Corey Andrew Powell ([00:02](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Hello everyone. I am Corey Andrew Powell, and I'm joined today by Alvin McCray and Jason Rudman. Now, Alvin and Jason are a couple who've been married happily for several years, and they're the proud parents of two incredible, well-grounded, kind, and empathetic children. Now, as one of our Pride Month feature episodes, I asked them to join me today to share their story of love and commitment and success with our audience. Now, through this interview, we hope to shed light on not only the societal challenges that same sex couples may face, but also the triumphs, the good times that Alvin and Jason have achieved as a family. So, Alvin and Jason, welcome to Motivational Mondays.

Jason Rudman ([00:37](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Thanks for having us.

Alvin McCray ([00:39](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

I was about to say that. Thanks for having us.

Corey Andrew Powell ([00:40](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Yes, well thank you. Thanks for getting, and you are in Los Angeles, right?

Jason Rudman ([00:43](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Thanks for having us. I totally wanted say thanks, <laugh>.

Corey Andrew Powell ([00:46](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Well, it's my pleasure to have you both here. Thank you. Thank you. And you're in Los Angeles? Yes.

Alvin McCray ([00:52](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Yep, yep, yep.

Corey Andrew Powell ([00:54](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Now, I know you both from our time in New York City, but what I want to begin with, as we have spoken before, about just this sort of magical way in which people come together, who normally might not have been in each other's spheres, so to speak. You guys are from two different backgrounds. Jason, you're from a blue collar family in, in the uk. Your father was in the military or something. A little bit about your background, please share with us.

Jason Rudman ([01:16](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

I grew up one of four kids. I always laugh because I'm the first person in my family to go to college. Mm. You know, my dad joined the Navy as soon the British Navy as soon as he could. As you know, Corey, my, my mom worked in a knicker factory.

Corey Andrew Powell ([01:30](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Oh, that's right. Yes.

Jason Rudman ([01:31](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Yeah, she worked in a kni so she sewed knickers out, out knickers being ladies' underwear, not bloomers.

Corey Andrew Powell ([01:37](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Right. Yes. I wanna make sure we clarify that because I wear what I think are knickers, which are like short pants, like, but these are panties for women.

Jason Rudman ([01:44](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

this would be panties for women. Yeah, knickers. Okay. My mom was a homemaker. She worked in a crisp factory. She worked in a hospital and I grew up in a lower middle income household in England that lacked diversity. There were three black families in a town of 250,000 people. Wow. I knew two of them because they happened to serve with them in the Navy. So that was my upbringing. It was British, it was white, and it was lower middle income challenges that come with that.

Corey Andrew Powell ([02:16](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Mm, yeah. And Alvin, how about you? What's your background?

Alvin McCray ([02:19](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Well, I grew up in a white collar household. My dad was a businessman and he went on own his own construction company. And my mother was a nursing educator. She worked in healthcare administration. She was first a nursing director. Then she went on to healthcare administration for the hospital. We didn't really blast ourselves back then. I mean, compared today, it would be like a middle, upper middle class. But who says that? Right?

Corey Andrew Powell ([02:44](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Those terms always seem weird, don't they? Yeah .

Alvin McCray ([02:46](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Yeah, yeah. I mean, my neighbor is like, I could have a neighborhood, played the lottery number for a living and my neighbor was a doctor. So <laugh> that kinda ringing we're all, it was diverse in it's thinking. And I grew up in the church. My dad was a pastor for church. Eventually my mother was, we were the first family of a church. So I have that spiritual background mixed town. So contrary to Jason's all white, I grew up with a lot of different races, you know?

Corey Andrew Powell ([03:09](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Yeah. And why I think that's important to share is because there's such a divisiveness when it comes to the, of who's gay, who's straight. Like there's some sort of like different species from <laugh> from us or something, you know? But at the end of the day, I really wanted to stress that because it shows that we have all these similarities. Everything that you just mentioned that you both mentioned, that's my family. That's, I have Navy people in my family and I have doctors and I have teachers and I have people who are blue collar workers. And so it's a mix. And I think those common denominators are really important for us to call out. I will say for full transparency, that I did attend your wedding when you were married years ago. And always joke and say, I may or may not have sang at the wedding. And of course <laugh>, I did sing. I had the privilege of singing. I sang. It's important to talk about that though, because when you did get married, it was before the federal law passed. And so you were sort of in a segmented marriage where it was like legal in some places, but not others. So share a little bit about that.

Jason Rudman ([04:09](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

So, I mean, the reality was we got married in 2010, so we've been together for 25 years this year. You'll appreciate 25 years ago we weren't even talking about marriage into any states.

