50 about how the ADA has cracks that we need to fix.
20:14:53 And she explains the different cracks that exists.
20:14:57 So go for it and show that video.
20:15:15 Colby. I don't hear the audio of that video.
20:15:17 Hi, Leah. You're you're still muted.
20:15:19 Thank you.
20:15:28 Kay here, anything.
20:15:30 Yeah.
20:15:45 Oh, yeah. Sorry, Colby. I was muted. I can't hear the video
at all.
20:15:49 So would you mind rewinding it and starting it again?
20:16:05 Okay.
20:16:08 People were not able to hear that. Is that correct?
20:16:10 Right. Yeah.
20:16:11 Right.
20:16:21 Because I think what happens is that I've muted myself and
not
20:16:23 actually new. It's the audio from the video as well. So I
apologize.
20:16:27 We're going to start over if that's okay.
20:16:29 With.
20:16:30 Yep.
20:16:31 Hey, that's, what's great about this time.
20:16:33 We're all learning and teaching at the same time. So let's.
20:16:35 Okay.

20:16:38 I will not need myself. And.
20:16:42 Priya and Bernard, if you'll give me a thumbs up,
20:16:44 if you can hear this.
20:16:47 Eva.
20:16:52 What must I do for my voice to be heard?
20:16:55 Should I show louder.
20:16:59 Should I tell my chair in front of me, should I do them on my
knees?
20:17:02 Should I cry as I actually.
20:17:04 Why society is the way it is.
20:17:06 As I feel as if I'm.
20:17:10 But by the world around me.
20:17:12 Lack of healthcare.
20:17:13 Everywhere.
20:17:18 Places.
20:17:22 Have gone by and I'm still having to actually so fly.
20:17:27 Century old. Shouldn't have to ask myself why.
20:17:30 But I do in the hopes that it'll get better.
20:17:35 Bye.
20:17:36 My name's Tom Flores.
20:17:41 25 year old with spastic dysplasia.
20:17:48 Great sight.
20:17:49 And I'm also a published author and disability advocate.
20:18:00 Despite the obstacles you face,
20:18:02 you gotta keep on stomping on CP because despite the
obstacles you
20:18:06 face, you must keep on going and sharing your story with the
world.
20:18:09 Write your own story to the best of your ability. That's my
water.
20:18:14 This channel and that's my motto on everything that I write
and
20:18:18 contribute to. So with that being said, you guys.
20:18:23 I'm wanting to talk about something very important to me,
20:18:26 something that's coming up in the next couple of days.
20:18:29 As you know, the ADA,
20:18:31 the Americans disability act was signed.
20:18:33 Years ago by president George H w.
20:18:37 And that is basically the lawn that went in place.
20:18:53 Everyday people from being discriminated against or
mistreated against
20:18:57 just because we have a disability and we have to live in
society
20:19:01 because before the ADA was in place,
20:19:03 we struggled a lot just to get the.
20:19:08 Unnecessary things we needed to survive in life.
20:19:10 Like having handicapped the system will places and ramps and
even
20:19:15 buses, even. I mean, if you guys seen the movie Crip camp,
20:19:18 you guys would know that.

20:19:20 The generation prior to the millennial,
20:19:22 struggle a lot to get them to get where we are now,
20:19:25 which is great. Congratulations to all of the advocates for.
20:19:28 First standing up.
20:19:30 What we, what we want and what we believed in,
20:19:32 which was equal rights for all.
20:19:34 With that being said,
20:19:35 I'm going to reflect on what it was like.
20:19:37 Growing up as a millennial.
20:19:39 Cause I am a millennial.
20:19:40 I was born.
20:19:45 In 1995. So the law had been passed four years.
20:19:49 By the time I was born.
20:19:50 And I'm going to school.
20:19:51 For.
20:19:52 13 years because I got held back a year.
20:19:55 On the third grade and Durham.
20:19:57 Going to school with the ADA law.
20:20:07 I didn't really see much of an effect. I mean,
20:20:10 I constantly had to, my parents constantly.
20:20:12 Fight. And for me to get the proper education.
20:20:16 Fighting for you to get the proper IEP,
20:20:18 because there'll be a lot of times where teachers are going
to fall in
20:20:21 my final.
20:20:22 Fight for me to be on a.
20:20:24 On a handicap, the system will bus.
20:20:35 Fighting for me to be treated right by teachers and staff
members.
20:20:39 And the one thing that I remember at the age of seven years
old is
20:20:43 getting smacked in the face by a school bus driver.
20:20:46 In my County,
20:20:47 that was the earliest time that I knew that my fight to be a
normal
20:20:52 student was going to be difficult.
20:20:53 Look only that Bush struggle was fired,
20:20:56 but that was my earliest memory of like,
20:20:58 Being in a society where I was going to be mistreated.
20:21:01 Only because I'd have to say.
20:21:03 Now the ADA has come a long way.
20:21:05 But they're still.
20:21:06 Lot of work that needs to be done.
20:21:10 And America needs to wake up and realize that this is the
reality of
20:21:15 it.
20:21:16 People with disabilities.
20:21:17 Need their voices heard.
20:21:18 We need to show people that we live.
20:21:23 Normal everyday life, despite our different ability.

20:21:27 Cause I don't like using the word disability.
20:21:29 I don't know about y'all.
20:21:30 But despite our different ability you live our lives.
20:21:36 We deserve to have those stories told,
20:21:38 and maybe we can be the next generation of prep camp.
20:21:43 You know,
20:21:44 we need to be that next generation to fix the broken cracks.
20:21:48 Ugly ABA.
20:21:49 I mean, although we have the AAD in place.
20:21:52 Although it's supposed to mean.
20:21:54 Equality. I don't feel.
20:21:56 Quality when it comes to myself and.
20:21:58 And I'm living in society.
20:22:01 And I'm gonna explain to you guys why in a book.
20:22:05 About with human. Okay.
20:22:09 Why should I have to go through X, Y, and G to get that?
20:22:15 Ruth care.
20:22:16 Why should I have to face the fear of.
20:22:24 We'll not be able to really get married in the love of God
and what I
20:22:29 believe in because there's a freaking long.
20:22:32 One place called the marriage penalty law that affects your
social
20:22:35 security. If you get married, I do not wake up.
20:22:37 No, wake up one day as a little girl and say, Oh, I can't
wait.
20:22:42 My mind, my youth and not be able to walk down.
20:22:46 Sign the marriage certificate to say I'm married.
20:22:51 I didn't know.
20:22:53 I've always been the type of person.
20:22:58 At wants a wedding that marriage should do.
20:23:02 I shouldn't have to decide with the love of my life.
20:23:06 You know, I shouldn't have to decide. Okay.
20:23:08 Are we going to get married because we're bench.
20:23:13 Dizzy, and we don't want to lose half our social security
benefits.
20:23:17 Or we're not going to have an income.
20:23:21 That's the fear, but nobody talks about it. Nobody's doing.
20:23:24 A parade for an improved test.
20:23:29 So it's up to us. Another thing that doesn't make me feel
equal.
20:23:33 In this society.
20:23:36 Although the ADA has been past 30 years ago.
20:23:45 Is the simple fact of assessability.
20:23:47 Why is it that we still have to deal with.
20:23:51 Constant struggle and anxieties of wondering if this place is
20:23:55 handicap.
20:23:56 It says or.
20:23:57 Into a place where we're,
20:23:58 we don't feel comfortable because it isn't a handicap the

system.
20:24:01 And we sit out like a sore thumb.
20:24:04 If the Amy was practiced 30 years ago.
20:24:07 There really should not have this problem.
20:24:09 It should, it should already be.
20:24:11 Do people say.
20:24:14 And it's to the point where, so time.
20:24:15 To me, I get embarrassed.
20:24:17 Because I seen.
20:24:20 Like a sore thumb, but I shouldn't have to.
20:24:23 Because, you know why beside this.
20:24:28 Any normal 25 year old girl.
20:24:32 You know, I like country music. I like being social.
20:24:35 Watching TV playing video games.
20:24:39 I like reading books on the book or.
20:24:41 But yet.
20:24:44 I have to do with the constant struggle.
20:24:48 If, if I'm gonna.
20:24:53 Hidden dilemma today. Oh, this place has a handicap, the system.
20:24:56 Oh, I can't.
20:25:03 I can't walk on the sidewalk because there's bushes and it's not
20:25:09 assessable.
20:25:10 Or the ranch too steep. It's too dangerous.
20:25:13 Why should I have to worry about that?
20:25:15 But Amy was past 30 years ago.
20:25:17 You know, I don't know if you guys could see my whole shirt.
20:25:19 But he says some, some scene.
20:25:21 Disabilities. I see possibilities.
20:25:24 And that's exactly what I see.
20:25:28 For America, our nation, our society.
20:25:31 If we take the right steps.
20:25:33 We strive to be the best that we can be.
20:25:39 Voice is heard in society.
20:25:41 No matter if it p****s people off or not.
20:25:43 Yay.
20:25:47 Okay.
20:25:53 Thank you.
20:25:58 That was Ottavia. Do you want to say, thank you. Say something.
20:26:03 Yes, I would just like to say thank you to dya will founder.
20:26:07 Pre-agreed.
20:26:17 For allowing me to be here and express my passion and share my story
20:26:22 with the world. Our friendship means an owner to me,
20:26:25 the volume that we've just built with DIA would ever want to hear it.
20:26:29 Truly been a blessing to be here today,
20:26:31 to share my perspective on the ADA and my frustrations in my

poem.

20:26:35 And it really means a lot to me. And like I said, Oh, a.

20:26:38 Well, the ADA was passed 30 years ago.

20:26:40 There's still a lot of work that needs to be done.

20:26:42 So we have to stomp on the ADA.

20:26:44 Yes.

20:26:45 I agree.

20:26:47 Okay.

20:26:49 The next step I believe is Freddy's video. Ready? Is.

20:27:09 It's such a kind soul. He lives he's from the Houston, Texas area.

20:27:12 You also has cerebral palsy and he made a video for us today talking

20:27:17 about his experience with disability and a tool that he thinks needs

20:27:22 to be everywhere at every business in America.

20:27:25 So go for it and play that video.

20:27:27 Hi, my name is Brittany.

20:27:28 I am 32 years old.

20:27:30 [unknown] today for this 88.

20:27:31 30th.

20:27:32 Anniversary.

20:27:33 Event. I want to talk about the importance of.

20:27:36 Any.

20:27:38 That pushed,

20:27:40 whether it be doctors on this social security office.

20:27:43 Any.

20:27:46 The importance of having data accessible.

20:27:49 Andy gap.

20:27:50 Door opener.

20:27:51 I went to Doug.

20:27:53 That does.

20:27:57 Is near and dear to me.

20:28:02 I do notice that some of the establishments have the.

20:28:07 In the gap. A lot of them do not.

20:28:10 I would like for.

20:28:12 I'll have Leah's dad.

20:28:14 Stablish myths too.

20:28:17 Of them to make it easier.

20:28:21 On the disabled and those that have to gear.

20:28:27 For the industry

20:28:28 back in 2006.

20:28:30 I was doing.

20:28:32 Summer internship.

20:28:35 And on this particular day.

20:28:37 I had the public.

20:28:41 [unknown] they were busy.

20:28:47 Does day and did not make sure that I get get.

20:28:50 Into the building.

20:28:51 So I'm going to go to work.

