**SWDTA-39-video**

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 00:03

Drew?

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 00:06

Mel Diane Voss?

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 00:07

Is that you?

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 00:09

Is that you? Hello, Is this thing on?

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 00:10

Wow.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 00:12

Hello. In the two of us

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 00:15

Exactly.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 00:16

Shit we don't know about with B. Arthur, and what do we say? B. Arthur and Lucille Ball.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 00:20

Lucille Ball I guess.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 00:21

Horrible today, hello.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 00:22

You’ve got a cold and I'm out here in Colorado where the smoke from the wildfires for, I don't know, two three states away whatever, is just relentless. So, but we're here because we have shit, we don't know about but we're going to talk about anyway.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 00:35

Yeah, we actually, we don't know, but we need to talk about it.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 00:38

We still offer our opinion no matter what.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 00:40

Why wouldn't we?

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 00:43

Don't go changing.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 00:46

Where should we start? There's so much to talk about.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 00:47

Well, yes but how this idea came up and we think of these weird ideas like for instance, Four seasons landscaping in Philly, that was a thing for us there. Go check out that episode.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 00:59

There’re still some people posting that to my timeline by the way, they will post whenever they get it.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 01:04

I think they're supposed to have some kind of concert. I'm flying out for that thing. I'm just saying but Cuomo yo, what's your feeling on that? Because you have quite a reaction to that news.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 01:17

That Gov. Yeah, you know…

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 01:19

He's in your nape of the woods. He's your governor

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 01:21

Right down the block, man. He's not, he's in Albany. That's not down the block but you know he spends a lot of time the city and that's down the block. But here's my take, and I actually called you on this. I was so riled up and like, Oh, I got to call [inaudible 01:33]. That was one of the signs like, Oh, I wish Mia lived in New York, not because you’re my friend that I'd like to get to see you. I just wanted you to rant like, just at what I …

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 01:40

As I former New Yorker, I can always bust out a good old rant. I've gone since 95 and I don't care.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 01:46

Right, it came out and a couple people have texted me like, oh, the AG just put out a scathing report and I said, alright, you know what I'm going to do? I'm going to read it. I will read the report. So, I rolled up…

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 01:56

Unbelievable

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 01:57

Is there like the old fashioned?

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 01:59

Like the banker?

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 02:00

Turned on my banker’s lamp, started flipping through pages. I was reading that thing. Holy crap. You know what? and I think over the past five or seven years, I think I have tried to get in the fight and be an ally and do the right thing. This really taught me, Oh, I don't know shit. I really felt when I read that report. I'm like, Oh, I thought I knew, I have no idea what you experience. No idea. It was amazing to me. The thing that I found amazing to me was when I read the report and saw the governor's own responses, his testimony that was an AG’s report, essentially amounted to like, hey, this is just what I do and you know what? If you interpret it that way, that's a you problem, says uncle Andy and I'm like, What? Holy cow. He actually thought that was a good response.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 02:52

Yeah, implausible. Like, are you going to believe me? Or your lying experience?

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 02:56

Yeah, it blew me away that in his mind, like, well, that's okay, I'm just an author, I might kiss you on the forehead, call you sweetie, and talk about your sex life with you. That's just what I do. I'm an old-fashioned kind of guy, and if you have a problem with that, that's on you, says he. I'm like, holy mackerel, that knocked me off my chair.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 03:14

And I think it's hard to see it from so many different levels, one from like you said, like as a man who is tiptoeing through this world, in a sense, and so do it because if that's what we need for you guys, to be allies with us as well, especially when we're the same age so we have different experiences of what it was like to be in business, I can tell you that this Cuomo experience, I can't even count on many of those. But I also was very adept at being one of the guys because I thought that's what you had to do to get along in business. So, you're damned if you do on that sense of like, just getting on to keep the job, I think, what's frightening to know, and we kind of knew it already but not a lot of progress has been made. If somebody that's in this high of a place having my god last year, they were like too to doo. A governor of everybody because of how he was handling COVID although there's other conflicting stories, dude, how long was the report? Because Leticia had things to say.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 04:18

