

Transcript of interview with Moira Deeming on The Mess We're In Episode 155 (Tab 939)

Parties: Glinner (G); Moira Deeming (MD), Helen Staniland (HS), and Arty (A)

Extract: [15:10]-[52:29]

- 5 G: Is there any, we have Moira in the studio so we could leap into it but the only reason I'm suggesting that is I'm so blasted from rushing back that I kind of need a fourth person to take up the slack. Moira would that be okay? Oh good okay she's nodding. Alright I'm gonna bring Moira in now, I mean you don't often---
- HS: Excellent I'm so excited.
- G: ---yeah we don't often have people as big as Moira so we might as well get her in. Hi Moira.
- 10 HS: Welcome how lovely to have you on.
- MD: Hi. Oh it's my pleasure to be here.
- A: Well thank you so much.
- G: You've had a kind of a whirlwind couple of weeks haven't you, meeting kind of UK TERF royalty I guess. Posie, Maya, you've seen everyone over the last few days.
- 15 MD: Yeah it's been fantastic, I've been here with a friend and there was all these other things going on at exactly the same time, the LGB conference, the Battle of Ideas, this art conference, I've just been able to meet a ridiculous array of people in the shortest amount of time, it was a dream trip so very excited.
- 20 G: Good good. Can we ask Moira, first of all let's begin at the very very beginning. What piqued you? What made you realise something was up?
- MD: So my background is just as a high school teacher and I just, I had heard throughout the grapevine that people were complaining about some new curriculum called Safe Schools, it sounds lovely, doesn't it, let's make schools safer, it's supposed to be this anti-bullying program to protect gay children and I didn't even bother to read it 'cause I just thought well I already don't let any child, let alone gay children get bullied, welcome, you know, 30 years too late government but whatever, whatever you need to do to make yourself feel special so I didn't even look at it and I do remember seeing a poster of a male student in a dress and I was thinking what do I think about that and I thought well it's not permanent, it's just clothes and I didn't look any further and then there was a lot of rumour going on about that it was sexualised and things and to be honest I actually looked down on the people as being hysterical, they had to be being hysterical, none of this could be true, we had child safeguards, we are the experts in looking after children, we wouldn't allow that to happen. No government would allow that to happen. But then there was one resource that was published in a mainstream newspaper and I thought I'm actually going to look that up, that one resource instead of all this amorphous, you know, oohh scary things happening and I looked it up and it was actually 100 million times worse than what they had published. It was a survey for Year 9 students so that sort of 13, 14, 15 and a teacher would give it out and you had, they had three columns, one was have they already done it, would they do it and the third one was a fridge like we'll put it on hold, there was no column for no, none of your business, stop acting like a paedophile Mr Teacher and, you know, along the side were things like anilingus, cunnilingus, pornography, fisting, scissoring, just all this stuff and I just thought I am not a Madam in a brothel, that is called sexual harassment, you wouldn't be allowed to do this in the staff room and oh my goodness any teacher that said that garbage to my daughter.
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- 40
- G: Yeah yeah.
- 45 MD: Okay or on grounds to my students, I knew all the girls would come and whinge to me if that happened to them and I would, I would expect that the teacher who said that nonsense would be immediately fired. I couldn't believe it was giving legal cover to teachers who want to sexually harass minors. So I just started writing articles, I said I'd rather lose my job than teach this kind of thing and then I found out about the policies where we were expected to lie to parents about their

50 kids who would live during the day at school as one gender and because the parents were deemed to be unsafe and so unsafe, we couldn't tell them but they were safe enough that we would send the kids home every night and treat those families like a bed and breakfast and I was thinking, well either they're unsafe or they're safe, you can't just schedule some hours of the day where they're unsafe and then have their safe hours while still saying that we can't give them

55 Panadol without a permission slip, we can't take them across the road to a restaurant without a permission slip, none of it made sense and all of it just removed child safeguarding and I'm just laser-focused on that, my whole life is just laser-focused on that one issue and it was just like a red rag to a bull and I just started pushing, writing articles, trying to get someone in parliament to pay attention, doing news reports, you know, I obviously got called names, I got onto local government council and then I got into parliament.