20:28:53 Unfortunately.
20:28:57 I ended to sit outside through agenda.
20:28:59 Dean minutes before.
20:29:03 And the establishment.
20:29:05 You might as well.
20:29:12 Some of you might ask, well,
20:29:14 why didn't you just grab your cell phone?
20:29:16 Grow them and say, Hey.
20:29:18 I'm here. Can you let me in the building please?
20:29:23 Hmm.
20:29:26 I was living in a.
20:29:27 Group.
20:29:30 Disseminate where we were not.
20:29:33 I'm loud.
20:29:39 Jab. So balloons as residents.
20:29:41 So there was no way that I get notified.
20:29:44 Anyone.
20:29:45 Then I was sitting outside.
20:29:47 The building.
20:29:48 It would be nice for.
20:29:50 Diaz.
20:29:51 Stablish mints.
20:29:53 To have.
20:29:55 Yeah, but.
20:29:58 For those that needed.
20:30:01 Because we are not, not always.
20:30:07 And so on us or someone to go.
20:30:11 With us to make sure that we get.
20:30:13 Get into the building.
20:30:17 As disabled.
20:30:19 Wheels.
20:30:20 When's it be.
20:30:22 Independent as possible.
20:30:26 And I think it should be.
20:30:31 [unknown] should.
20:30:34 Have this.
20:30:40 In the gap, it says door opener.
20:30:43 Mike back in November of last year.
20:30:45 And go to the DMV.
20:30:47 To get fine.
20:30:50 ID renewed.
20:30:53 And my floor.
20:30:54 Caregiver.
20:30:56 And defined.
20:30:58 With the door.
20:31:03 And also me to get me inside the building.
20:31:08 That's a government establishment. I would have gone.
20:31:12 They would have had the.
20:31:14 Accessible door opener.
20:31:16 But they did not.

20:31:18 So even.
20:31:21 In the 30 years that ADA.
20:31:24 We have ADA has done that.
20:31:27 Great. So we still have it.
20:31:30 Ready to go. And I think that's just.
20:31:32 One of the things.
20:31:34 That would help.
20:31:38 Disabled community is that as long as Deb.
20:31:43 Would have this feature.
20:31:54 It would be much easier on the individual and those that are caring
20:31:59 for the end of the job. Thank you so much for your time.
20:32:02 And ms. Dean.
20:32:03 One hand to say.
20:32:04 You guys have a great night.
20:32:15 Thank you so much Friday. That was a really wonderful video.
And I'm,
20:32:19 I'm pretty sure a lot of people don't think about those accessible
20:32:22 door openers.
20:32:23 So that was a great perspective. And thanks for sharing that with us.
20:32:35 The next person up is John would.
20:32:37 John is another millennial activists, disability, activists,
20:32:41 living with spinal bifida.
20:32:43 He is an advocate and also self published author.
20:32:46 And he is actually gonna speak a little bit live about the ADA and how
20:32:51 it affects him. And then he also made a video.
20:32:53 So we're going to play that video.
20:32:54 So go ahead, John, and talk it up.
20:32:56 Okay.
20:32:58 Although I was.
20:33:05 Three years old.
20:33:06 When I learned about the Americans with disabilities act,
20:33:09 I automatically knew that it was something they.
20:33:11 As a person with a disability.
20:33:13 With the intent of the ADA, it was possible for me.
20:33:15 Did not only go to school.
20:33:21 Sorry, but graduate with the highest GPA in my class,
20:33:23 just a little side note,
20:33:25 I graduated with a 3.8 GPA high as you could get was a four.
20:33:27 It is.
20:33:28 Also though hell.
20:33:29 May become who I am today.
20:33:31 And an advocate.
20:33:37 Had I not learned about the ADA when I did,
20:33:38 I doubt that I would be who I am today.
20:33:40 And before we play with Blair the video, let me just say one thing.

20:33:45 It's a video that I want to very, very hard.
20:33:47 The motto that I will be quoting in this video has helped me
over
20:33:50 the last year.
20:33:51 With everything that I've done and the motto is.
20:33:54 Your situation may be hard.
20:33:55 There's always someone like me, but he to lift you up.
20:33:58 Now with that out of the way, let's play this video.
20:34:05 What's up guys.
20:34:07 My name is Joel. Would.
20:34:12 I am a 26 year old author disability advocate,
20:34:14 YouTuber and true friend.
20:34:16 I just wanted to take a few minutes to give you a little bit
of my
20:34:17 life story.
20:34:23 I was born with the most severe type of spinal bifida and the
type is
20:34:26 called Milo men Ninja suit.
20:34:29 Because of this,
20:34:30 I am unable to walk and does rely on a manual wheelchair for
mobility.
20:34:35 I have many other health issues stemming from spinal bifida,
20:34:37 such as hydrocephalus or.
20:34:39 Water on the brain.
20:34:41 Scoliosis curvature of the spine, severe pernicious anemia.
20:34:44 I also have kidney.
20:34:46 Bladder issues.
20:34:47 And so many other anomalies.
20:34:50 I was always supposed to live two hours.
20:34:52 But because of my many health issues.
20:34:58 As I always say, I just entered the ring for my 26th.
20:35:01 In the fight against spinal bifida.
20:35:03 And I'm very happy to say.
20:35:07 I'm winning spinal bifida is losing.
20:35:10 Here are a few of my many hobbies that I do.
20:35:18 As I mentioned a minute ago, I am an author. I've written
three books.
20:35:21 One is published. I'm a disability advocate.
20:35:24 And I'm a, you tuber.
20:35:29 Those spinal bifida may have robbed me of the ability to
walk.
20:35:31 It has not robbed me at the ability to be a true friend to
those in
20:35:34 need.
20:35:39 I've been to disability advocates since the age of 18 and
many times
20:35:42 throughout my career. I've met folks with similar stories,
20:35:44 but they've had different circumstances that have made them
who they
20:35:46 are today.

20:35:47 My life motto is, and always will be.
20:35:49 Your situation may be forward,
20:35:51 but there's always someone like me ready to lift you up
again.
20:35:53 People hear this. And even though.
20:35:58 They may be going through very different circumstances than I
am.
20:36:01 I know I can always be the person there to lift their spirits
and make
20:36:03 their day even better.
20:36:04 And to me,
20:36:06 that's very comforting to know that I was able to help
somebody having
20:36:09 a bad day.
20:36:10 You can reach out to me.
20:36:13 Facebook Instagram, YouTube, and my personal website.
20:36:15 I will link those in the.
20:36:17 No. So does video.
20:36:18 And let me reiterate once more. My mother.
20:36:20 Before we end this video.
20:36:21 Your situation may be hard.
20:36:26 But there's always someone like me ready to lift you up
again.
20:36:30 Thank you for your time.
20:36:31 And God blessed you.
20:36:38 Okay, thanks so much, John. That was such a great video. And.
20:36:47 You know,
20:36:48 obviously we realize John is really smart and because of the
ADA,
20:36:52 someone like John.
20:36:59 Was able to get an education and have that 3.3 0.8, sorry,
20:37:03 3.3 0.8 grade point average. So, you know,
20:37:07 the ADA helps educate.
20:37:09 Or, you know,
20:37:10 protects the rights for disabled people to become educated.
So it's,
20:37:13 you know, so, you know, John is a great example of a smart,
20:37:16 capable man.
20:37:19 That just happens to have a disability.
20:37:20 So the next person up is calling me.
20:37:23 She's actually here live. She did not make a video. She's
gonna just.
20:37:27 Go for it and talk live Pauline.
20:37:29 Victoria.
20:37:30 Is.
20:37:33 I have, it's probably I,
20:37:34 the fortunate she's probably one of the most awesome women
that I have
20:37:37 the fortunate.
20:37:44 Chance of knowing she was born without two arms and one leg.

20:37:49 She has a couple, she does a lot of things. She has a.
20:37:54 Per production company called one leg up productions.
20:37:57 She does interviews with people with disabilities called
chair chats.
20:38:01 And she also facilitates this really great group where a lot
of
20:38:04 people.
20:38:06 In this event or are from its Crip chat.
20:38:18 Which all of you are invited to,
20:38:20 of course we have an Instagram account,
20:38:23 so you can go sign up for there. So with little ado,
20:38:26 I'm gonna welcome Pauline into this conversation. And.
20:38:29 She's she has a.
20:38:30 A whole concept of disability that she likes to talk about.
20:38:33 I'm not even gonna reveal that. So welcome Paulie.
20:38:45 Thank you so much. I am so excited to be here.
20:38:48 I'm so excited to be around friends. I know,
20:38:50 and friends I still have yet to meet. So thank you.
20:38:53 And I just wanted to give shout outs.
20:38:54 I haven't seen Sam on a crypt chat for awhile,
20:38:56 so I just want to give a shot.
20:38:57 To Sam.
20:38:58 Thank you all for being here tonight and giving us the
opportunity to
20:39:01 share with you a little bit about our disability experience.
20:39:09 Like Priya said I was born without arms and legs. Well,
20:39:13 I do have a small leg and it's, it's not a normal leg,
20:39:15 but it is the inspiration behind the media company.
20:39:19 I created called one leg up productions.
20:39:20 I was raised in California and the Silicon Valley. I was
born.
20:39:24 I'm going to age myself now in 1975 for you,
20:39:27 millennials who are babies still?
20:39:38 I was born in 1975, so pre ADA,
20:39:40 but when the ADA was passed in 1990,
20:39:43 I was only 14 years old.
20:39:45 So I feel grateful for all the pioneers that came ahead,
20:39:50 that I didn't know all the work that came.
20:39:52 That they had to do in order to get the ADA passed.
20:39:54 So I'm a big shout out to people who came before us to lay
those.
20:40:00 The girl, the groundwork for which we can build now upon. And
so.
20:40:09 Growing up in California, it's very progressive and a very,
20:40:12 I was very fortunate to be able to have that experience
because I
20:40:15 didn't really have to step into a role of advocacy and it
wasn't
20:40:19 until.
20:40:20 I moved to Hawaii. I live on the big Island of Hawaii. I got

married.

20:40:23 So a little bit background back in California.

20:40:36 I graduated from Santa Clara university with a bachelor's degree in

20:40:39 broadcast, journalism and communication.

20:40:41 And I worked throughout various high tech companies in Silicon Valley,

20:40:44 as well as in the city government,

20:40:47 as a disability program navigator,

20:40:49 helping people with disabilities get employed.

20:40:59 And so I have a vast experience in the private and public sector,

20:41:03 and I got married there and we had a baby and we just wanted to get

20:41:07 out of the rat race of California. So we moved to Hawaii.

20:41:09 So I could have the opportunity to be a stay at home. Mom.

20:41:12 And I love that this knee is called homeschool cause I'm a homeschool

20:41:15 mom and myself. So.

20:41:17 We, we do take advantage of that opportunity here.

20:41:20 Also in my time in Hawaii, I,

20:41:23 Hawaii is very laid back,

20:41:24 including the way they approach disability.

20:41:27 So they are far behind California in terms of the progress they've

20:41:30 made. And I found myself having to step in for the first time.

20:41:33 As an advocate.

20:41:35 Within our community.

20:41:36 And so I did that and I had time and I had space cause things are

20:41:40 quieter here in Hawaii to reflect on my experience as somebody with a

20:41:44 disability.

20:41:46 Prior to that.