He did have things to say, it’s 160 something pages or so, it was a fairly long report. Now, I did not read every word of it, but they had a pretty decent summary, I got about halfway through, and I've seen what I think I need to see because he did offer in the report equal time, he got to respond and they put his responses in the report. Essentially, what he was saying is like, well some of the stuff I do deny didn't happen, but not all of it. Yeah, it did happen that way but you know like, hey that woman wanted to talk about her sex life and I just sort of went along with it because she seemed like she needed to talk about that and I'm thinking, you are the governor of the state of New York. You are clearly an intelligent human being. How do you not know that your response to that, let's assume she did bring it up, let's just assume that for a second, how was your response immediately not, we can't talk about that, that is not appropriate for me to talk about with you, I’m your boss. Like…

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 05:10

yeah, and hit the record on your phone or whatever you need to do to…

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 05:13

Get all in 10 people to sit in the room with you something .

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 05:16

Yeah, not to shame people but I think that's what's really tough about that as well is that he had no decorum. I started to say, we're talking about it earlier, it's like George Costanza, when he sleeps with the cleaning person on his desk, was that bad?

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 05:42

Yeah.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 05:43

It's an ultimate, and you're right, like according to you, is the whole thing, which we see that and so much of the work that I do is activist ally of observing what people say when they negate your actual experience, because they aren't seeing it through their lens.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 06:00

Right. Like, this is okay. In his mind, what he was doing was predominantly okay and just misinterpreted. Like, I might be a little kissy feely, I might use terms of endearment, then if you have a problem with that, that's your problem, he says and I don't understand why. So, you know, what really came to mind? Like, we use the term systemic racism and there’s systemic sexism too. Dude, you are literally the system in systemic sexism here, you are literally defining yourself as the system. You don't even know that that's a problem. You have no idea that what you're saying is a problem. You think it's a valid thing to say, I might want to forehead[06:35] and call you sweetie. If you work for me.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 06:38

And guess what? Before we saw this whole report, which anything that does James is saying,[06:43] I'm like, What's going on over there? I almost like have a Google search for her like, what cool shit she going to bust out today? Because she's so thorough, and I love Preet Bharara, was I believe also in that same position before and how I love him. He does a lot of commentary as well but I trust when it's coming out, and it's been thoroughly examined. So, before that, when I did hear some of the comments about that, in my head, I thought, yeah that could be where there is a little bit of affection. I've worked with people that I'm like that with, but it's very, in lack of a better phrase, consensual but I think even now, you would think oh, my god that was in his friggin state. I mean, the whole thing with Weinstein my god that started because, I mean the police covered Weinstein up that first time. Little FYI, they don't want to be caught anything like that. I think that's why Letitia James was so, so detailed about this.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 07:50

In all honesty, like okay I do understand and look I can understand and sort of admire trying to create an environment where it's like, oh, it's we're all family here, and you hear that all the time, which is kind of a cliché I don't know how much it's true anyway. You'd be a super effective leader and have your people's backs and know they're in a safe place without asking if they've ever slept with a man outside their marriage like what is one got to do with another?

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 08:18

That particular one, and I know that got us both. You as being a dad, not that you need to be anything but a human being in order for that to bug you, but then it adds a little bit of extra sauce resonance to it of ooh that uncomfortable. Unfortunately, this particular gal he has gone after by name in social media and in his statements. I mean, and I don't know who the fuck told him to get out there and keep talking after this whole report came out but he's going all Matt gates on that.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 08:50

Right. At some point, man, just, I'm seeing a lot of this. I'm making a hand signal on a podcast. Like I never did a podcast before it was my first time. But, yeah I'm seeing a lot of lip flapping and really wish you seen a lot of lip zipping right now, just be quiet right now. So, I guess his top aid, this Melissa de Rosa, she resigned today, and I thought like, as soon as I saw the headline, I'm like, oh, did this woman have to fall on her sword for him? Well, not really. Evidently, she was involved with trying to hush some of this and it came out.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 09:28

Oh, I think so. It's interesting that the story came out and one of the reporters in this is both from the New York Times, but one of the reporters that broke this story is Jody Kanter, and so she and her partner, they both won Pulitzer Prizes for their coverage of Weinstein.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 09:49

Yeah, I'm looking at it now.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 09:52

Yeah. So, God can't Cantor[09:53] was one of the correspondents that covered that and don't get me wrong, I do love some Dylan Pharaoh, but I wish there would have been more press on these two women as well, there is but it's more known of being broken by Dylan Farrow who is brilliant as well. Any who I digress, in that story as well. Oh my god, I feel like they’re selling Brenda Vichara by the way. Hi, how you doing?