60 G: Let me ask about being called names. What was the first, what was the, like I remember when I started getting into this and I genuinely thought wow as soon as people find out about children being mutilated they'll be all over it you know. What was the first sign you had that not only were people not going to help but people were actually going to start casting you as a bigot?

65 MD: It was very early on so almost immediately, I started telling just people around me, families around me and I was actually quite depressed at the response that I got which was often well that won't happen at my school because my school's a private school or a religious school or whatever and immediately in my head I was thinking but don't you care about the other children?

G: Hmm.

70 MD: Don't you, and don't be so sure also but just that they wouldn't care that it happened to other children, I've had the same response with, you know, male sex offenders in female prisons, they say oh well women are gonna get raped in prison anyway.

G: Hmm yeah, I know extraordinary---

75 MD: I've yeah, I've been quite depressed actually, you know and I think as a teacher I feel like a mother to all the kids, I just feel this maternal care and so I don't understand, I don't understand not caring for any child because they are a child I just don't even have a framework for that.

80 G: I had a chat with a guy yesterday, sorry Helen, I'll be very quick, but I had a chat with a guy yesterday and at one point I said to him 'cause he was saying why do you care so much and I said why don't you? Why don't you care? I still find it absolutely extraordinary and when you like, one thing I would have thought even is that in the early days there might have been a few people who joined with you and said yeah no you're right but I found out very quickly that there was a kind of a wall of fearful, don't rock the boat people as if they'd already been informed of how dangerous it would be to enter into this even if they didn't have a background of, you know, looking into radical feminism and all that sort of thing. Where did it come from? Why were people so quickly, so frightened of the kind of activists in this?

85 HS: Well I mean the mob comes for you doesn't it, I mean you've seen it and even JK Rowling, I mean part of it is to show everyone what can happen---

90 G: I guess one question is more, what, how was it so instantly understood by so many people including and I'm really talking about the people who said to you Moira, you know, it's not our kids, it's in a different school or whatever excuse they had, any excuse not to get involved, any excuse not to, but how did people instinctively know that this was the kind of thing that might destroy their career? And can I, sorry yeah---

95 MD: Yeah I think it's because they lumped in the LGB with the T so as a teacher we had already, I mean there was not a time ever where kids that were gay were you know institutionally treated badly, like of course there's bullying just like there's always bullying but nobody institutionally methodically allowed that to happen, that's, I've never seen a real example of that happening. We had had just recently the same sex marriage plebiscite which got very ugly very very ugly and I think everyone was so glad that it was over and everyone had been called homophobic relentlessly, relentlessly even if they had other reasons for voting yes or no, like it was, it divided the society, it was so ugly and it was traumatising for everyone. And so this was framed as an

100 anti you know an anti-bullying program for gay kids, they didn't really talk about trans, I didn't even
know what trans was, I thought they were talking about intersex children, it took me awhile to go
and do some research and understand that what they were talking about was not intersex
105 children, it was this whole new thing and I just think that they didn't understand what the T meant
either and they didn't understand that because everyone had successfully incorporated, you
know, homosexuality into society without, to be honest without much fuss other than the plebiscite
which got ugly, you know, sexuality was still only for adults, sexuality was still not for public
consumption, no child safeguards were removed. It was all fine and I think they thought it's just
110 another one of those issues, it will be just as harmless as slotting in homosexuality. Nobody had
any idea that this T would eradicate sex-based rights and totally for some unknown reason also
bring in a total annihilation and sexualisation of the curriculums, that did not happen under the
LGB, it only happened [?], I'm not blaming people who have gender dysphoria or transgender
people, but it's just a reality that that was the lever that they used to wedge that into all the
curriculums overnight.

G: And yeah sorry Helen you go ahead.

115 HS: I just wanted to ask what the timeline was, you know, when was this, when did you sort of see it
because now you're in parliament so there must be, you know, you do have support now, you
must have, you know, you must have actually taken people with you on this, but how long has it
taken you?

MD: I think I've been arcing up about this for about oh almost 15 years---

120 G: 15 years?

MD: ---yeah and I found it ironic that I was called homophobic when I started talking about it, I said I'm,
I only have an issue with the trans and the sexual, you know, the transgender ideologies removing
sex-based rights and removing child safeguards, why do you keep saying, it's not even about
125 homosexuals but they just kept saying you're a homophobe and I thought if you are going to insult
me you could at least try and get on the right letter in the, I don't even understand how you could
be so stupid as to use that insult of all the inaccurate---

HS: I'm transphobic not homophobic!