20:41:47 I feel like the only time I related to my disability was from a place

20:41:50 of how is it holding me back.

20:41:52 From what I want,

20:41:53 how is it making me feel different and like an outcast.

20:41:57 And that's how I related to my disability.

20:41:59 And I only really thought about it.

20:42:01 When I had to.

20:42:06 And coming to Hawaii,

20:42:08 having the time and space to be able to reflect more about, okay,

20:42:11 what does this toll disability experience mean?

20:42:28 And in response to looking back on my life,

20:42:32 I created one leg up productions as a way to respond to other people

20:42:38 who may feel like they're alone in their experience.
20:42:40 I know as a person growing up with a disability had I had any
role
20:42:44 models to show me what was possible.
20:42:54 It would probably have ended a lot of suffering.
20:42:56 And I just felt like in this day and age with our technology,
20:42:59 there's no reason we can't bring our big wide world a little
bit
20:43:03 closer and connect people.
20:43:06 And so one of the charges I have with one leg up productions
is to
20:43:08 create community.
20:43:10 And we do that through the Quip chat that Priya mentioned.
20:43:13 Every Saturday we have, and that was in response to COVID.
20:43:16 So I guess the gay COVID.
20:43:18 And so we also,
20:43:20 I also do lifestyle talk show called chair chats.
20:43:23 Where I wanted to show evidence of other people with
disabilities
20:43:27 living powerfully.
20:43:28 And I feel like, yes, there are.
20:43:31 Problems with our system. We'll do have access issues.
20:43:35 There are still attitudes that exist out there.
20:43:37 Maybe not out of malicious,
20:43:39 but out of ignorance of what disability experience is.
20:43:48 And I wanted to show other people with disabilities,
20:43:50 that there are other people with disabilities that,
20:43:52 that get married that have children that,
20:43:54 that do find jobs that have fulfilling careers.
20:43:57 And I.
20:44:00 Try to bring that forth through my YouTube channel when lingo
20:44:04 productions and chair chats. And then, and, and, you know,
20:44:08 it's something I always take inspired action.
20:44:12 In response to July being disability pride month,
20:44:15 and you know, the 30th anniversary,
20:44:18 that's a big deal. The 30th anniversary of the ADA. So young.
20:44:22 And it's life and it has accomplished so much,
20:44:25 but I was trying to figure out what was the best way I could
honor.
20:44:35 This human experience called disability. And I created,
20:44:38 created a campaign called shaped by disability.
20:44:41 So if anyone feels called to participate,
20:44:43 it's hashtag shaped by disability.
20:44:44 It's primarily on Instagram and I try to identify.
20:44:47 How did they, how disability has shaped me as a person.
20:44:50 Because yes, there are issues. Yes, it can be hard,
20:44:53 but there has been so much beauty.
20:44:58 That has come from my experience with disability and I
created a IGD
20:45:03 TV series. I won't go through all of them, but just real

briefly.

20:45:07 As a person with a disability, I would not be who I am today.

20:45:25 And I feel like shaped my disability helps bring that forth.

20:45:29 That disability is not something to be scared of or to repel.

20:45:33 It's something to be embraced and having a disability has made me more

20:45:38 grateful as a person.

20:45:39 It has made me more empathic to people.

20:45:45 More compassionate people who may feel like they're not, they're not,

20:45:49 they don't fit in or that they're alone.

20:45:51 I feel like having a disability has helped me think out of the box,

20:45:54 made me more innovative.

20:45:55 And I feel like these are just a few of the gifts that the disability

20:45:58 experience has blessed me with.

20:46:00 And like attracts, like,

20:46:03 and there are so many of us here from the crypt chat.

20:46:05 From that one idea of creating a community call crypt shot.

20:46:09 And I have, it will not just I, but I,

20:46:12 disability community attracts so many amazing people.

20:46:15 But I don't know if they would be well,

20:46:17 I'm pretty sure you would all still be amazing,

20:46:19 but I think your disability makes you even more.

20:46:21 Amazing and fabulous. And,

20:46:24 and that, that.

20:46:25 Is what I hope that people get with disability is that there would be

20:46:28 something missing.

20:46:35 If we didn't have this disability experience in our world.

20:46:38 And I hope that people can see that and get to know us as people.

20:46:47 And see what they can learn, because any,

20:46:50 any perspective that is different from yours is valuable.

20:46:53 And it just creates this beautiful world that we live in.

20:46:55 Thank you.

20:46:57 Fun. Beat myself. Thank you so much, Pauline. I really appreciate it.

20:47:00 She is isn't she awesome.

20:47:03 Awesome. So.

20:47:10 The next person up. He's not actually here because he,

20:47:13 his name is Zach Zachary.

20:47:15 I don't know how to pronounce. I think it's Malcolm or McKay I am,

20:47:17 or I'm not sure.

20:47:28 You guys said Zachary meek Meacham.

20:47:30 He spent this last weekend.

20:47:34 He's from Iowa and they did this today.

20:47:36 Huge thing for the ADA 30th anniversary. And he was just

like,
20:47:40 I'm just too tired. I'm going to go, go to a Lake and hang out.
20:47:57 Chill out because he put a lot of work into the things they were doing
20:48:01 there in Iowa.
20:48:02 So he actually was so gracious to share a film that he made for the
20:48:07 Easter, Easter seals,
20:48:09 disability challenge that they did. And.
20:48:12 Zachary is a filmmaker, a photographer,
20:48:16 and a speaker that lives with neuro muscular dystrophy.
20:48:21 He has his own digital media company.
20:48:22 And he also makes advocacy content for upgrade Medicaid in Iowa.
20:48:27 A movement that they're doing there.
20:48:29 So.
20:48:30 I guess the next one is Zachary. Isn't. Isn't ready.
20:48:32 Call me.
20:48:33 Yes.
20:48:34 I had it lined up just a sec.
20:48:36 All right, so nice to see your face. Okay.
20:48:37 I'm sharing the screen now.
20:48:39 Okay. Awesome.
20:48:40 So this is Zachary. Meacham's a movie.
20:48:42 I don't know what the title is, but it's good. So check it out.
20:48:50 Wait, but the sunrise.
20:48:55 I.
20:48:56 No alarm.
20:49:01 Every day.
20:49:02 Say a simple prayer.
20:49:06 I asked Jesus to take away.
20:49:07 Disability.
20:49:09 And then I tried to get up.
20:49:14 There were guys.
20:49:16 After 45 minutes.
20:49:17 Try it.
20:49:19 My personal attorney.
20:49:22 Gets me out of bed. It's time for breakfast.
20:49:27 Paper careful though.
20:49:33 The sports section, cause another trooper can run.
20:49:36 Try again.
20:49:38 For breakfast.
20:49:40 I have played out mail.
20:49:44 The tactical honor.
20:49:48 This is what it means to have a disability.
20:49:52 Wait stop.
20:49:57 I've never encountered male train on day of my life.
20:50:00 And I don't intend to start today.

20:50:01 Secondly.
20:50:02 This is not what it means to have a disability.
20:50:04 That's kind of a hard question to answer.
20:50:07 What does it mean to have a disability?
20:50:17 Okay.
20:50:19 Mainstream difference and does around here.
20:50:23 And be comfortable standing out the crap.
20:50:26 It means being a problem solver.
20:50:29 Technical world that wasn't built for you.
20:50:34 It's not anymore about the.
20:50:38 And your local legislator and Bailey better at navigating.
20:50:40 There Leslie freaking out.
20:50:45 In his family, the company.
20:50:49 No, sorry to answer. This is movement politics. People.
20:50:52 Yeah.
20:50:53 It doesn't matter.
20:50:57 We need our legislators to act.
20:51:02 And fighting against injustice because we've seen it firsthand.
20:51:05 I just saw a friend.
20:51:06 Who has lost 15 pounds.
20:51:10 In the last six months.
20:51:11 And just because she's not getting regular care.
20:51:12 I'm really worried about her.
20:51:15 Admins refuse to be put in a box.
20:51:19 Even though everybody has ideas about what your piano.
20:51:23 Fair every once in a while.
20:51:33 It didn't stop being afraid to ask for help.
20:51:35 Cause sometimes you just can't do hung around.
20:51:38 It means being okay with that.
20:51:48 Navigators people are resilient.
20:51:52 Where do you turn down? That's why many of us.
20:51:57 Production our time to making the world a little pattern fraternities
20:52:00 and come after us.
20:52:02 And why would she get screened for other design elliptical?
20:52:03 I know the challenges that I faced.
20:52:05 And they may enter the person. I am.
20:52:06 And for that reason.
20:52:07 I wouldn't trade my body.
20:52:09 Or life would anyone else.
20:52:11 I loved the life I live.
20:52:13 And that includes frankincense.
20:53:01 Okay. Awesome. That was such a great film. Thanks Zachary,
20:53:04 for contributing to the event.
20:53:07 You'll just see me thanking you later.
20:53:09 The next person up is Katrina Smith.
20:53:31 She's also not here because she, I forgot she had something to,
20:53:35 I can't remember what shift she had to do something.

20:53:37 I met Katrina Smith, like I think probably like about seven years ago,
20:53:41 she has a nonprofit talk show called living with disabilities that she
20:53:46 asked to interview me for. And that's how I met her.
20:53:48 She also goes to college and to study psychology so she can eventually
20:53:54 be a counselor for people with disabilities.
20:53:56 And this is her film that she made this little film,
20:53:59 but she made this little video talking about her disability and.
20:54:03 Her experiences with it. So go ahead and play that.
20:54:06 I'm here.
20:54:07 Story about.
20:54:08 My disability.
20:54:09 What disability.
20:54:10 Gary.
20:54:12 History.
20:54:20 I was nine months.
20:54:23 And.
20:54:25 Oh, by a drunk driver.
20:54:29 Okay.
20:54:30 Yeah.
20:54:32 I was hit by a drunk driver.
20:54:36 Accidents.
20:54:41 To be a brand damage.
20:54:44 And that.
20:54:48 Neither have I.
20:54:50 Multiple.
20:54:51 No.
20:55:02 It's an underactive thyroid. And in my case,
20:55:08 My pituitary gland does not function.
20:55:12 So.
20:55:16 Along with seizures.
20:55:19 My seizures.
20:55:21 Grandma.
20:55:26 They come with that morning.
20:55:30 Absolutely.
20:55:31 I feel proof.
20:55:34 Because of the fact that.
20:55:38 Does it work?
20:55:42 So.
20:55:44 Mad.
20:55:45 Education.
20:55:50 My.
20:55:54 So when it comes to.
20:55:58 We lose my disability.
20:56:02 It's good with disabilities learning disability.
20:56:05 I have trouble with.
20:56:06 Happy ending.