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 10:20

Brenda Vichara. Where’d you pull that reference out?

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 10:23

I don’t know. How old are you two?

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 10:33

Brenda Vichara.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 10:34

So, let me guess, you must have been 15 in 1980. Why yes, I was.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 10:39

As a matter of fact.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 10:41

So yes. So, she is dastardly in this as well with comos administration, but then along with it is this Roberta Kaplan. So, Roberta Kaplan, she's a nationally known prominent lawyer. Apparently, she was involved in way back when ruling that marriage does not just have to be with a man or a woman she was involved and that is what she's quite pedigreed so she ended up getting on the board of, this all comes around Drew, I feel grassy knoll about this, of times up, which is the organization.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 11:22

Times up.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 11:23

Yeah, times up was the offshoot of me too. Also, another organization that got co-opted by white women, but we’re going to leave that alone. The dogs even grunting on that one. Sorry about that, that may even get picked up on that. So yeah, so Kaplan was apparently involved in reviewing a letter that was going to discredit some of these women, it feels really heavy.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 11:51

And again, there's so many questions here, the questions and issues. Just the systemic nature of this, where this is a dude that clearly rises to the highest office in this particular state that I live in and people are throwing his name out there for the next presidential election. He was America's governor during the height of the pandemic last year, I get that, and whether he was doing the right thing or not, well, that's been calling the question now too because they also had, I think, come out last week, where oh, we're not reporting numbers publicly, the CDC knows their death numbers but evidently, the governor's office was suppressing some of the death figures in New York State press.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 12:33

Dude, really? Because we had that whole nursing home gate.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 12:37

Yes, there was the nursing home thing where, like they were again, they had some numbers wrong. Instead of just saying, guys we made a mistake, we were reporting wrong, here's the correction. They were afraid of political that the Trump administration were used as political football, and then they covered it up. They covered up the mistake, and then one of his top aides, and I have somebody in my circle who is actually reasonably well connected. I'm not going to name names, I'll tell you when we hang up.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 13:02

Fancy. Yeah. Okay.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 13:03

And you know, like this person who accidentally leaked it on a press call, like really? Accidentally leaked it on a press call? Covered up some stuff. You've been doing this for 25 years, you're a very smart person, you accidentally said that to reporters, not knowing that it would be a problem?

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 13:20

Who’s the guy that they just hired back on CNN who accidentally forgot his camera was on when he decided he wanted to jerk off to everybody on the zoom call?

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 13:28

Oh, God.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 13:30

TFG, I'm just going to go that fucking guy, who is it?

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 13:34

I don't remember.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 13:35

And oh, yeah, I'm going to look it up, one sec. But the interesting thing is like everybody we're talking about so for you folks out there that like to think that liberals or leftists, or whatever you would consider us I'm more of a middle center kind of gal, that we're just going to go off only on things that this is not party lined shit here. This is people misbehaving.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 13:57

Yeah, and you know most of the people involved here, I mean, at least in the administration, the governor is a Democrat, so…

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 14:04

Oh, yeah, everybody is we're talking about.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 14:07

It’s not a lib conservative thing, this is like just a human being thing. Anyways, forget we can talk about this stuff that it just literally woven into the system that this to me really highlight as a white middle class, business owning dude. I am like the literal definition of the oppressor. I will accept that, I understand, I'm trying here but this really highlights for me in stark contrast, really in heavy relief. This is the shit that is woven into the fabric of the system, for sure. Then you can go beyond that to just basic stupidity. How are you not smart enough to not have these conversations? To know this is going to bite you? And if you're Miss Kaplan from time's up, how do you not know maybe I cannot be associated with the accused in this situation. I can't work for them because I do this. There's a lot of great attorneys out there that can help you out. I'm not one of them, but it reeks of like, we do whatever the hell we want, I’ll just do whatever I want.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 15:10