MD: ---you know what I mean, like I'm none of those but you didn't even use the right letter [?] I don't
even understand---

130 A: But that was very deliberate, there was a lot of deliberate, the piggybacking off of the LGB and
modelling the T&Q activism based on LGB was very deliberate but it's also ho-, it was clever in a
lot of ways too because it really, they really highlighted the fact that gay rights was integrated into
society but it was, there was underneath it none of the iss-, the issues hadn't been fully resolved
and hadn't been fully discussed. Like you said the plebiscite was very messy and the debate got
135 ugly and I think everybody just wanted the argument about gay rights to be over so some of the
issues hadn't been quite fully fleshed out and topped out and we're seeing the price in society that
that all of society is paying for that is that this group of people was able to take advantage of that
to silence anybody's questioning around this new letter. I obviously I'm a gay man and I believe in
every bit of my heart gay people are full-fledged citizens as straight people and we should have all
140 of the same rights and protections but I also think it's important that all of society understands the
issues and has total buy in in that we can't just shove it down people's throats and we can't
silence people because what ends up happening is that's an opportunity for other groups to come
in and take advantage of that insecurity in people's minds, take advantage of that hole in society
where there's a no go zone and an area that we're not allowed to discuss. Once you set
145 something up like that that's an untouchable subject it's not even necessarily deliberately
calculated but people with personal agendas will just naturally instinctually find these areas, they
will find the shadows---

G: Of course.

A: ---they'll find the no go zones and find their way to them.

150 G: They'll find the blurry boundaries, and the blurry boundaries, it's interesting Moira but it sounds like you came at this really through the prism of queer theory originally, like it seems that like I always thought that the arrival of these kind of sexualised lessons and stuff was a relatively recent phenomenon but you say you first became aware of these 15 years ago is that right?

MD: Yeah yep almost 15 years ago.

155 G: That's extraordinary. So you've been fighting this for 15 years?

MD: Almost.

G: And when did you start to find that your name was being, you know, trashed, was it almost immediately or did it take a while, like...

160 MD: Well, I'm actually just a real nerd so it took me a couple of years of real research to try and be sure about me interpreting what was going on correctly. And I really did do a lot of research, I used transgender trend a lot and I was trying to understand, you know, it took me a while to understand that the T was different to I, you know, the obfuscation of language, it took me a long time to hunt down the actual policy so I could prove it to people. It was when I wrote an article and when I agreed to do an interview, you know, I think I was the first teacher to come out in all of Australia to say I'd rather lose my job than teach these things and treat parents like this because that's not what I signed up to do. I believe it is absolutely against children's best interests because if there are, if every single adult in a child's life just keeps on talking to them about intimate sexual issues then they're not going to be able to understand that actually some of these people might be predators because we all look the same and the only thing that will be different is when they put their hands on them and I think that's why we have these boundaries, that's why we have a buffer zone. There are some things that all adults even if they're good adults we don't do, as a teacher I don't hug students, I never hug students. Not because of any other reason that I want them to know that if a teacher hugs them they've broken, they've crossed a boundary they shouldn't have crossed and then they've got a clue about this teacher being dangerous and we've removed all of those abilities for children to know early, to back their instincts that someone is not behaving in a normal way, we're confusing them and that's just such a betrayal of these children who are under our care.

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G: When did, so the most recent kind of, if we can cut from you first getting into this to the most recent example of what's happened to you, you went to the Posie Parker event in Melbourne. Can you tell us a little bit about what happened, just a kind of simple timeline of what happened from that moment?