20:56:07 At times.
20:56:09 Slack.
20:56:10 He may say.
20:56:12 I mean, I understand.
20:56:14 I'll have to.
20:56:17 And ask you what gets you?
20:56:19 You use a long word.
20:56:22 Have not heard of people are.
20:56:25 I'll ask, what should that be?
20:56:33 My grade level, if you want to say.
20:56:37 Is based on it.
20:56:40 What is it? Eight create loom.
20:56:56 But learning.
20:57:01 Just through teaching.
20:57:05 Stutter at times.
20:57:08 And.
20:57:10 So.
20:57:12 When it comes to me.
20:57:15 Lou.
20:57:21 I lose my leg is normally.
20:57:23 Any.
20:57:27 Just really.
20:57:30 You know, got me from.
20:57:33 Daily tasks.
20:57:35 I can get up.
20:57:41 Block. So for.
20:57:44 It comes down to learning that.
20:57:52 I do cookies
20:57:54 at times and it's supposedly.
20:57:56 When it comes to college.
20:57:57 Now.
20:57:58 High school.
20:57:59 Easy.
20:58:01 Basically.
20:58:03 The period of time.
20:58:05 I was.
20:58:08 In one class.
20:58:18 Junior year that's when teachers decided, okay.
20:58:21 Let's pick you out of your comfort space.
20:58:24 And could you.
20:58:28 And I recruit students.
20:58:30 The regulars.
20:58:34 Teacher's assistant.
20:58:37 To every class, except for June.
20:58:40 We don't.
20:58:44 So.
20:58:46 It made it.
20:58:50 Hi.
20:58:55 Put down that I'm no longer in high school.
20:58:57 In college.

20:59:00 It is much. Don't go.
20:59:07 Is he about.
20:59:11 About that is that I had my accommodations.
20:59:14 Now have tools that I.
20:59:17 Sounds good.
20:59:18 Well, not.
20:59:21 Allow you to use.
20:59:23 Your accommodations.
20:59:24 And.
20:59:27 John May allow you to use some of.
20:59:30 Yes.
20:59:31 I've had.
20:59:32 Issues.
20:59:33 With.
20:59:39 That even down DSPs.
20:59:42 And.
20:59:43 For the most part.
20:59:48 I live, my life is normal.
21:00:01 Oh, thanks. Okay. So yeah, that was Katrina.
21:00:03 I just find that story really interesting. And.
21:00:06 How she's striving to continue to get her education.
21:00:15 The next person up is Mick Rosenthal.
21:00:18 He is as that, right. Let me check my list.
21:00:21 Nick Rosenthal is an activist.
21:00:23 For voting, he.
21:00:24 Is currently working on helping develop this app called
brink.
21:00:28 Which is to help people with disabilities to vote.
21:00:41 If you want to check out and learn more about that,
21:00:43 check out the West side break app.ceo,
21:00:45 and I'm just going to let Nick get right into his video
because he
21:00:48 talks about the ADA and voting.
21:00:50 On the 30th anniversary of the ADA. I just want her to say
that.
21:00:54 Voting specifically as much more important.
21:00:57 Because people with disabilities are being.
21:01:04 For a second as a voting group and denied.
21:01:07 The right to vote, even though.
21:01:09 Explicitly within.
21:01:12 The Americans with disabilities act.
21:01:17 It is mandated that those who cannot.
21:01:22 Food.
21:01:25 The normal way.
21:01:26 Or able.
21:01:37 To ask for a way in which they can vote so that everyone does
have
21:01:41 access to the shape it, right. But unfortunately,
21:01:45 The voting rights law within the ADA is not being enforced.
21:01:51 And it.

21:01:57 Hasn't been for quite a long time.
21:02:01 Okay, cool. That was, I dunno.
21:02:03 I just feel that's really important to know a lot of people
with
21:02:06 disabilities have trouble voting because they don't have
access.
21:02:13 And they have proxies and sometimes they don't feel
comfortable to
21:02:17 vote the way they want to because of someone else's voting,
21:02:20 not voting for them as a proxy to them. But.
21:02:22 If you have a complicated relationship with your proxy, that
might.
21:02:26 Be hard for you to vote the way you want.
21:02:28 The next person up is Cecil Williams.
21:02:31 I met him.
21:02:33 I met him.
21:02:42 Got a couple of years ago at the white MCA. And I just loved
him.
21:02:46 He's just like a really great person.
21:02:47 He got into a car accident and suffered a neurological.
21:02:52 Disease.
21:02:53 We're not sure if it's from the accident or if it was
something that
21:02:56 was just naturally going to occur.
21:03:04 But Cecil, like, despite these, you know,
21:03:07 there's neurological diseases prohibits his body from working
in the
21:03:10 usual way, but he doesn't let that stop him. He likes to.
21:03:15 Go on adventures and explore the world.
21:03:17 And he has a blog called adventures of Cecil and also an
Instagram
21:03:21 account called adventures of Cecil that you should totally
check out.
21:03:25 And Colby, I'm going to think,
21:03:26 I think you have this slide of me up now.
21:03:29 So I think we won't be able to see Cecil if you have that up.
21:03:31 So I think.
21:03:32 Excuse me a Cecil. We'll see somebody speaking.
21:03:34 Directly.
21:03:35 Yeah.
21:03:36 All good. Great. I'll stop here screaming.
21:03:38 And then we'll come back to this when your time.
21:03:39 Yes. Okay. And that will be next. So, and so.
21:03:42 Do you still go for it and introduce him? Cecil Williams,
everyone.
21:03:46 How you doing? My name is [unknown].
21:03:48 Grateful.
21:03:50 Be a part of this event.
21:03:52 Thank you.
21:03:54 Per year for the invitation.

21:03:58 I deal with a disability cost share.
21:04:00 Bella attached. Yeah.
21:04:03 I was involved in a correct.
21:04:05 May 9th, 2003.
21:04:07 And to.
21:04:08 Four.
21:04:09 A.
21:04:12 They died, nothing new with a new condition.
21:04:16 At that time, I wouldn't.
21:04:18 I just pressed my wrist on.
21:04:20 My left wrist.
21:04:21 Jumped ship.
21:04:29 That year of 2003.
21:04:31 Four.
21:04:37 So in my feet.
21:04:39 Try to have them.
21:04:41 I deal with perfume now.
21:04:44 The nerve pain.
21:04:46 Ew.
21:04:50 You live in your head then numbness.
21:04:54 The whole night. So.
21:04:55 Finding my adjuster.
21:05:00 I've been him.
21:05:05 Since the age of three. So, you know, I've had, I've been through.
21:05:09 Throughout my whole life.
21:05:10 So they, they have me.
21:05:14 Best lab, but I was told, determined to give that you.
21:05:17 Cause I don't want to be known.
21:05:19 And be with my friends, you know?
21:05:21 In a way.
21:05:23 But.
21:05:28 The car wreck, what a hand don't feel it.
21:05:31 So, you know, it was no fault of my own.
21:05:33 Oh, Hey.
21:05:39 Acid the deve progress of the youth.
21:05:42 God tool lose more function.
21:05:45 And.
21:05:48 And the name of the now it's upstairs.
21:05:51 Test. Yeah.
21:05:52 My boards.
21:05:54 Coordination.
21:05:55 Mom.
21:06:00 Talk to me in the right.
21:06:04 I went from.
21:06:05 Braces.
21:06:12 On both lids to using a cane to now using a.
21:06:17 Walker. So.
21:06:18 I worked all.
21:06:20 Are we up to.

21:06:22 I think to 2008 and two months.
21:06:27 Glass blowing off, take your seat. But if they don't.
21:06:31 So.
21:06:32 I get.
21:06:35 I I get this to build again, 2008.
21:06:38 Two years. So she dialed.
21:06:41 Here. So went back 2008 when I applied.
21:06:44 So.
21:06:46 Between that time.
21:06:47 I was.
21:06:54 Con to cope with and deal with this food.
21:06:58 In the house and I'm still am learning.
21:07:02 So then 2018.
21:07:05 I started to.
21:07:06 Great.
21:07:08 My shell, if you will.
21:07:10 I just turned.
21:07:11 Four.
21:07:16 And I was like, man, I, I deal with the disability, but Hey,
21:07:19 I want to live.
21:07:21 I said.
21:07:22 I don't kill, but knowing thing.
21:07:25 I said, I don't want to live the best life I can pop.
21:07:30 Not a journey. We talk how their friendship.
21:07:33 To.
21:07:39 For myself to get out, I'm going to come to the throne to get
dr.
21:07:42 Moore to Mingo.
21:07:43 Settle in our house thing.
21:07:45 Because.
21:07:46 Before then I just did a minimum.
21:07:53 The drone, you know, some people would just.
21:07:59 This stability, they deal with shame and, you know,
21:08:02 they don't want people to treat them different.
21:08:06 So Monday, Mondays, well,
21:08:07 did he came a little bit later on in life?
21:08:11 But, like I said,
21:08:12 2018.
21:08:15 I go part time.
21:08:17 And I have words.
21:08:19 And 10 years.
21:08:23 Networking.
21:08:25 Adaptive sports.
21:08:30 You guys never is.
21:08:32 [unknown] aye.
21:08:36 Great to meet you. It's true.
21:08:39 Try it.
21:08:40 And when I tried it.
21:08:43 [unknown] Toby drive recumbent bike in a park.
21:08:44 Wow.

21:08:46 I, I got.
21:08:56 I never knew about, I don't know.
21:08:59 I don't know much about at VA. I don't know. I didn't know much about.
21:09:02 Adaptive sports, but I'm learning.
21:09:05 You know about the program and things are available.
21:09:08 Excuse me.
21:09:09 But my through yes, the meat.
21:09:11 To learn more.
21:09:13 Bob.
21:09:15 The thumb and two beach.
21:09:18 And folk, so.
21:09:23 My journey.
21:09:26 I've been kayaking.
21:09:28 Right. Con MI adaptive.
21:09:30 No.
21:09:35 I did that. I did that this year.
21:09:37 I've been angry.
21:09:41 I've met God. I want to get that door shut. I'm committed to it.
21:09:45 And, and so.
21:09:46 You know, just like.
21:09:49 I want to try all the different things.
21:09:51 I'm nervous.
21:09:56 And hopefully I loved him.
21:10:01 Tomorrow I want to do it. And if you get us.
21:10:05 Great.
21:10:06 You know,
21:10:08 But I did.
21:10:13 I think.
21:10:14 Marita's a deal one.
21:10:16 A death.
21:10:17 Right.
21:10:18 I did.
21:10:22 One mile to.
21:10:24 Half marathon.
21:10:26 13.
21:10:28 A mouse you, gosh.
21:10:30 And.
21:10:32 On my first half marathon.
21:10:35 You know, it's.
21:10:40 If it's about to go ahead to worse in front and one back.
21:10:44 Alright, so.
21:10:45 On my ninth now the one in bed.
21:10:48 The whim, bear with me.
21:10:49 So awesome.
21:10:52 Nice smile. So I had about four math together.
21:10:54 And then.
21:10:59 Without.
21:11:00 On a flat tire.