It definitely did. There's the top of the food chain white mouth thing, which by the way, you really could be like a stock photo and that's okay.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 15:17

Oh we good.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 15:18

I am not mad at you. Stay mad hoe.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 15:23

I don't mean it but I guess…

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 15:24

Favorite new phrases. By the way, Jeffrey Toobin was the name of that delightful little fella was very famous for writing books. He's been a contributor. CNN hired him back but I mean, that's another example of how did you think that was going to… what alacrity? What ease did you have to think that there's not going to be that much of a blowback? Or maybe I shouldn't do this, maybe that relationship isn't, and we've all had, maybe if we could tell some stories of moments, where we had to speak up in the face of that, of saying, hey guys, and for her to read this letter and go, yeah, I think it's okay. Like what the…?

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 16:04

Right. How do you not say like, no, I can't do this. Like, let me get out my old law school director. I can direct you to some of my old cronies, they can maybe help. Yeah, I can't. This is not what I do. I'm on this side of that argument. But now, I'll be on that side too because you're my bud.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 16:22

Yeah, you know, and that could be her also being an older woman in this legal field, talk about being like just one of the guys where you sort of put up with bullshit because you know that somebody can take your place so easily. I think the thing that would be interesting, and maybe some of your cronies in the industry would know too. There had to be talk of this, there's no way that this just became new. There's always that one person, it happens in colleges, boardrooms, companies everywhere of like, hey, you may you need to steer clear of this guy, or you should do this and when you told me the story about the state trooper, that hurt my heart.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 17:02

That is just egregious, and again that is when you look at that like, okay, well, I'm just going to do this because that's what I want. That story blew me away too. So, he meets this New York State Trooper at this event, and then decides I like her, put her on my personal security detail, and there's literally documentation in the AG’s report that says there was joking emails or correspondence with this woman saying, I hope you know that we had to change the whole system just for you because she's only been on the job for two years and requirement was three. So, the governor says, oh, she's pretty, but her on my detail, and they did, they waived the requirement, put her on and then she was subject to all kinds of remarks from him. Like, come on I don't understand that. Like, the temerity there, well what are you going to do about it? I'm the governor. Everybody loves me right now. Now I don't know when that was, I'm not sure what the timeline is there.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 17:56

It’s okay, that doesn’t matter.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 17:57

That doesn't matter though. Like really, I like her, put her on my detail. I've literally met her for 15 minutes at an event at the Tappan Zee Bridge and now I want her working for me because she's cute? I mean, how stupid do you have to be?

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 18:11

And here's the thing too from the other side of it, wouldn't be like the flip, flip of the coin, is that and that side of we've all been offered, at some point, something like that, where you know it's based on some kind of chemistry, some kind of look, but as a woman who's gotten through a lot of fires, I'm like, I can handle that guy. But what you can't handle, and this is what broke my heart about so many of these scandals, including even Louie CK in the comedy industry, how many comedians were ruined, how many people got out of the industry, the tech industry, the gaming industry, they just had a real big blow up about one of the major, the major gamer company of that the sexism and the oppression of not being able to make a fucking living. I mean, it's you get your feelings hurt, you're terrified, and then you can't support your family. That breaks my heart.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 19:08

Yeah, don't say anything. Shh don't say anything, and then there's blowback and how can that be?