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MD: So there'd been obviously women all around the world watching Kellie-Jay Keen for ten years and she was doing an Australia New Zealand tour and everyone's very excited and obviously I was going to go, it's a once in a lifetime event, I didn't know I'd come over to the UK later. I told everyone I was going to go, I announced it in parliament, I invited all the parliamentarians, I told all the media that I was going to go. Some of the women who were organising it asked for my help because as a parliamentarian I have access to, you know, this behind these iron gates, you know, we can park the car and bring Kellie-Jay in and out with her security guards and things like that. Anyway and then on the day, you know, we had just hundreds and hundreds of trans rights activists with masks on and everything and at some point during that rally there was a bunch that seemed to come through and break through the lines, they had just all in black, black masks, black T-shirts, and I thought they were Antifa breaking through the lines but they weren't, they were separate. The rest of it I have to tell you I pieced together using footage from someone else, I actually didn't know what happened, but they had a sign, it had something nasty on it, had something like, I can't even remember, something like Pedo Freaks, something like that but they weren't standing with us and like, even though that's nasty they weren't standing with us and it wasn't a Nazi swastika so like how would I still know that they were Nazis? Apparently they'd already done two, you know, Nazi salutes and they did one on the way out that I did see which I condemned on the day. Anyway my parliamentary party, the leadership put forward a motion to expel me because they said that Kellie-Jay Keen and Angela Jones and Katherine Deves who was another woman that was there, were clearly, you know, Nazis, they actually said to me you had champagne with Nazis and that's when I realised they were talking about these three women and not the Nazis, and they said that, you know, just because you've even challenged us on

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205 condemning these women and this organisation it shows you can't be rehabilitated and we're going to move a motion to expel you.

HS: Oh it's insane.

MD: Yeah, or you can make it easier on us all by resigning and I just said no thank you and I got up and walked out and then it just spiralled out of control from there, the media went berserk, I literally got defamed as a Nazi associate everywhere, all around the world, it was just like an unbelievable avalanche and I was trying in the background to sort it out privately, I just thought maybe they're confused, maybe they're just, like, phenomenally confused. I had never seen the evidence, I still didn't see the evidence for a few days and it was from Wikipedia. So I got a defamation lawyer to, you know, point out to the party why that would be terrible to publish that but they published it anyway and the leader went on this big media tour doubling down on everything and then when I demanded a re-do of the meeting because I agreed to sit on the cross bench for nine months if he exonerated us all just to save his leadership but he didn't, he didn't exonerate us and so I asked for a redo and then they expelled me. And so now I'm suing for defamation so that I can clear my name and overturn what they've done.

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G: I've been---

220 HS: I have to, sorry Graham, but that, you know, that idea of, you thought that they were confused, it is exactly isn't it, it is exactly that because you think they can't actually believe it, they must be conceived because like honestly like most of us, you know, you look at people and you give them the benefit of the doubt and you think oh well as soon as they realise they'll be fine but it isn't that is it, it's deliberate, it is genuinely a deliberate silencing idea and then it sort of gathers momentum and people double down and they don't want to pull back and you know they need to condemn women over this, you know, you see it again and well not just women now, it started with women but now it's, you know, anyone who---

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MD: It was more outrage---

HS: ---[?] is it.

230 MD: ---yeah there was more outrage over me and these women apparently for being Nazi associates than there were over the actual Nazis that were---

HS: Actual Nazis.

MD: ---[?] away from us up the street.

G: Yeah. Who I also notice Antifa did not make any attempt to attack. They seemed entirely focused on attacking women and when a bunch of actual fascists turn up they just kind of let them get out of there.

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MD: That's what I found funny yeah you know that song Punch a Nazi you know they love to say it's okay to punch a Nazi, I'm like there they are, they're right there, you had your opportunity and you just let them dance on by.

240 G: Yeah.

MD: And then there are people saying why didn't you tell them to leave, I'm like I'm not speaking to violent looking men are you insane?

G: Yeah.

HS: Yeah, totally totally. I mean honestly well done you for not just, not accepting it and for fighting back, I mean what did they expect, I mean like genuinely.

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G: Someone just wrote about your Wikipedia page, just check the history of Moira's Wikipedia page, same story as usual, TRA's policing any edits in minutes. Yeah that's like mine, mine [?]

HS: It's like yours isn't it?

250 A: Well those are the obsessed people like there's a sort of a, there's a, it's like asymmetrical, the trans activists have all the time in the world to police Wikipedia and to try to aggressively push their side of the story and most everyone else who isn't a trans activist doesn't have the time of day or the energy to commit to fighting against it so they just kind of put their heads down and concede okay I'll just never talk about biological sex in the workplace or I'll just quietly tolerate men in the washroom in my school or in my workplace because there's nothing I can do because

255 to speak up it's, they don't have the energy to put into it. And this is what I meant about when people complain that we're obsessed, we're not, we're just doing the right thing which is standing up to people who are obsessed.