21:11:03 No crossover. So told.
21:11:06 This term and finish.
21:11:09 And, and I want to get to my.
21:11:15 Dory.
21:11:16 I want us to do God Dobbins chance last year.
21:11:19 I said, Hey, Hey, I've done everything.
21:11:21 Let me try this.
21:11:22 So.
21:11:24 Oh, well,
21:11:27 To call this place and see how they grew.
21:11:33 You know, make sure I don't mind to any red tape.
21:11:36 So I called them.
21:11:37 I say, Hey.
21:11:38 You got how much he got out.
21:11:45 I deal with the disability.
21:11:49 Deep toe. What do you got? Quiet.
21:11:52 They're going to be a problem. And you say, wait, you need a doctor.
21:11:55 Acid. I say that is.
21:11:59 No, they need pools that I'm lazy, but to Skepta.
21:12:03 Cool.
21:12:04 All right. Cool. I got the name.
21:12:06 Awesome. After the Monday.
21:12:09 You know, I didn't get the attitudes.
21:12:14 The next day.
21:12:16 I say, Hey, how you doing?
21:12:18 I needed to know.
21:12:20 Gosh, I don't want to go Scott down.
21:12:23 Kind of talk.
21:12:27 Add move her with Dominica, but date, right.
21:12:30 Cool. I get that for you.
21:12:34 So within a couple of days,
21:12:36 When I met here.
21:12:37 I got my letter.
21:12:41 Poof.
21:12:43 My doctor said that I got that.
21:12:48 So my meat, my meeting with my third bus.
21:12:54 It's more of a mix.
21:12:56 G*****n place. Hey.
21:12:58 Yeah.
21:13:02 [unknown] com.
21:13:05 And that that very morning.
21:13:07 I did the wave.
21:13:09 Cause I didn't want to know.
21:13:13 Hey.
21:13:14 I wanna do this.
21:13:17 I got that desk. No. Can I tell them.
21:13:20 That's what I should have. How far away? Yeah.
21:13:21 About 30 minutes.
21:13:25 So I'll get there.

21:13:29 And lastly.
21:13:31 Put it in my GPS says dumb.
21:13:33 And they're calling me.
21:13:36 Me should that come in?
21:13:39 You know, so when I got the.
21:13:43 I have any problems.
21:13:48 No.
21:13:51 The papers.
21:13:53 And basically.
21:13:57 I had 10 of them.
21:13:58 So they, they.
21:14:01 The pay me with wonder.
21:14:05 Wanted up there and you got you.
21:14:09 One of the most liberating Voluta in the world.
21:14:12 To go.
21:14:15 What chance Bastien B in the.
21:14:17 On the airplane.
21:14:20 And dumped out of the airplane.
21:14:25 You've just made me in a cast.
21:14:26 I tend to give up.
21:14:28 You know, I today.
21:14:31 I kinda got mad, you know?
21:14:34 I went all the way.
21:14:37 And cause I'm fine.
21:14:42 That's all. No, that's all I know what to do.
21:14:45 And I had agreed time doing this.
21:14:47 It was.
21:14:50 But gosh.
21:14:52 They're learning.
21:14:54 I'm very inspired by eight one.
21:14:58 If one got Dory and often.
21:15:01 Mastery.
21:15:07 Well, that's a great story.
21:15:19 CS0. That's why I love you so much. I love your adventure,
21:15:23 your spirit, your adventurous spirit. It's amazing.
21:15:26 And thank you so much for being here and sharing that with
us.
21:15:29 So next up is my video and John is actually going to
introduce me
21:15:33 cause I feel weird to introduce my own videos. So.
21:15:35 John's going to introduce me.
21:15:37 Priya raise the founder of the grassroots group. DIY Abel.
21:15:44 She organized this event to raise awareness to disability by
letting
21:15:47 us share our stories and experiences as well as she created a
video
21:15:50 about her experiences.
21:15:52 In my eyes.
21:15:53 If you look up the definition of advocate in the dictionary,
21:15:55 pre array would be one of the many photos you would see.

21:15:58 She's full of energy and always ready to help people.
21:16:00 So Bria.
21:16:01 I love you.
21:16:02 You're my best friend.
21:16:04 Thank you for allowing me to be here and guys without further ado.
21:16:08 Free array.
21:16:19 Hi, my name is Priya Ray. I'm the founder of the grassroots group,
21:16:22 DIY abled in 1999.
21:16:24 I had a spinal cord injury and that is why I'm disabled.
21:16:27 I was really fortunate enough to do my rehab a spot.
21:16:30 At shepherd center,
21:16:31 which is one of the top spinal cord injury centers,
21:16:33 rehab centers in America.
21:16:34 Dare. They taught me how to put on my clothes. Take a bath.
21:16:40 Transfer from my bed to my wheelchair and basically relive life as a
21:16:45 person with a disability.
21:16:57 Three story to reengage with the community that I've been a part of
21:17:00 for nearly 20 years.
21:17:01 That's when I started noticing that disabled and non-disabled people
21:17:04 didn't know about the ADH.
21:17:06 They didn't know about the rights that people with disability hat.
21:17:09 Now this ignorance exists beyond the community,
21:17:11 that I'm a part of the music and art community.
21:17:13 It actually spills into the entire community.
21:17:15 I'm a member of the YFCA.
21:17:17 And I go there before quarantine. Of course I went there.
21:17:22 For exercised to manage my chronic pain that I get from my spinal cord
21:17:26 injury. And it also helped me mentally, mentally overcome the pain.
21:17:29 So it was very important for me to go.
21:17:31 But the problem with the YMCAs,
21:17:32 they didn't provide enough accessible parking for the people that went
21:17:35 there.
21:17:47 On Wednesdays, they would have a class that was for senior citizens,
21:17:50 which was great because we all need to exercise no matter what age
21:17:53 they are. But if you knew anything about disability,
21:17:56 senior citizens have a higher percentage of disability than other age
21:18:00 groups.
21:18:01 So essentially what the YFCA was doing was inviting.

21:18:03 Where people with disabilities.
21:18:05 Than usual to their facility.
21:18:06 But not providing them parking.
21:18:07 When a community does things like this.
21:18:09 Not providing an essential provision, like barking.
21:18:12 It creates an unintentional bigotry bigotry that exists
against
21:18:16 disability. We are living in the year.
21:18:18 We basically live in the age where we have information
available to us
21:18:21 at our fingertips.
21:18:22 There's no excuse.
21:18:24 Anyone not.
21:18:25 One of the most important civil rights movements in America.
21:18:29 The disability rights movement, which led to the ADA.
21:18:33 We are such a rich and diverse culture.
21:18:39 Jen, we deserve to have access to education jobs.
21:18:43 Access.
21:18:44 It is just no longer acceptable.
21:18:50 Okay. And I think.
21:18:56 We are up to our last person and.
21:19:00 Yeah, our last person, Jermaine graves, who.
21:19:11 I just gloves, Jermaine.
21:19:14 He does so much stuff.
21:19:16 He does more stuff than most non-disabled people.
21:19:18 I know he's an event planner.
21:19:20 He co runs a clothing line.
21:19:24 He does dance videos on tick tock.
21:19:26 And he has cerebral palsy. So Jermaine, just go forward.
21:19:29 Talk.
21:19:30 If you're there is he there? I don't.
21:19:33 Thank you Priya for inviting me. Thank you to everyone in
this chat.
21:19:39 I can admit when I came on here, not knowing what they
expect.
21:19:52 Inspire. I cried a few times. I'm not gonna front.
21:19:55 Cause like I thought I was alone in being inspirational,
21:19:59 but I'm not. And that's a good thing to know.
21:20:02 30 years ago this month, the ADA law was passed.
21:20:05 There are some benefits to it and there's some benefits to
it.
21:20:08 First, I'm gonna start with the benefits. I was able to go to
school.
21:20:10 In regular classes.
21:20:11 Because of the ADA.
21:20:12 I'm grateful for that.
21:20:17 The non benefits of ADA. When I started working at 16.
21:20:20 Until now.
21:20:22 Every place I've worked at.
21:20:29 The accommodations for me when I'm working is always a

problem.

21:20:36 Because they are telling me,

21:20:37 they're not sure if they have the proper seating arrangements.

21:20:41 And stuff like that.

21:20:42 Also for me as an event planner who happens to be disabled.

21:20:45 You know, I have to go to venues sometimes and wonder.

21:20:48 Do they have the proper rent from me?

21:20:53 Or are certain things accommodating and oftentimes as somebody with a

21:20:57 disability.

21:21:01 You have to think about where you're going before you actually go,

21:21:03 because you have to make sure that we are going as accessible for you.

21:21:14 And I don't think people realize that was the point of why the ADA was

21:21:17 made to accommodate, you know,

21:21:19 if you're traveling or if you're dealing with, you know,

21:21:22 any type of discrimination. But beyond that,

21:21:24 I just think that.

21:21:25 Being somebody with a disability is doing the kinds of things that

21:21:28 I've been able to do.

21:21:29 As a young person, I think I have a superpower.

21:21:32 Because.

21:21:33 It's just not easy to live.

21:21:35 In our bubble.

21:21:42 And oftentimes were the only ones living in our bubbles.

21:21:45 So I consider my disability with the CBRE policy.

21:21:48 Also known as spastic diplegia.

21:21:50 A superpower because I'm the only one who has it.

21:21:57 And actually in honor of the ADA, I'm just gonna plug this in.

21:22:00 I'm actually doing a March.

21:22:01 In New York.

21:22:02 Sometime in August or September.

21:22:07 Because I got tired of seeing a lack of representation.

21:22:14 In the pandemic as regards to people with disabilities.

21:22:18 So I'm putting something together right now.

21:22:26 For that, but outside of that, I'm just,

21:22:28 I'm just grateful to have my disability because I can teach people.

21:22:31 I can educate somebody on what they don't know. And also.

21:22:33 Give them a voice,

21:22:35 give them an understanding of what it's like to be me.

21:22:37 And I'm really grateful for that.

21:22:38 To be honest.

21:22:44 Interrupt you.

21:22:48 Thanks so much Jermaine I'd love you. You're such a.

21:22:56 And I'm so glad that you realize that there's other inspiring people
21:23:01 out here to doing things.
21:23:02 Yeah. And, you know, we all inspire each other, which is so great.
21:23:06 I definitely, like I said, I definitely cried a few times today.
21:23:11 I'm not alone.
21:23:12 And that's a good feeling to know that I'm not alone in the way I was
21:23:14 feeling.
21:23:17 So there's, this, this event did a lot for me.
21:23:20 You guys don't even know.
21:23:22 Happy.
21:23:41 Yay. Okay. So now I, I don't know how much time we,
21:23:45 I don't know. I don't know if we're paying attention to time,
21:23:46 but I would love it.
21:23:48 If anyone had questions to ask the disabled people in this group,
21:23:52 as the panel, I'll call them. If you have questions,
21:23:55 feel free to ask us because as you can see,
21:23:57 we're willing to talk about.
21:23:58 Our disabilities and I feel that's a conversation that needs to
21:24:02 happen.
21:24:03 So any questions, anyone?
21:24:05 Cause I'll just come up with questions myself. No one else.
21:24:07 No, no, no.
21:24:09 I just don't want to jump in and say that there's no need to drop in
21:24:12 the chat. If you do have questions.
21:24:16 Just unmute yourself and feel free to just jump in and ask a question
21:24:19 to anyone that you saw present tonight or, or to Priya.
21:24:21 Priya has a question she wants to maybe kick it off with.
21:24:23 Sometimes that helps folks feel.
21:24:25 More comfortable to jump right in.
21:24:28 So maybe you pray.
21:24:29 Do you have something that I want to say about what,
21:24:31 what you heard tonight or what you might want to comment on?
21:24:33 What about this evening's program?
21:24:40 Well, I mean,
21:24:41 I think we can see from all the people that's presented and spoke here
21:24:45 tonight, we want more from our lives and we still aren't getting it,
21:24:48 even though the ADA.
21:24:49 30 years ago.
21:24:50 And I think one of the.
21:24:57 Important things for that is allyship. We can't,