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 19:14

It's the blowback. Yeah.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 19:15

It's really, really, really difficult. It's really difficult to read that stuff but this one for me, again just to bring it back, like it really pointed out like, oh, okay, now I get it. It's not just bad people doing bad things, I get that it certainly is but this is a type of bad stuff that truly does not seem, as smart as he is and I don't think we can take that away from him, he's clearly an intelligent human, as smart as he is does not understand that that is a problem. That is not okay. Those are not valid defenses.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 19:45

Yeah, and there are so many different things to touch on with that but absolutely, that's a core thing as well. When you look at that person, that situation, what lives around it to let it live. You know what I mean? The complicity, all of that. Like, I mean, you think even about, I don't know, if you watched, I'm going to go all over the place with all these different garbage individuals as I like to say, the name of the gaming companies, Activision Blizzard by the way. If you dive into that it's really bad, too. There's a lot of stories like one story comes out and it's just a flood of information b ecause it's so terrifying to speak up about that.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 20:30

Yeah, and then in that story, which he turned me on to, I was reading a little bit about that, at least one woman just left, she was like, I'm just going to leave that.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 20:38

Well, and one woman actually committed suicide, because there was 70 there and sorry, that was just very triggering thing even to say, and now I forgot my point but it's unfortunate because she was bullied with photos and you do think that you can just be like, Ah, you know, I got this, I was going to, Woody Allen. I mean, I lived in New York at the time too so I was in my 26/27 when that whole thing broken, and the narrative that was spawned, I bought that shit too like, disgruntled. I mean, we were all creeped out, you couldn't get over that. You could not get over the Sunni, piece. But that, nobody could talk you out of feeling okay with that, except for money. But that was a that was an interesting spin as well, people knew but they just didn't want to say anything.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 21:33

That's exactly right, and you would think, especially after what's going on in the last five or so years, you would that more people would be aware and like, okay, these are clearly problems, but no, without revealing too much because we had a bit of a conversation that day we were on the phone to him, like I've seen it, even personally, in my own life now with somebody that I care about, that got a job in a position that you know, no, like, no. That was going to be career for her anyway. However, it was like, yeah, that's not for somebody at her age to be able to say, yeah, that's not a good place for a young woman to be working.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 22:10

Right, and I was going to say…

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 22:11

There's no nothing there, it's not good. It's not a good thing to be told and to have her be told like, well, this is just what this industry is about still.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 22:17

Still. Exactly, because yeah, if you can spend time on that other cycle, no, can't be that. I have to say to give advice to people, anytime anyone is sharing their lived experience, that the couple things you don't want to do is one say, oh, my God, even online, oh, this is not our America, I can't believe this is happening. Well, it's happening and it happened to this person, so for them to have to substantiate it to you, because it never happened to you, or you knew someone who was in the same position, but it didn't happen to them. That's not how this works.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 22:51

I got to be honest with you in this situation that I'm being cryptic, I understand but that's as much as I'm going to share.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 22:57

To protect the innocent.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 22:59

Exactly. I don't need to talk about who it specifically is but it's somebody very close to me, and in the end, I think the experience there was like, look in that particular business that she, I’m not even going to talk about the industry she was in, it is a locker room type environment in those places. It is this hyper aggressive, hyper masculine and as long as we're making our sales numbers, I'm kind of okay with that says management. This is a family owned business, this is not a fortune 500 faceless, publicly traded company, it’s a family owned business rooted right there in the community. Hey, that boys will be boys, but they do a lot of stuff so we're just going to have to like look the other way, even when the women are complaining about what's going on there. Oh, okay as long as you as long as you're making your money, I guess is that's what it is. That is what's going on. You're making your money and you're maintaining your power and your influence and your control then it's all good. As long as you're getting yours, I guess. It’s the problem. Makes me angry.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 23:59

What's the always be selling, coffee's for closers, maybe is that.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 24:03

Literally. Yeah, that was Glengarry Glen Ross, and literally was like the Alec Baldwin speech. Though those people in that particular business are living that stereotype, that's not a stereotype to us, it's a parody. To them, that is what they aspire to and…

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 24:19

Oh no, and they use things like Wolf of Wall Street and Glengarry Glen Ross to say like the good old days, you know, as much as they don't want to say it but yeah.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 24:28

You know what? This isn't even like middle aged white dudes doing it. I know young men who were idolizing that sort of behavior as well. That's hustling, that's making it happen man, that's bending the universe to your will. Go to get out there and do what needs to be done. I'm like, oh, boy, we got a major problem here, we got a serious problem here. We are willing to sell our souls for a dime all the time. Collectively, we, the Royal we.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 24:52