Corey Andrew Powell ([04:19](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Right, right, right.

Jason Rudman ([04:20](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Um, the short answer was we lived in New York City. New York City didn't allow the gay marriage in 2010, Connecticut did. So Alvin and I with a hundred other people, including you mm-hmm. <affirmative> went to Greenwich, Connecticut and we got legally married.

Corey Andrew Powell ([04:37](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Mm-hmm. <affirmative>, yes you did.

Jason Rudman ([04:38](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

And then came back to a state to celebrate. Right. The reception was in a state that actually recognized out of state marriages, but wouldn't allow you to get married in your state. I think at that time it could.

Corey Andrew Powell ([04:49](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Oh, I, okay, now let's talk about that nuance. So New York would recognize it so you'd be able to get all the spousal coverage for the most part, but you just couldn't do it there <laugh>.

Alvin McCray ([04:58](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Yeah. Cause it wasn't document yet for it legal. Yeah.

Jason Rudman ([05:02](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

So I think because of the politics of New York state, right. There's New York City and then Yes, you have about New York City in New York state, which is not all blue moon.

Corey Andrew Powell ([05:11](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Right? Yeah. Yeah. People do forget that. Yeah. Okay. And so now of course we have federal marriage, but when you did get married and having to deal with this sort of segmented marriage that your parents did not have to deal with, I mean your parents were married, right? All intents and purposes, they were fully married in the eyes of whatever governing body. How do you exist at that time where you're like, well, we can go and be married, kind of, sort of-ish. It comes to the rights and protections that you're concerned about when it comes to parental rights. And I mean, there's a whole litany of things that would concern you. How'd you navigate through that?

Alvin McCray ([05:45](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

I think at the time it was all new language anyway for same-sex marriage. So we didn't really go into it with any preconceived notion of like protection per se. We wanna make sure we're protected here, there legally, financially. Mm. Kids, all that sort of transpired out of the marriage. The first and foremost thing that we wanna do is just to solidify our, our union in the eyes of the state or God, whoever you want to be validated by. Right. Et cetera. So that was more of our thinking. And then as marriage became legal across the states, then the conversation about protection started to make more sense. Like what our parents had when they got married originally. Mm-hmm. <affirmative>, it sort of unfold for us. Like we were able to file joint incomes or taxes, you know, file a taxes joint. We would be on each other's healthcare plans, things of that nature started to evolve after we got married. Mm-hmm. <affirmative>.

Jason Rudman ([06:32](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Yeah. Again, there's a passage of time here. So before marriage was domestic partnership where unlike straight couples, in order to put Alvin on my health insurance at the company I was at, I had to show that he was on the utility bill. Right. Right. Like straight people don't have to do that. Right. Right. So marriage cured some things. And then I think we have to realize that we moved to the state of Ohio, Corey, once Roman was born. Mm. And you could get married federally on a Friday. You could be denied access to gas at a gas station or a hotel on Saturday. And you could be fired from your job on Monday depending on who you were employed by. Mm. In the Ohio. So I think marriage equality at the federal level is not a panacea for

Alvin McCray ([07:17](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Right.

Jason Rudman ([07:18](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

States deciding that they want to discriminate against L G B LGBTQ folks, right? Mm-hmm. <affirmative>, it's just one part of a full and equitable life that LGBTQ IA plus people have a available right to and is denied us on a daily basis. Mm-hmm. <affirmative> still to today in 2023.

Corey Andrew Powell ([07:40](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

And that brings me to another question actually, which is, what do you say to people who have the argument of, by allowing same-sex couples to marry it is somehow diminishing the sanctity of marriage in general for them, for heterosexual people. What do you think about that?

Alvin McCray ([07:57](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

oy, I wish that were true <laugh>. Cause I think they're, I think they're ruining the same, the marriage on their own.

Jason Rudman ([08:04](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

They don't, they don't need us to be married in order the straights don't need us in order to mess up marriage <laugh>.

Alvin McCray ([08:10](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

I think the, the frustration is that we, because marriage is so new to same sex couple, we still revel in it. Like we still cherish the moment and we celebrate it openly and proudly. And I think a lot of people, a lot our straight or heterosexual couples see that as a threat to their own situation. Because they may have, the world may have dried up, right? They may have been married for a while and may not like each other. So we are the scapegoat that gaslight us to be the problem when in fact we're just happy that we come together. But I think on the larger term is that when we talk about the of marriage, I think that's different for different people.