MD: I'm obsessed, I'm obsessed, I'm obsessed in the law, I will never run out of energy for this issue, I have an unquenchable fire of fury and I will never stop, I don't care. [?]. They will stop putting children at risk and they will stop putting women at risk.

260 G: Yeah yeah. It's an---

A: We need more people like you to stand up and fight back and to commit just as much energy as these activists were committing to oppose them, it's so so important and it angers me that there aren't enough people standing up. However in the years that you've been doing this you must be sensing a change in the weather.

265 MD: Yeah absolutely.

A: What's it like?

MD: I mean right from the beginning when I realised what I was looking at when I realised I was not looking at an anti-bullying program to protect gay kids and I wasn't looking at anything that had anything to do with those poor intersex kids and that I was looking at something that sexualised children's environments and removed their safeguards, I just, you can't unsee that, you know, you cannot unsee that and I knew right then and there when I realised what they were doing to those kids who then would identify as transgender with all the horrible horrific medical interventions, I thought this is going to be 20 years to overturn this and it'll be the [?] save children behind them.

270 But I just thought I'm not gonna be quiet for 20 years, I'm not gonna use them as a [?] or else I won't be able to sleep at night and I thought, I mean I knew it would, I knew that there would be a cost, I didn't know there would be this kind of a stupid ridiculous like inaccurate cost [?] ridiculous like not even in the ballpark but I've been, it's been half that time basically, you know, it's only been 10 years 'cause honestly I put in like three or four years of researching it very carefully

275 before I was so sure of myself and so sure that I was right and that this was only harming kids and no minor should be put through affirmation treatments. You know it's only been half the time. It is devastating to meet detransitioners though, we've got a few coming out in Victoria and they're so brave but it is so yeah it's so devastating what's happened to them.

280 G: But you were saying that you think it is turning around over there, what do you see that's suggesting that?

285 MD: Of the detransitioners, there are doctors coming out, there are more parents coming out against it. I think what has actually happened is people didn't believe me in the beginning, they just didn't believe me, like I didn't believe those other people arrogantly. So you know I put up a website where I had catalogued all the curriculum and had took screenshots of what they were, you know, what they were expecting teachers to teach, putting up screenshots of the policies and linking it to them. No media organisation has ever put that in their article, my website, I find that really interesting, they'll put in other articles where they'll take a little, you know, out of context sentence and say oh yeah yeah she's a bigot, you know, forgetting the rest, yeah [?] reference that website I'm like 'cause it's nothing but evidence [?] disgraceful. I know you've looked at it and I know you know I'm right. Kids are coming home, parents are finding the consequences, we've got people in hospital, like when I went to, I was in labour with one of my children and yeah this nurse came down the walkway, a man, a huge huge man in a nurse's outfit and it was terrifying. I just thought they're actually seeing it in their everyday life and they don't like it and it's nice, they love it when they hear someone say what they want said.

295 G: Mm yeah.

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HS: Oh yeah.

G: There's a question here from Scott. He says Moira how is the wind blowing as such with regards to the Giggle court case, what do you, how do you think that's going?

MD: If we win, we win, and if we lose, we win.

305 G: Oh right---

MD: Because either the law, people will be outraged to discover, you know, it will prove what we've been saying about the law, that our sex-based rights have been totally eradicated.

G: Yeah yeah.

310 MD: Do you know what I mean? Like if she loses it will be because the law is garbage like we've always said. And if we win that means that it'll set a precedent which reinserts sex-based rights into federal law so I am excited about that case.

G: Good.

MD: It's going well. She's fundraising as well.

315 G: Yes actually we haven't spoken about your fundraiser. Moira is fundraising for this particular, for the case against her leader and there's not long left is there, there's about 30 days something like that?

MD: No it's not 30 days, I know exactly, I've got 12 months from the last letter and I'm running out of months basically.

320 G: Right right okay good. So there's a little bit more time. So we'll put the link to the fundraiser in the thing, I'm sorry I haven't been doing it more, I've been kind of running around last while in a bit of a daze---

HS: Yeah no let's link to it, I mean this is incredibly incredibly important.