Yeah. I think the tough thing too is we have a cousin the[24:57] shake up. I mean, they're the last four years have come in around this same time that the me-too movement was a huge thing for me that when all the Weinstein stories broke, I don't know what it was specifically about it that just really broke me open of hearing all that. So, you realize you knew it, but you didn't know it that much. Then you saw all the dialogue about, they should have said it faster, they should have said it slower, they should have said it earlier, they should have not said anything or said all the things, or done. It doesn't matter, it doesn't matter. I saw a meme the other day that was like, even with you in the days when you had long dresses and all these big, it's not the dress.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 25:35

Right? It has nothing to do with that. Really?

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 25:39

Yeah, you can wear a cute outfit at night and be like, whoa, honey this means I'm ready to go because I'm at home and I've given you the clear signal. That's the only time when I've given the clear hi sign for an outfit.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 25:48

Yeah, and this is a funny to me. I always look at it as there's a professional environment and there's a personal environment, and there's…

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 25:57

Even that I can change my mind just a little FYI.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 25:59

That's true. There's 7 billion people on the planet. Surely you can find somebody to be involved with that is not connected to you professionally. Surely you can. There's a lot of people.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 26:10

I don't care what they say that that's where you spend all your time. Yeah, and I get let's keep touch toning with that, like you can find somebody else and just that you had to be told that talking to a woman, and here's the story behind that too, she's an assault victim. So, he was couching it under there. How are you feeling about it now? And then talking about and you know, as a woman you know, especially with women having this Spidey sense, like you know exactly where that's going.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 26:42

Yeah, you do. I think in the end, and to bring it back to the whole, like, well that's where you spend all your time so what do you think you're going to do? And I've heard that argument. I’ve actually heard that argument from women too. Well, this is where you spend most of your time, so why wouldn't you? Why wouldn't you date in the workplace? Why wouldn't you welcome relationships in the workplace?

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 27:00

Yeah, but that's dating.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 27:02

Well, I guess it's a different animal in a way, but that's a whole different topic. Like, okay, we work together. I like you. You like me, we form a relationship. Okay. Well, that's okay, but pursuing somebody who is not also pursuing you.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 27:17

Yeah. We're talking dating consensual as opposed to predatory behavior.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 27:22

That's exactly right. Treating your colleagues, your employees, your whatever as toys, or trophies or whatever. I don't understand.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 27:33

Yeah, it's back to mad men and again, I think we just thought there was so much more progress made because we did, I think it was 17 was Weinstein, 2018 was Kavanaugh and that one, I got to tell you, the Cavanaugh thing hit me in the deez nuts because he's my fucking age. This nasty creature, right? Deez Nuts, I said that. Here's an interesting take on this, so somehow a bunch of the girls from my high school started having these conversations and so we started a Facebook page and it was a wellspring catharsis and it was interesting. The shit that we were sharing in that, of the shaming, the shaming that we did to each other, the shaming the lies that were told it was unbelievable and I think because that age was, the Kavanaugh age, was the age we were all at in high school. I mean, come on, it was like, oh God, some of those movies were just right for… Oh, I mean, you know, I love me some John Hughes but 90% of his shits completely inappropriate now. Porky's that was the, like Animal House, he was the precursor to my high school, that was what we got is the example of it. So, it hit a lot of us really hard, there was a lot of good sharing on that and you know was the interesting one Drew? And this is interesting, the women who had large breasts, and the stories that they told about that just the instant sexualization that they had nothing to do with, dude, that hit me. So as a small breasted woman because I was always like, damn bitch I'm so jealous, you know I mean? That was me too not realizing that the weight physically, and you can't even walk into a room without feeling that gaze.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 29:30

And you have nothing, literally nothing to do with that. You did not choose that.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 29:35

You’re not getting a boob job at 12 folks.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 29:38

Right, that's just the way it goes but so much of that is still alive and well, I think in the end, and it was absolutely promoted back then. I mean, we're a little bit cultured in our day.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 29:51