Corey Andrew Powell ([08:46](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Mm-hmm. <affirmative>, because then religion gets sort of put into it.

Jason Rudman ([08:49](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

That's right. [inaudible] implies religion. Right. And so if we're gonna go down that path, yeah. Right. Alvin and I and any lgbtqia plus person has equal rights to God's blessings or Right. Allah's blessings or whoever Yeah. Whoever you, whoever you pray to. Right. I don't think we should be excluding people from those blessings.

Corey Andrew Powell ([09:10](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Yeah. Right.

Jason Rudman ([09:11](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

But I think it's a much larger question than religiosity implied by two guys, two women, two trans people getting married, it's, yeah. Mm-hmm. <affirmative> much bigger and broader than that. Yeah.

Alvin McCray ([09:22](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Yeah. I liken it to the not so much threat of sanctity of marriage, but I think that because they can't explain it and because they can't walk in our shoes. Mm-hmm. <affirmative>, in other words, we were forced all of our lives to walk in heterosexual heteronormativity. Right. All of our lives, male, female get married, that's our normal one. Two men or two female come along. It's abnormal, if you will, to their thinking. So therefore that presents a problem and it's, it goes along the lines of no control over what we do. We'll say what we do. So I always ask the question, why do you get so queasy by two guys kissing? No one asked you to get in between us. Well wait, <laugh>, why do you putting yourself in that position?

Corey Andrew Powell ([10:02](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Yeah. I mean, I find it in general people, uh, who have issues with other people's lifestyles. It is somehow because they're either like, they're like kind of interjecting themselves into the scenario. Cuz I can assure you for me as a gay man, I don't think about what straight people do. Right. I don't like, I just don't. But it seems like there's some straight people who are obsessed with what gay people do and what trans people do and trying to stop their rights and protections. So it's funny cuz I'm like, I don't think about you guys at all. So I'm not, I'm curious as to why you're.

Jason Rudman ([10:30](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

You have to have a foil though. People in power have to have a foil in order to retain their grip on power. Right. So that's really what we're talking about. Right. You have to have a foil. If you don't have a foil, then your message doesn't go anywhere. Right? Mm-hmm. <affirmative> and I would argue that they, you know, they mm-hmm. <affirmative>, we're not gonna define

Corey Andrew Powell ([10:50](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Whoever they are. Right.

Jason Rudman ([10:51](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Right. Whoever they are believe that lgbtqia plus people are an easy target.

Alvin McCray ([10:58](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Mm-hmm. <affirmative>.

Corey Andrew Powell ([10:59](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Mm. This is so profound because just a few days ago I had been thinking about all the divisiveness in society and I thought, it seems like there's just a certain group of people throughout history that again, there's the they Right. And this particular group of people throughout history, they are not content unless there is another group that they can oppress. And that group that's oppressed, it changes and varies based on what history Yes. Allows to unfold. So if it might have been, initially it might have been the oppression of people of color and then there's a liberation that happened with those people of color. Now African Americans are in a very different social place now. But then there's this group that says, well now we've gotta move on to someone else. Now who else are we now who we gotta find another victim, someone else who we think is weak. And then it becomes trans people.

Alvin McCray ([11:44](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

That's right. Or women.

Corey Andrew Powell ([11:46](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Or women first. That's right.

Jason Rudman ([11:51](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Right. I think the powerful who are nefarious in leveraging their power seek to render different populations power less. Because if you render people power less and they cannot exert their power, you therefore retain the majority, right? Mm-hmm. You're challenged. Right. Right. And so much of, I think what we're dealing with right now is where again, look, I, I present white, but I'm gonna go here is white people seeking to understand things that on some level it's like it's not yours to understand. You actually just need to accept. Right. That we are going to walk in these shoes and there's nothing wrong with that. You seeking to kind of understand it, deconstruct it, and then marginalize it or put barriers on it is I think what we're going through right now. Yeah. Mm-hmm. Right. That's how it feels to me as somebody that presents white but lives in a same sex marriage. Raising two mixed race kids or family is the intersection of race, gender, sexual identity. Right. And so we walk that walk every day. Yeah. As to that intersectionality. And again, I think it is just very easy for, for people with power to render people powerless. Mm. Cause they seek to not understand or believe, to understand means somehow they are threatened.

Alvin McCray ([13:13](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Oh yeah. That, yeah.

Corey Andrew Powell ([13:14](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Right. Or sometimes by granting more rights and protections to someone you are then losing something and giving me something up.

Alvin McCray ([13:22](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Comply they can't comply cause they've been in this power.