21:25:00 we can't do this alone and we need allies in our community.
21:25:03 Like Tyler, Leah had mentioned.
21:25:05 You know, there are protests going on for the,
21:25:08 just this month was disability pride month. And the only.
21:25:10 People,
21:25:11 I really saw speaking about it were disabled people and a lot
of
21:25:15 people didn't even realize it was just.
21:25:16 Disability.
21:25:17 So then it's like, how are we supposed to have fried when.
21:25:20 The rest of the world, isn't even recognizing us. So.
21:25:26 I'd like to open up that discussion.
21:25:27 How anyone on this panel feels how.
21:25:32 Out how other people can be allies to us in our struggle and
fights.
21:25:36 Cause obviously we can't.
21:25:37 We need all the support we can get.
21:25:41 Can I go first on that Priya, thank you for that.
21:25:53 Thank you for inviting me to this awesome event. Once again,
21:25:56 my name's Talia Flores. I'm 25 years old.
21:25:58 I'm an author and disability advocate.
21:26:00 I was born with spastic dysplasia.
21:26:02 A form of cerebral palsy, which is now currently having a
party.
21:26:05 So excuse this amazing background of space.
21:26:08 Laying down part of the summit, but what I would say.
21:26:18 How we need people to come together and speak out for
disabilities,
21:26:21 whether they have a disability or not. Because when they
speak out,
21:26:25 it's helping us spread more awareness and the Mo.
21:26:27 More people we educate and we advocate.
21:26:34 Like I'm a Reiner was fasting dysplasia. I wrote my first
book and 16,
21:26:38 and I've been using writing as a tool ever since to help
advocate and
21:26:41 elevate my voice to say,
21:26:43 Yes, I may have cerebral palsy.
21:26:45 Pumping on it.
21:26:46 So that's my story.
21:26:47 You know, and my advice to anybody here,
21:26:50 that's wanting to be an advocate today.
21:26:52 And tonight.
21:27:04 Wouldn't be, if you wanna really mean advocate,
21:27:07 use what you love, use your voice,
21:27:09 but do what you love to do and would be your passion advocate
like for
21:27:13 you as a musician. And a lot of you guys here do have thing.
21:27:16 The things that you love to do.
21:27:18 Like I'm a writer for several sites to such as the money on

her and

21:27:22 thought catalog my own website.

21:27:25 I'm currently working on my second book,

21:27:27 which is a near Morris slash advocacy book on how I got started to

21:27:32 advocate at the age of 18 years old. So.

21:27:35 That's my advice to you guys on how we all can come together and keep

21:27:39 on stomping on TP folks.

21:27:41 Thank you, Leah.

21:27:42 Anyone else?

21:27:43 I think I want to say something. I think for me,

21:27:54 One of the things I was grateful for that I have growing up is that I

21:27:58 had people that advocated for me and kind of showed me how to advocate

21:28:02 for myself.

21:28:03 And I think that's important too, like knowing,

21:28:05 like having examples of advocacy.

21:28:14 And having examples of like what you deserve as a person with a

21:28:18 disability,

21:28:19 with the kind of things I've experienced from being in school and,

21:28:23 and.

21:28:24 Everything in life. I was not necessarily forced to advocate,

21:28:27 but I realize that my experience was different.

21:28:30 So now.

21:28:35 I have to not only advocate,

21:28:37 but make space for myself. So,

21:28:40 so the advocacy is a great thing and I'm not knocking it.

21:28:43 But when you advocate, it's important to literally make space.

21:28:47 Like you have to say I'm here.

21:28:49 You know, and, and that's with everything that we all do, you know,

21:28:53 everyone in this chat is amazing.

21:28:59 I'm gonna say that next, but you know, when we advocate,

21:29:02 we are making space for someone who doesn't know what our experience

21:29:06 is like.

21:29:07 So it could be something as simple as you like, you know,

21:29:10 whatever you do to advocate, it doesn't have to be necessarily.

21:29:14 You know, everybody has a talent in here and that's how you advocate.

21:29:17 And, you know, just making it known that you're hearing you exist.

21:29:27 So kind of making your presence known in a way that makes you stand

21:29:30 out. And that's the way that I advocate,
21:29:32 whether it's to be putting together a March planning an
event.
21:29:35 Or, or my clothing brand.
21:29:36 That's one of the many ways I advocate without realizing I'm
21:29:39 advocating. So, you know,
21:29:41 We all have our gifts and talents is use that to take you
further.
21:29:44 2020 for me. Has it been.
21:29:47 A year of realizing I could do it.
21:29:53 I didn't think I could survive a pandemic, but I'm here
still.
21:29:58 I do miss my whole life, but I'm here. So.
21:30:00 It's.
21:30:03 I've had to pull from myself a lot this year.
21:30:06 It is.
21:30:09 Something I'm still growing into.
21:30:10 Yeah.
21:30:12 That's what I'm saying.
21:30:17 Awesome. Thanks so much. Anyone else here want to speak
already?
21:30:20 Question.
21:30:29 I would like to maybe ask the people who may need,
21:30:33 who don't have disabilities.
21:30:34 If you had any questions about how you can advocate.
21:30:37 And we talked to Keith.
21:30:48 We keep using this word advocate and like,
21:30:50 what does that look like in our daily lives look like only
like a
21:30:54 March or only like protesting? I don't think so.
21:30:57 I think I advocate every day when I go into target or I'm
getting gas
21:31:01 and I'm just showing people.
21:31:03 That.
21:31:04 Like I'm living my life. Just like everybody else. Like I'm
a,
21:31:07 I'm a typical mom and wife and got to get groceries and all
of that
21:31:10 good stuff. And I just wanted to.
21:31:13 For those that aren't disabled.
21:31:15 I feel like a lot of times people are just not,
21:31:17 they don't know where to stop or how to stop.
21:31:18 In fear of.
21:31:20 Of 'em make, maybe offending anybody. And I just wanted to.
21:31:24 Let those people, like if you had any questions or.
21:31:29 I, I, first of all,
21:31:31 I'd like to thank Colby and revolve for every.
21:31:34 Enabling this event to take place.
21:31:35 And Prius.
21:31:43 Bringing an amazing group of people together.

21:31:45 The stories are inspiring and courage.
21:31:49 I can't tell you. It's it's.
21:31:50 It's a wonderful thing to hear.
21:31:52 And, and experience being with you all.
21:31:54 I've worked with the autistic population.
21:31:57 For many years and have a shop and hire adults on the spectrum.
21:32:01 I think stories are so important. My, my son.
21:32:06 My wife has been involved and, and we did.
21:32:16 A film called neuro typical several years back. And,
21:32:19 and again, that film with stories, stories.
21:32:23 Google on the spectrum autism spectrum.
21:32:26 It was so important. It had the thing and it's still,
21:32:29 it's still around, but it.
21:32:34 Sharon stories is a powerful tool.
21:32:36 And I think this event, if, if.
21:32:40 If you just continue that because.
21:32:43 Unfamiliarity that people have with those, with challenges.
21:32:46 Breeds fear breeds.
21:32:57 They don't, they don't know how to deal with folks,
21:32:59 but when you hear somebody's story and it gets personal,
21:33:02 an open stores and, and I just encourage that. I've,
21:33:06 I've seen it.
21:33:07 With autistic people and, and I,
21:33:09 I know it's true for everybody. And so thank you.
21:33:13 I really appreciate.
21:33:14 You're welcome. Thanks.
21:33:15 Not that I really appreciate that.
21:33:17 Anyone else don't be shy.
21:33:18 No.
21:33:19 Hi, I'm Bernard.
21:33:25 One of the things that's come out of this evening is that I'm really
21:33:28 looking forward to working with Pria again.
21:33:30 A lot of fun.
21:33:31 Yeah. I wanted to say a word about.
21:33:45 ADA compliance, advocacy and education.
21:33:48 I taught for many years in a college and APA is very largely
21:33:53 about
21:33:53 institutions and tries to address something.
21:33:55 Important by making.
21:33:57 Institutions to be responsible in ways we know they would not
21:33:59 be,
21:33:59 if they were left to their own devices.
21:34:01 And I just want to testify that I have never been in a
21:34:04 discussion.
21:34:04 About ADA compliance.
21:34:06 With a group.
21:34:07 You know, able bodied.
21:34:19 Senior administrators, et cetera,

21:34:21 where there wasn't some expression of exasperations about having to
21:34:24 comply with ADA.
21:34:25 When there wasn't some sort of feeling like it's okay for me to say
21:34:29 this in this room.
21:34:31 Because there are no disabled people know significantly,
21:34:34 obviously disabled people in this room. Now it was just,
21:34:37 it's just like sexism. It's just like racism.
21:34:39 It is, it means that.
21:34:41 If you aren't.
21:34:42 Significantly, obviously disabled.
21:34:44 You always have a responsibility.
21:34:46 To intervene and not let people get away with that.
21:34:48 I've never been in a discussion for a.
21:34:51 Hiring committee.
21:34:54 Where one of the candidates was significantly disabled.
21:34:59 That somebody didn't bring up something that others of us had to say,
21:35:03 you cannot.
21:35:04 Bring that up.
21:35:06 And I've had people say,
21:35:07 but what if it puts students off to see somebody.
21:35:10 That was different from them essentially.
21:35:16 And I think you just have to shut that down and,
21:35:18 and in some way or another educate.
21:35:20 At the local level.
21:35:22 Sometimes the professor asked her to do it with students when students
21:35:24 express.
21:35:28 Resentment and exasperations that they find accommodations.
21:35:31 Slightly inconvenient.
21:35:32 For them.
21:35:45 So that also indicates for me,
21:35:48 sort of the larger problem that we were talking about,
21:35:50 or you were talking about gaps in the ADA,
21:35:51 and there are gaps in the ADA,
21:35:53 but a lot of the times it's it's compliance issues.
21:35:55 The ADA says what to do, but all kinds of.
21:35:59 What's the word for that excuses are offered. I'm getting old.
21:36:02 I lose words sometimes.
21:36:03 People get to get away with.
21:36:05 Not having to comply because they have special conditions.
21:36:08 The institution says it can't afford it, whatever. Right.
21:36:10 So.
21:36:15 With ADA compliance usually seems to depend more than anything else.
21:36:19 On the people who are in charge.
21:36:27 Really believing that it's fundamental to their mission to

comply that

21:36:31 it said fair. It said equal.

21:36:35 You actually, that actually means fair and equal. Not just, you know,

21:36:39 fair when we can manage it without losing a penny here.

21:36:41 Penny there.

21:36:47 And I think everybody notices that when that happens most is when that

21:36:51 there are people from the category that's under discussion actually in

21:36:54 positions of power people.

21:36:58 Have to be in the room.

21:36:59 You have larger universities manage this quite often by creating

21:37:03 special positions for advocacy for the disabled.

21:37:06 They are looking after that population, amongst staff and students,

21:37:09 et cetera. And it's a.

21:37:11 Institutional higher learning,

21:37:12 but other kinds of institutions have to learn to do that too.

21:37:14 I think to find, to, to say.

21:37:17 Through affirmative action or whatever we are looking for people I'm

21:37:19 going to explain to us.

21:37:28 With some expertise,

21:37:29 what is needed here and how we can best comply because the people who

21:37:33 don't have disabilities for the most part are not going to do that.

21:37:35 They're not going to go off.

21:37:38 Do that one thing I have noticed within the last 10 years,

21:37:40 and you're probably aware of this is that in academic settings,

21:37:43 disability studies and becomes such a respectable.

21:37:45 Feel that you have all kinds of people with significant disabilities

21:37:49 who are off there.