MD: I get it. We're all like actual little people, we're not organisations, you know, everything that we [?] is such a tax on our time and our lives, I get it, don't, yeah, and I'm just grateful.

325 G: Wouldn't it be great as well to make one of these people who feel they can say anything about anyone answer for their words for once, that would be, that would be extremely satisfying.

MD: They like to make examples out of people and it will be very satisfying to push back and flip it and make an example out of them.

G: Yeah that'd be great.

330 A: Yeah. Well it's really interesting what you say about how when news organisations look at your website with all of the evidence, when they see the evidence it doesn't change their mind, it just changes their strategy. It just means they have to go back to silencing tactics or move to another tactic. That's a sign of a kind of cult mentality or a sign that somebody has an ideological belief that the evidence can't shake, when the evidence is there and they're like well if the evidence is

335 on the other team's side I have to work even harder to destroy the other team instead of joining them and it reminds me a little bit, the way you say if you win you lose you lose you lose, I was thinking a lot about the Scopes Monkey trial recently because they actually lost on a technicality with evolution versus creationism was the big fight in the courtroom. But what was interesting is it was 1925 when it happened and by then genetics had made so many advances, we already knew what genes were and what was interesting was that regardless of the outcome of the Scopes

340 Monkey trial, evolution wasn't going anywhere, [?] could scream and shout and put people in jail and ban everything, genetics was moving right along, everybody knew what biology was and that was never ever going to change and isn't that like what's going on with biological sex now? Like gender activists can scream and shout and they can do all they want in the public arena but it's

345 not going to last because biological sex is trucking along, the science of what's going on with

gender dysphoria is trucking along, the science of how best to treat children and young people and adolescents and young adults with mental health issues surrounding their biological sex and their gender presentation is trucking along, this is all moving on regardless of anything that goes on with these activists. So even if they succeed in one particular court case that's not going to change the facts. We know that autogynephilia is real, we know that gender dysphoria resolves itself when it's in the brain not in the body, we know and we know that biological sex is binary, we know all of this and the science is just happily trucking along like all of this political drama isn't even happening in some sense. So it's futile at the end of the day for people to try to fight it. So there's a lot of echoes with the Scopes Monkey trial that they fought so hard to try to suppress the facts of evolution but at the end of the day it was, it was doomed to fail that project because it just was never ever going to go away.

G: My only worry is that we've kind of, you know, had this, it's almost like they're, they're trying to disprove the Scopes Monkey trial now, it's almost like, do you know what I mean, it's like they're trying to move backwards on so many different things, you know, and the fact that the, you know, the misogyny and I have to say the anti-semitism that we've been seeing recently, are two of the oldest bigotries that you can possibly imagine and they're coming back stronger than they ever have been before. I find that a little bit worrying, it feels, it feels almost like there's nothing that can be done to stop these great convulsions, you know, I don't know, are you, are you optimistic Moira because of these changes in Australia or do you sometimes despair?

MD: I mean, I think history is just that pendulum. Obviously it will get worse and then people will rise up and defeat it and we'll just go backwards and forwards. I just wanna be one of the people who fought against it and you know, in terms of, it's not just biological reality, you know, it's this human nature, this incredible instinct to protect children and, you know, a sense of justice, you know, people, no it cannot be, you know, no one can bear up under that, no society can bear up under that, we can't tolerate it, you know, none of these things gets tolerated forever, it will absolutely go down in a burning heap, these horrendous laws. In terms of the violence and the hatred and everything, you know it is, they're using the law, they're using our taxpayer dollars to oppress us and take away our voice. I mean I don't know if it's gonna be quite the same as these other, you know, big movements against oppressive governments in history. I'm totally disturbed about yeah the public unabashed vitriolic hatred, yeah really disturbing, I don't understand, I don't understand, I thought we had this social contract, I thought we all had this understanding about what kind of society we lived in. Terrible.

G: Yeah. Also we, one of the things I've noticed with this particular fight and I feel like we've, we let our guard down in similar ways with anti-semitism, is that everybody thought homophobia had been defeated but of course it hasn't been defeated, it's just been moved into different places like now a pair of homophobic parents can trans their child and get rid of the problem of a gay child, you know? And it seems to me that there was a little bit too much, we're all a bit too much, too blasé about the idea that we were all moving, you know, unceasingly into the future. I'll never feel like that again, I'll always feel like it's more like a, as you say, a pendulum, you know?