Yeah, and can I add to that as well? Well, I never did that and I got accused of that but guess what? And I talked with a friend from high school when I went home, and actually was talking with my mom about this of all people, Marcia Morrow. That, all M’s in this family, that what if we did? What if we did all of those things that were said and done? So what? Shaming, shaming of sexuality, shaming of also saying I want to try this experience out. The shaming thing is huge and it's used as a point of defense. I never did that. Well, they didn't do that. Well it doesn't matter.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 30:37

Right? Who cares? You know, you had Leslie, didn’t you have Leslie Gustaf sitting on your podcast? She talks about that stuff all the time like, hey, when did we get taught that we're not supposed to be into any of this? And I think when you are in that environment, I'm guessing as a woman, it's not my experience but if you've been told that you are supposed to withhold and play hard to get and not be interested in sex, and keep that under wraps, it is easy to weaponize it against you. Why wouldn't it be then?

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 31:05

It is because if you're already a lower person on the totem pole already, and still not the lowest, because you're still a white woman up here, and the conversations that we're talking about, you're looking for any foothold, to possibly put somebody else aside in order to excel, and that's not excelling. That's just crawling, that's just grappling to get to the top and it’s gross. So here's my session, it's gross.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 31:37

That's it. That's the highlight from this episode. It's gross, says Mia. That’s easy.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 31:43

Ewah.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 31:44

Ewah, with an ‘ah’ at the end.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 31:46

Says Mia. Yeah, those are tough. Another person that I've been engaging with on Twitter is Drew Dixon. I'm not sure if you know who she is.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 31:54

No, I don’t.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 31:55

She did an amazing and was involved in an amazing documentary, and it was all about blowing the whistle on Russell Simmons. Let me tell you something, so it's drew Dixon who's a producer, man she tells him stories about the shit she went through, of the brands that she tried to push through and she got it, I think it was Def Jam but she also was in a quandary because as a black woman not wanting to out a black man in the industry. There were so many elements to that but the documentary featured drew Dixon, and Sidney Lumet’s daughter. These women were raped by Russell Simmons, I cannot deny and I apologize for not giving you a trigger warning on that but the discussion that they had about that and taking him down was merciless, and they still, obviously still people are still trying to at them about it. She responded to a tweet the other day, and I bow passed out because I just, Drew Dixon’ed it.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 32:59

I bow passed out.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 33:01

I did. That's how I roll with people that I admire the work that they're doing, you know?

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 33:06

Yeah, tough. But you know, it was what it was everywhere. It's so interesting, because I had as a kid, as a teenager, I was always musical, right? So, I played a bunch of different instruments…

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 33:16

And let's get in the way, folks, if you can see the 18 guitars behind Drew right now.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 33:22

There's only three at the moment.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 33:23

Okay, fine.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 33:24

I cannot deny that maybe there were 18, nah there's never 18 but so you know, played a bunch of instruments, and I was in the band and all that stuff but even in those so called wholesome youth activities we had, there's a large organization called drum corps international that has amazing talented young people in it, or the country all year round and they all wind up being music majors and performance majors and dance majors and they're incredibly talented young people. This activity has been around for decades, come to find out that one of the most highly regarded programs in that activity from New Jersey, I won't name names, but people know if they're in the activity but the director who is like in the drum corps Hall of Fame, it's all about the kids and learning and learning and experience and camaraderie and working as a team. Yeah, not an okay dude. For years, years, but now he's 35 years old, hanging around with a bunch of 16 to 21-year-old girls in activity because he's in the activity and turns out bad stuff was going on for years.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 34:28

Ooh doesn’t that break your heart?

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 34:29

There was no safe you would think like, oh, well, what can go on there? It's very wholesome, it’s a very family-oriented thing. It's about music and performance, you know? Put a 31-year-old guy in charge of a bunch of 16 to 21-year-old girls and I guess shit can happen. What can go wrong right?