21:37:50 Studying it maybe muscling in on somebody else's territory,

21:37:52 but at the same time,

21:37:54 They are doing research and that.

21:37:55 Unquestionably that's.

21:37:57 Helpful.

21:38:10 Who had been thinking about this for a long time is the ADA and how

21:38:14 it's framed aside. What are the best ways to get across to the public?

21:38:17 What are the best ways.

21:38:18 We have TV shows more and more TV shows with significant disabled

21:38:22 characters. Right.

21:38:23 Do people see that as tokenism or did they think it really helps?
21:38:26 Do you think it makes a difference?
21:38:30 I'll speak.
21:38:31 I think it makes a difference when it's represented correctly.
21:38:41 No sometimes TV shows or movies we'll throw in a disabled character as
21:38:45 a tool for sympathy, or why.
21:38:48 This.
21:38:49 Why.
21:38:51 They should be rejected or are we in.
21:38:56 Whereas we're not framing disability as just another person that
21:39:00 happens to be disabled next to a person that's non-disabled step.
21:39:08 And I think there's some newer TV shows that are doing that right now.
21:39:11 Like, especially in the last maybe couple of years,
21:39:14 but I think another thing is we talk about education.
21:39:17 But education, educating kids. It's like, I just remember, you know,
21:39:21 I'm old, you know,
21:39:22 Older too, you know, graduated from high school, 1986.
21:39:25 Revealing.
21:39:26 But.
21:39:34 I don't. Yeah, I, there's never a captor about disability rights.
21:39:37 Like the five Oh four sit in the ADA hadn't passed yet, but.
21:39:41 The Bible four sentences in certainly happen.
21:39:44 There's no like chapters about ed Roberts or Judy human,
21:39:48 and, you know, those are names that.
21:39:54 Mo most people don't know. And,
21:39:56 and even disabled people don't know it. So I feel like,
21:39:59 I feel strongly about educating children about.
21:40:02 Disability history. And I think that's a great.
21:40:04 In my opinion.
21:40:17 Can I add on to what Pria said? I couldn't grieve. I mean,
21:40:21 growing up for me,
21:40:22 I was born as a millennial and I grew up watching the show,
21:40:25 new grassy and watching the show new Grazi helped me cope with my
21:40:29 disability because there was a character.
21:40:31 Well, the name of Jimmy Brooks and he was a pure collegic, you know?
21:40:34 And when I saw him pop up on the screen, I said, finally,
21:40:37 I'm not alone in this society.
21:40:45 You know,
21:40:46 just to see a character that was going through the same things that I

21:40:49 went through at that age,
21:40:50 going through puberty and really be a lot fast forward today.
Yes.
21:40:54 There's been more representation in the media when it comes
to.
21:40:59 Disability and in TV and television, such as TV show,
21:41:03 speech fleece and atypical when breaking bad.
21:41:06 So I'm very proud of that process. But with that being said,
21:41:10 there's still a lot of process.
21:41:11 That needs to be made.
21:41:12 Like I would like to see a Marvel hero with Sarah.
21:41:14 Sarah will pause your Disney. Prentice was cerebral palsy.
21:41:18 Or some type of disability.
21:41:19 Needs to happen.
21:41:20 And I'd like to add to that as well.
21:41:25 I feel like, and the other,
21:41:27 the other issue is that even when disability is represented
within
21:41:31 media,
21:41:32 They're usually not people with disabilities playing.
21:41:35 Those people.
21:41:36 And so there's a disconnect. I think.
21:41:47 So, and I liken it to like, say someone there. They had an,
21:41:51 a character who was a woman and they had a guy playing a
woman like
21:41:53 they did in Shakespeare times. Right.
21:41:55 Like no one would stand for that.
21:41:56 And so it.
21:41:58 I was gonna say, or a white person playing a black groups.
21:42:00 Right. Right. And so they're, you know, there's.
21:42:04 I think there's a lot that as people with disabilities,
21:42:07 we've had to swallow.
21:42:08 And.
21:42:11 And I'm not really sure. I feel like it's because of this.
21:42:14 There's this.
21:42:20 Stereotype of shame around disability.
21:42:22 Like if you have a parent and their child is born with a
disability,
21:42:27 It's a tragedy.
21:42:28 Like my parents were released from the Airforce honorably
discharged
21:42:30 because I was a tragedy.
21:42:38 You know, so even in that narrative,
21:42:41 how do we go from disability being, coming at,
21:42:44 being a tragedy to embracing it?
21:42:46 And saying it's just part of the human experience and yes,
21:42:50 it's going to be hard.
21:42:51 But wow.
21:42:52 You're going to have a completely different life and it
doesn't have

21:42:56 to be bad.
21:42:57 Yeah, I want to add to that briefly.
21:42:59 I just think that.
21:43:01 Society has to realize that.
21:43:03 We don't need to be baby.
21:43:06 That you know, and, and.
21:43:09 Although I'm an adult and much older.
21:43:16 You know, I still have people that are like, you need anything.
21:43:19 Are you okay?
21:43:20 And I'm perfectly fine. So for me,
21:43:24 I think society has to get to this place that we are.
21:43:27 We're aware people too.
21:43:28 Don't.
21:43:40 Don't fear me because I'm in a wheelchair. Learn about me,
21:43:43 educate yourself.
21:43:44 If you're not 100% sure on what is going on, you know,
21:43:48 take the time to learn. I think.
21:43:50 Being open to understanding what this experience is.
21:43:53 And that's one of the reasons I'm even doing my.
21:44:02 My disability prior March,
21:44:04 because I'm frustrated with the lack of news coverage on my community,
21:44:08 like where in this pandemic to,
21:44:11 but nobody's really talking about how it's affecting us.
21:44:14 So, so,
21:44:15 so that's really one of the reasons I'm doing my March in New York
21:44:18 city.
21:44:19 And I will have the media there.
21:44:21 Because I'm.
21:44:22 I for me, I'm at a point with disability awareness.
21:44:33 That it's not where it should be. You know,
21:44:35 we do have influencers.
21:44:37 Now we do have personalities now that are out there,
21:44:40 like myself and others that are really doing the work and trying to
21:44:44 put ourselves out there.
21:44:45 But I still don't think it's where it should be. And.
21:44:48 I want to do a disability.
21:44:52 You know,
21:44:53 that's one of the reasons I'm doing my March in New York city,
21:44:55 because I,
21:44:56 I am frustrated with the lack of awareness that the entire world has
21:45:01 when it comes to us.
21:45:03 And, and, you know,
21:45:04 it's my first time hearing about some of these historians for you.

21:45:07 I didn't even know that that was a part of disability history myself,
21:45:10 and I'm just saying it. So.
21:45:12 Thank you for educating me tonight.
21:45:13 So, you know, what it really comes down to is.
21:45:18 You know, if nobody's going to give us the door,
21:45:20 we have to make the door, you know, my whole entire life.
21:45:23 I've had to create a Darwin. No one gave it to me.
21:45:27 So from event planning to being somebody who was a theater major in
21:45:30 college.
21:45:32 I've had to open doors that were not open for me. And so.
21:45:35 Yeah. If that's what we have to do to make space, we should do that.
21:45:38 That's what I'm going to say.
21:45:50 Yeah. And I agree.
21:45:51 I want to add something to what Jermaine was saying. Like, cause we,
21:45:55 I use a wheelchair too, and it's like,
21:45:57 the wheelchair is like looked at as this, like.
21:46:00 Bad thing to have, but it's not. It's a great invention.
21:46:03 It actually allows people from a broken toe to cerebral palsy.
21:46:07 A spinal cord injury, death.
21:46:08 Exist in the world.
21:46:09 So I think we need to get over this like sympathy and people like.
21:46:15 Having this negative view of,
21:46:17 of what a wheelchair is or being in a wheelchair.
21:46:22 And also the other thing,
21:46:23 because being the one thing that me and another.
21:46:27 A lot of people in this group have in common is we're creatives.
21:46:30 We're not.
21:46:33 You know, we're not lawyers and doctors and engineers, which is great.
21:46:36 I'm not, of course, if you're a disabled and one of those things,
21:46:38 that's great.
21:46:39 But I feel like we need to kind of kick the doors down for people
21:46:42 that.
21:46:47 Maybe don't want to follow the path of being in a career,
21:46:51 like doing something more creative and.
21:46:54 And we have to break down the doors a lot more in that world. I feel.
21:46:57 Yeah. Yeah.
21:46:58 So that's, that's what I wanted to add to that.
21:47:01 But I don't know. Should we end this conversation?
21:47:04 So almost like 10 o'clock.

21:47:06 I don't know, it looks like Freddy has a, something.
21:47:10 I just want to add to this conversation.
21:47:12 And I'm sure.
21:47:19 A lot of you guys have probably experienced this too,
21:47:22 but I want to talk to the aid old people from, and.
21:47:25 Students be good. You see the wheelchair you think of versus.
21:47:31 Abled does not mean that were mentally challenged,
21:47:36 right?
21:47:39 Just because we're disabled, we can still pay bills,
21:47:42 live on her own. Right too.
21:47:44 One example the day.
21:47:46 I had a home health nurse come.
21:47:48 To my place.
21:47:51 And she was like, if you're in a lot of pain,
21:47:55 You need to.
21:47:58 Call your doctor, or if your blood pressure goes up,
21:48:01 you need to call your doctor.
21:48:03 But.
21:48:04 If you start bringing them.
21:48:05 You need to call nine one one.
21:48:13 She was talking to me and like,
21:48:14 I was mentally challenged and I'm sitting there going really,
21:48:18 I wanted.
21:48:19 To tell her something, but I didn't be good. That's just the
type.
21:48:22 Person. I am.
21:48:25 It's just frustrating that people think that you're just.
21:48:30 Mentally challenged and it's very frustrating.
21:48:33 Yeah.
21:48:37 Robert.
21:48:41 Dan and Tommy Cecil wanted to talk. Is that what.
21:48:43 Cecil here.
21:48:51 Nope. Okay. I don't hear Cecil. So nevermind. Jermaine.
21:48:54 Did you want to say something? I don't know what's going on.
21:48:56 I'm pretty good. I, I kinda said.
21:48:58 I had to say, like I said, for me,
21:48:59 Okay. That's cool.
21:49:01 I'm good. I have nothing to say.
21:49:02 I'm good.
21:49:06 I went back into the brig mode here and I was like, Oh, okay.
21:49:12 Oh, well, there is one thing I have to say.
21:49:14 I'm gonna say this last thing. So I have this clothing brand.
21:49:17 Call not like the other kid.
21:49:18 Like.
21:49:20 Four and a half years ago, five years ago.
21:49:24 And I started that brand because.
21:49:28 I had an issue with getting a wheelchair at the time.
21:49:35 So from not having a wheelchair to getting a brand new
wheelchair and
21:49:39 then developing a clothing brand.