HS: Well, I mean I think you're right, I think it has been a real shock but I do think you know, seeing people slowly seeing it, witnessing it and saying no, I'm gonna do something about it, has been really quite, you know, quite heartening, you know, like women like you Moira I mean you're just sitting there and you're saying I am never going to stop at this, I mean it is, it's really inspirational actually to, you know, that our, that our massive like I've said before silver linings here that we, you know, that we've got to see sort of true, I don't know, heroism really raising up and saying I'm going to do it regardless of what it costs me and I think that's a really important lesson for everyone.

G: Yeah, we can't expect you to just accept that praise Moira, you're too classy to do that.

A: Well there's another point that Helen makes all the time that I want to reiterate 'cause it's so good which is that another lesson learned here is that to never let your guard down around sexism but the same could be applied to homophobia. We have to be ever militant, we can never rest on our laurels because those are forces that are always going to need tending to it seems.

G: Yeah yeah.

400 MD: [?] but I was raised literally in a matriarchy on the left wing of politics, highly unionised, you know, talking about sexism and the patriarchy and I was like whatever mum, we've got equal rights. I've never ever ever I don't think experienced institutionalised sexism or took that seriously the idea of patriarchy until I was told I would not be allowed to keep a male teacher out of my girls' change rooms, that I would be the one that lost my job, that his feelings were more important than my girls' feelings or my feelings. And there's just no rational reason for that other than that women are less valued than men. They know exactly which group, which sex they're giving the most rights to.

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G: Yeah.

MD: [?] apologising for being so, you know, so arrogant, yeah.

G: Yep it's almost like, what are you gonna do about it? That's the underlying bit. In the end we're stronger than you so, you know, what are you gonna do about it, you know?

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HS: But you've been over here and you've met some excellent excellent people and you know, like actually made these sort of real life contacts which is which is all brilliant, I love how it's not cowered you at all, it's almost redoubled, you're redoubling your efforts, you know, you're saying I'm actually yeah that's brilliant.

415 MD: I think they misunderstood how committed I am actually.

G: Yeah yeah. Well you know that's the other good thing about the fight, like Helen says, you know, it does just bring up such interesting people, you know, I'm forever grateful for the brilliant people that I've kind of met through this fight, you know.

HS: Yeah absolutely.

420 MD: Helen I signed the, you know, the Staniland statement, you know, we asked every MP and every local government councillor the Staniland question. And you know there was this [?] the news, Moira Deeming, she signed that Staniland question and I'm like and I'd sign it again, you know.

HS: [?].

425 MD: No really, lots of them just couldn't answer anything, I was actually told you're not allowed to sign any pledges and I just pretended I didn't even see that one when I signed it.

HS: Fantastic that's brilliant.

G: So aside from the case, what are you getting on with when you get back to Australia?

MD: So I was trying to work out why TERF Island is having such success, has had such great coordinated success and push back against all these laws and so I just wanted to meet everyone and pick their brains, see what's going on and I can see some real differences in, I'm getting all nerdy now, the way your civil service operates, a couple of your laws, I don't wanna say them actually live stream 'cause then they'll know what I'm gonna do when I'm going back but I've got three or four things that I'm absolutely going to be hunting down when I get back so I just keep pressing on doors, I just keep poking and pressing and seeing I can, if I can be a spanner in the works everywhere so...

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G: Great. Well, you know, when you're kind of up and about it's usually about three in the morning over here but don't worry about that, I'm usually up looking at TikTok anyway so please send anything that you need amplified and we'll do our best because it is kind of sometimes a little bit hard to coordinate with Australia just because of the time difference so just keep feeding us stuff and, you know, I'm gonna have to finish it up here I'm afraid so just to say have a very safe flight home, enjoy the rest of your stay and thank you for everything you're doing for kids, you know.

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HS: Yeah absolute pleasure pleasure to have you on Moira, it was really really inspirational to listen to you talk. It really was.

445 MD: Thanks everyone, thanks, lovely to meet you.
G: No worries see you soon Moira.
HS: Bye.
G: Safe home.
A: [?].

450 [End of recording]