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 34:45

I was setting you up for that one. What can go wrong with this? Oh my God, when we laugh, people just know that that's actually just us trying to release the energy from it because the ridiculousness of it. Plus, I will say that anything the church, Larry Nasser or gymnastics, you know, these people there, there's just been so many setup places of what is considered safety and that's the normalization that the people are allowed to groom.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 35:17

Which I think we have to be and you know what I'm blowing way past the topic into just humanity and society in general, time and time again, and it's so disheartening. It really is disheartening when you look at the human race, or at least in the West, where we are, time and time again, when you set up institutions and people in positions that you think are automatically worthy of trust, they will do the right thing, they will act in the public best interest, they will take care of people again and again and again. When we do that with no oversight and no checks and balances, we are disappointed again, and it sexually economically, suicidally, again and again and again, I will take the money and run I will enrich myself, I will indulge my baser instincts. That's just what humans do it appears.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 36:02

As long as they can get away with it. But this is also really, really couched like, or just vows to that it's unfortunately, it's also set up for that to not be specifically on the whole with white males.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 36:18

Yeah, and what does that tell us? It tells us that we should never, never do that, we should always have another set of eyes on everything.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 36:24

On everything.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 36:26

Business, religion, social, educational, whatever, you cannot set up positions and people that are beyond reproach, automatically because we just get disappointed again and again and again.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 36:38

We do and I can lead us, because I got so excited, lead us to the wrap up on this of something that I did earlier today, which was ranting about, and we've touched on this and some episodes before, about really vetting the people that you are putting your name behind it keeps coming up over and over again and today was a specific example of a group and I'm just going to say it because out care, come at me. It's a group called so you want to talk about his account on Instagram, and there's a book called so you want to talk about rape. That is written by a black woman and Ijeoma Alo, I hope I said that right, but everybody thought that so you want to talk about was related to that, because she never disabuses them of that. But I've really kind of made an exhortation to my fellow melanin challenge women like myself and people of do your homework, who are you following? Who are you sharing? Because that woman literally funneled a lot of attention into her group, rather than did bipoc[37:47] educators and people that are doing the work and…

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 37:51

By the way, that Instagram profile now has an asterisk in its profile, not affiliated. So, you so you want to talk about race or its author, I guess?

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 38:01

Oh, yeah. Yeah, I believe I believe that is fairly new but I also know that the author reached out to her last year and said, everybody's reaching out to me and wants to know if I'm involved with this, who are you? She said, she started it as a pro Bernie campaign that it's not anti-racist but when you see it, and then you see that name, now, let me also blow this one out of the water too. She got a book deal because of this group and the book is called, “So you want to talk about what” or something like that. So yes, you have literally profited off of sharing information that somebody else's lived experience so it's these kinds of things, do your homework, it just keeps coming up over and over and over again, for us. So, I believe that if we have our own oversight, and inside job, we can normalize it a little bit. But then you also have to get involved locally in your government and not complain if shit’s for shit.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 38:58

And you know what? It's much harder. I mean, this goes way beyond the topic, but it's part of it. It goes way beyond, way beyond and you know, you hear people out there banging that drum, especially last year and a half, question everything. Question everything was big in the Abbie Hoffman days, and you know what? That philosophy really isn't. But it isn’t easy to question everything. It doesn't mean question everything and just be contrary, and for the sake of your own ego, it means really got to pay attention and that might mean that I can only follow 10 people that I really know, instead of mindlessly doing scrolling across 1000 accounts that I don't know at all, and just sort of like give them the benefit of the doubt because I don't know they got thumbs. That's the only qualification so…

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 39:39

Get the blue checkmark. The other thing I'll add the little asterix to question everything that does not mean to call the police on everybody.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 39:51

No. Nuance is not a [Inaudible 39:50] for humans either, right.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 39:55

Golly, you had to be told that's wrong? When closing this show’s called, you need to be told that was wrong? Then I'm out.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 39:59

Oh, all right. It's always fun. Thank you for inviting me on as regularly to do this ridiculousness that we do. They're important things though.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 40:12

They are but we are able to process it together which is fun to from our slightly obviously different perspectives of gender and just perspective so I appreciate you too.

**Speaker: Drew Linsalata** 40:26

Thanks for having me.

**Speaker: Mia Voss** 40:27

Dude. Nick Jabberwocky, by the way. What a fucking tool bag.