Corey Andrew Powell ([13:25](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Hmm. Well when it comes to, you just mentioned your children, as I even mentioned them in the introduction, I adore them both think they're, I just think as parents go, you are just raising these two, in my description, I mentioned it, empathetic, kind-hearted, funny, smart, just, I watched the videos, they're like really amazing kids and there's lots of parents creating amazing kids. And you were among them. What faced challenges did you have though? Or do you have as two, not just same-sex male couple, but again, as Jason just mentioned, you're also interracial. You guys are checking a lot of boxes and then you have two children that sort of present visually differently with two dads who look different. I mean you have these boxes. <laugh>

Alvin McCray ([14:05](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

I know lot of boxes

Corey Andrew Powell ([14:06](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

There's a lot of boxes. But you guys are doing such a beautiful job. So how are you navigating all that?

Alvin McCray ([14:11](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Appreciate that. We're just walking in in, we're walking in the path that was set before us. We're not doing anything out of the ordinary. We're just living in our blessing. And I think that as a result, like for instance, a good example would be when we were living in Texas, nothing ever happened to us as far as the kids looking differently. But we always prepare them for that. Roman, they would be in the same circles, there'd be less of Eden and she looks black. So there'd be less of her type in the circle. So we just remind our kids like, you know who you are, but you have to make sure you have each other's back cuz you're going to go in circles where no one's gonna look like Eden. So they may not have the language or the lived experience to associate with Eden. Mm-hmm. <affirmative>. And it's not for their own, it's just their experience. So Roman, you have to always be, make sure you protect her in those environments. So it's more like a, we're more like give them lessons of awareness versus anything that's ever happened to us where we had to like step off. You know? Like would you say my daughter who said my kid, you know, nothing's, thank God nothing's happened to today. I mean Right.

Jason Rudman ([15:08](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

We've heard, I mean there have been people in our circle, right? There have been gay dads in our circle that have experienced that. Yeah. They're like, no. So I just wanna be, to Alvin's point, it has not come to us quite yet explicitly. Right. But I do think, as Alvin said, our role as parents is to our kids, we relate to them as grown kids, grown folk. Like we don't baby them. We figure out age appropriate examples. One of the best ones I think we had is when we were teaching at uh, Roman, at about six, about Martin Luther King. Mm-hmm. <affirmative>. Right. And the lesson was because there was a textbook, ordinary people doing extraordinary things. Mm-hmm. <affirmative>, he read the book, we read the book together and there's an example in there of where, when Martin Luther King was growing up, the kids of color would only get the pool for two hours on a given day.

Jason Rudman ([15:54](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Right. How we related that story to Roman was to say, now if that would happen today, what would happen to you versus what would happen to your system? Yeah. And he immediately started, he's like, I'd be able to use the pool because I present fair. Mm-hmm. <affirmative>. And even wouldn't. And his immediate reaction was, that's not fair. Right. So it's in those age appropriate conversations that you have that they learn how to operate in this world. Mm-hmm. <affirmative> realizing that we teach 'em that life is fair until life isn't fair. Mm-hmm. And how you act when life isn't fair will be the making of you.

Alvin McCray ([16:25](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Which is a frustration why we experience with the, with Florida and the taking, removing rules of parks from the textbook. It's like how do you degrade the value of learning about others' differences and what makes us different? And the challenges that were posed upon folks. Right. Who were different way back when we're not here to protect the fragility of today's youth. We're here to teach today's youth how to be proactive in situations where there are differences and you know what I mean? We know the, the, the headlines. It's just frustrating by.

Jason Rudman ([16:52](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

You can't forget your history. You can't because if you forget your history, you're, you're bound to, you may, you are bound to repeat. Exactly. It's ills. Yeah. In years to come. Yeah.

Corey Andrew Powell ([17:01](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

I've definitely been upset by this notion that today's generation of young white children must be protected from hearing what their ancestors did. <laugh>. It's just bizarre. I mean it's history.

Alvin McCray ([17:11](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

History, you know.

Corey Andrew Powell ([17:12](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

It's history. Yeah. What I always wanted to clarify and I had, I spoke about this in our Black History Month livestream. I said, I wanna make sure that white America understands that black people are not asking you to be guilty. And we're not saying you should be guilty for the sins of your father. We're just asking you to learn about them as Alvin you just mentioned learn about themselves. Future generations do not continue that behavior and repeat history. Right. So that's very disturbing that

Alvin McCray ([17:38](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

And also Corey to appreciate also to appreciate when you see a, an African American doctor or or an African American president to appreciate the struggle and journey that that person had gone through to get to to where they are. Mm-hmm. <affirmative> actually lost on anyone, but specifically not young people today. They should be taught that people of color overcome trials and tribulations and to take that learning away from them really defeats a huge purpose of humanity.