21:49:40 And.
21:49:45 It's really changed my life.
21:49:46 One of the stories I remember was when I,
21:49:49 when I first started my clothing brand.
21:49:51 Was.
21:49:52 When I had to help this girl who had leukemia.
21:49:54 And from the time she was born.
21:49:56 She practically lived in the hospital.
21:49:58 Like she didn't go to school.
21:50:00 She had.
21:50:04 I'm forgetting her disability.
21:50:11 But she had a disability from the time she was born and she
was
21:50:15 basically, she lived in a hospital, but most of her life.
21:50:19 So her name was Mia, Isabella, and Oh, she had leukemia.
21:50:23 There we go. She had leukemia.
21:50:24 So her name was Mia, Isabella.
21:50:29 And I remember her mother coming up to me and telling me,
thank you.
21:50:32 We had raised almost a thousand dollars for her.
21:50:34 For her hospital bills.
21:50:36 Because insurance can cover a part of it.
21:50:39 So I remember her mother coming up to me and say,
21:50:44 Thank you so much because of you she's able to still be in
the
21:50:47 hospital.
21:50:48 And because of you, my daughter can live a life.
21:50:53 And we can pay some of her bills and I'm just like, I, you
know,
21:50:59 To see where my clothing brand has become in the last four or
five
21:51:03 years.
21:51:04 I've learned a lot about myself by helping people.
21:51:08 So the last thing I'm gonna say is however,
21:51:12 Whatever talents you have always help somebody.
21:51:16 Because when you help someone you're changing someone's life.
21:51:21 And that's what I know to be true with everything that I've
done in my
21:51:24 life.
21:51:25 That's fine. I'm going to say.
21:51:30 Thank you, Jermaine. Okay. I mean,
21:51:33 I don't know, Colby.
21:51:41 Is there any, is there anyone else I don't want to like,
21:51:44 not let anyone talk. So I just want to make more and more
common.
21:51:47 Colby knows I do this.
21:51:48 So it just.
21:51:49 Yeah.
21:51:52 You know, you very rightly talked about educating the young,
21:51:54 which is really important.

21:51:55 I was talking a little bit about influence through.
21:51:57 Popular culture in particular, but the arts.
21:52:02 Generally it's really important when you work with an institution,
21:52:05 whether you're disabled or not.
21:52:07 To see that it doesn't.
21:52:08 Tender a lot of excuses for not complying.
21:52:15 Any kind of institution,
21:52:16 the word I was looking for before was exemptions people trying to find
21:52:19 exemptions.
21:52:21 But a really big thing now that we all have to recognize and work on
21:52:25 is the political culture.
21:52:26 And I don't just mean the president of the United States thinking it's
21:52:29 okay.
21:52:30 To make fun of disabled people because obviously.
21:52:33 Here's a course in vulgar man, who does that?
21:52:35 But also that there's a.
21:52:40 There's something that goes on in political life,
21:52:42 in the United States.
21:52:47 In cycles that that presents a fairness as handouts.
21:52:53 And equality as special treatment.
21:52:55 And as long as they.
21:53:05 Who can make political points by appealing to people's,
21:53:08 you know, since that they need to protect what's there. What,
21:53:11 what is their own from others who want to take it away from them?
21:53:13 We're gonna.
21:53:14 And keep having that problem.
21:53:16 With people failing to recognize that.
21:53:18 Everyone is supposed to be treated equally.
21:53:20 Whatever that takes.
21:53:23 So that's why I was so naive. I was so happy to see.
21:53:25 That brink app, which I had seen before.
21:53:35 Because there is a very, very significant voting block there.
21:53:39 And God knows there are people who do not want disabled people to get
21:53:42 out there and vote.
21:53:46 So folks have to, you know, like I said, it's great to have allies,
21:53:49 but also will end up representing their own interests and fighting for
21:53:53 themselves.
21:53:54 You see it with every other group.
21:53:55 So yeah, political culture, we have to work on it.
21:53:57 Definitely. Thank you so much.
21:53:58 Or that.
21:53:59 Insight.

21:54:04 Thanks for you. Yeah, you're welcome. So.
21:54:11 I don't cut anyone off.
21:54:13 So is anyone have anything else they wanna add to this conversation?
21:54:17 Oh, well, okay. I see.
21:54:18 Holding your hand up, but I just want to acknowledge.
21:54:21 I chat.
21:54:22 Comment in the chat. There was a question in the chat.
21:54:25 Oh, okay. Yeah. I, I'm not paying it.
21:54:29 So, what is it read it? Probably, I don't know.
21:54:33 This Tyler. You want to say specifically say what she said?
21:54:35 Cause I interrupted her. Oh yeah.
21:54:43 I just wanna think Priya a thousand times for inviting all of us to
21:54:47 this event, this event was like teaching. It was awesome.
21:54:50 And as I said before, Priya, you're pretty,
21:54:53 Dornell some Shokeen.
21:54:54 Guys are awesome. Everyone's awesome. Everyone. Eight year is odd.
21:55:05 I'm not, I want to, before we end, I don't know if anyone's else,
21:55:08 but yeah.
21:55:09 I want to thank everyone that attended and thank everyone that
21:55:11 participated. Thank you so much.
21:55:20 I was really happy to be able to show everyone here what a diverse
21:55:24 group of people,
21:55:26 people with disabilities are a very diverse group of people like
21:55:28 people in general. And I really wanted to represent that here.
21:55:32 I hope I was able to do that.
21:55:33 And so thanks everyone for participating.
21:55:35 And attending. Thank you.
21:55:37 You're welcome.
21:55:38 I I'm just going to pop in now and just say a couple of things to
21:55:40 finish up.
21:55:41 I want to make sure folks understand that I'll keep the zoom open.
21:55:44 After my, my comments here and.
21:55:46 Folks can continue to talk and catch up with each other.
21:55:47 So folks who are from as far away as Hawaiian,
21:55:49 which is amazing in Houston.
21:56:00 Other places. And I know there's a pandemic,
21:56:02 we're not all able to get together.
21:56:03 So feel free to hang out and talk as long as you'd like on the zoom,
21:56:06 I'll keep it open. As long as folks are still here and I'll,

21:56:09 I'll stop recording. Of course.
21:56:10 So you can gossip as much as you would like and,
21:56:12 and do whatever you'd like.
21:56:13 But I just wanted to kind of end in the main, by first off,
21:56:16 sincerely saying how much I have moved.
21:56:19 I have been by this evening and by.
21:56:21 By Priya's presence in our community here in Asheville, North Carolina.
21:56:28 And how she's been able to help offset revolve, understand.
Wow. Very,
21:56:32 very simple things that we should know and should be aware of because
21:56:35 of the ADA, about accessibility to our events and our programming.
21:56:39 Our, our physical space,
21:56:40 which is of course now closed because of the pandemic.
21:56:42 One before that.
21:56:43 Huh.
21:56:44 Priya was an important and instrumental person.
21:56:47 For us to understand as an organization,
21:56:49 how important accessibility was and how that we should make that.
21:56:51 A priority.
21:56:52 And she, then again, made that clear.
21:56:56 Even during our online initiative here through homeschool,
21:56:59 by making sure that our closed captioning capabilities were possible.
21:57:02 And I want to thank you for your, for, for making that.
21:57:04 Being that voice in our community here.
21:57:07 And obviously being that voice for the community that's out there.
21:57:11 So thank you.
21:57:17 I just wanted to say just for a second that we, we, as a,
21:57:19 as an organization are going to take our break next week.
21:57:22 We're not going out. We're going to be dark.
21:57:23 Not having a program.
21:57:25 Next Thursday.
21:57:26 And the reason for that is because we're actually having our first
21:57:28 advisory board meeting.
21:57:34 This week, which Priya is a part of.
21:57:36 And I'm thankful that she there's a part of that.
21:57:38 And it was vital to have her voice on this committee.
21:57:41 And are, are we're remitting to,
21:57:42 to just attend to our current challenges in our future goals.
21:57:44 And some of those goals.
21:57:45 We're advocated for tonight.
21:57:51 We're going to be discussing how and deciding how,
21:57:53 and if we will move forward with a physical space.
21:57:55 In the future.

21:58:04 And how the pandemic has affected our thinking about what a physical
21:58:06 space means to our community.
21:58:08 We're also going to be spending some time thinking and
listening very
21:58:10 deeply about how we might better serve our community as a
whole.
21:58:14 And we will look forward to sharing that with you.
21:58:16 And if you're interested in what we hear in Asheville and
what our
21:58:19 organization is thinking about.
21:58:20 And wanting to advocate for moving forward.
21:58:29 Please check our website. What's I'll drop in the chat,
21:58:31 which I had to have dropped in the chat.
21:58:32 And I'll also drop in the chat are our homeschool page,
21:58:35 which will have a link directly to the archived.
21:58:38 Recording of tonight's program.
21:58:39 And I encourage you to share the archives program to anyone
and
21:58:43 everyone that you can.
21:58:53 Who were not able to be here tonight because I do think there
was some
21:58:55 remarkable, amazing things shared.
21:58:57 And I think as it was stated by Ron Larsen has been a
tremendous
21:59:01 supporter of what we do here at revolve and also everyone
else.
21:59:04 His voice stories are so important.
21:59:06 And I think it's important for us to understand that.
21:59:08 Being able to facilitate.
21:59:12 An advocate for the ability for people to give,
21:59:15 to tell their stories so much helps us able-bodied folks
understand
21:59:18 exactly what the ADA is lacking.
21:59:21 30 years on and we need to be a better advocates and better
allies.
21:59:24 To our community.
21:59:25 So I want to thank for you again.
21:59:26 I want to thank everyone that participated tonight.
21:59:28 I was very moved by each person's story.
21:59:34 I hope that folks will stay in touch.
21:59:35 I hope that we can actually make this more of a,
21:59:38 something that happens more often than.
21:59:39 30 years on. I hope that we can make this, something that
happens.
21:59:50 The way that we can, can connect,
21:59:51 not only with our community here in Asheville that are
disabled,
21:59:53 but with communities elsewhere.
21:59:55 So we can help find ways to be allies and advocate.

21:59:57 Some things.
21:59:59 I I'm saying this because I think it's important in this political.
22:00:01 A year and then this year,
22:00:02 Voting.
22:00:09 I think here locally,
22:00:10 we need to be able to identify allies on the city council.
22:00:13 We needed to identify folks that aren't allies and we need to hold
22:00:15 them accountable for why they aren't promoting.
22:00:24 The ADA and disabled rights, as much as an equally,
22:00:28 as we are promoting black lives matters,
22:00:30 which is not at all undermining the importance of black lives matters.
22:00:33 But at the same time, I think it's important to also.
22:00:35 Not.
22:00:41 Overlooked, especially during pride during disabled pride month,
22:00:44 the fact that these rights are,
22:00:45 are as equal and should be seen and talked about in the same breath.
22:00:48 So I'm hoping that we can use this opportunity tonight to kind of move
22:00:51 forward with this as a community here in Asheville. And I hope folks.
22:00:53 We'll gain energy from whatever one else had said.
22:00:55 I'm going to.
22:00:56 About now, and I'm going to leave.
22:00:58 The zoom open,
22:00:59 I'll drop the LinkedIn to the chatter where the homeschool a,
22:01:03 where you can find the archived recording for tonight.
22:01:05 I will also send the archived recording to everyone that actually
22:01:07 RSVP.
22:01:08 To.
22:01:09 To the event and I, because I have your emails,
22:01:11 I'll do that tomorrow evening.
22:01:12 But please share. And please.
22:01:15 As I think folks have said that I just please be kind and support one
22:01:18 another during this time.
22:01:19 And moving forward.
22:01:21 So thank you. And thank you, Bria.
22:01:22 I look forward to seeing you tomorrow afternoon.
22:01:24 In art,
22:01:25 I'll see you tomorrow afternoon and everyone have a good evening.
22:01:27 Thank you.