Corey Andrew Powell ([18:05](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Yeah, no that's really, really well put. And it reminds me, I mean in a <laugh> in a more kind of funny way, I remember when NBC did the live version of The Wiz. Yeah. A lot of people were upset people who were not educated as to the musicals in Hollywood. They were on Twitter and one girl said, that's so racist. Can you imagine if they did an all white version of the Wiz?

Alvin McCray ([18:27](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Well, so

Corey Andrew Powell ([18:27](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Let's just sit with that for a moment because that's <laugh>

Alvin McCray ([18:30](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

[inaudible] Just sit with it.

Corey Andrew Powell ([18:32](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Well I'm like that's called the Wizard of Oz and the reason why the Wiz was created was because we weren't invited to be a part of the Wizard of Oz. So we made our own. Right. So

Alvin McCray ([18:42](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

<inaudible>

Corey Andrew Powell ([18:42](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Yeah. It's just kind of funny that history if you don't tell it, people don't understand the context of all those things. But anyway, that's a whole other conversation which I could go on forever but I won't tonight cause we're talking about you and not the racial divide. But you do have that intersectionality. So it's interesting. It does come up. I do wanna know though, how do you prioritize, like in your parenting skills, how do you sort of prepare your kids to go out in the world though when it comes to how they deal with having to express that they have two dads as opposed to now we dealt with the interracial thing where your son who presents white should make sure he understands his sister is okay who looks black but the two dads, how do you deal with that?

Alvin McCray ([19:21](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

I think when they were born they knew what they were born into. We never minced words or minced the process. We talked about it from a very young age, how they came to be the birth mother, the the surrogate, the I V F, the whole process. And we could not mask that. We were too men so it was never an issue or talking to.

Corey Andrew Powell ([19:40](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Right, right.

Alvin McCray ([19:40](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

So their lived experience is that they have two dads. There is no, you have two dads but, or because you have two dads you might want there is no dad. Now we are very well aware and astute that we will wait. We do have language for with if one should come home and be like, I was made fun of because I have two dads. I mean we have empowerment language that, that we would share with them. But I think they handled that pretty well on their own so far.

Jason Rudman ([20:08](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Mm-hmm. <affirmative> My Mrs. Doubtfire moment by the way. Like so I just wanna put it out there.

Corey Andrew Powell ([20:13](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Please tell us. Yes.

Jason Rudman ([20:15](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

If the moment I'm waiting for the moment when one of our kids comes home and says I was bullied or made fun of because I have two dads cuz I will get my furry slippers and my, I will put, you know, the, the Mrs. Doubtfire scene which got the house code on, I have no shame. Right. It will be my moment to show up because that will be so offensive to me on so many levels. Mm-hmm. <affirmative>, I'm reminded of when somebody shared with me who had a kid around our age where they were using the, yo you are gay epithet at school. Mm-hmm <affirmative>. And the teacher said, well Billy don't use the word gay because that's bad. And my immediate reaction was, no, gay is great. Why are we teaching our kids that the word gay is a bad thing. It's not. It's the context of how you're using it. Mm-hmm <affirmative> that we have to teach our kids and our kids are smart. Yeah. Our kids are smart. The reaction to Eden or Roman having two dads, I mean on the baseball field right. This season on the baseball field, what Roman shared with his newfound friends, they have two dads and they were like, oh that is so cool. Yeah. Because

Corey Andrew Powell ([21:20](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Yeah, they were just like going with their lives after that. Right.

Alvin McCray ([21:23](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

The kids today, particularly where we are, kids today have the language. They're exposed to it. Their parents are, I don't like these word progressive cause they may not be progressive, but at least the kids that we used our kids with, they're aware and they're not teach their kids hey and there's no issue. So we tap wood. It's like we've fared pretty well so far with bringing up our kids in the areas that in now granted, granted a large, we're not naive. A large part of this is because we live in a certain socioeconomic di you know, area or dynamic

Corey Andrew Powell ([21:53](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

And a liberal environment too. I mean you're in like sort of like the entertainment capital of America out in Los Angeles. Right.

Alvin McCray ([21:59](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

But when we live in Texas, which is not quite the liberal capital of the world, there's never been an issue where we have to really step out of ourselves to deal with it. Because I think our kids, for the most part, at least I at least we know Roman deals with it very well. Cause there was an incident, not so much an incident, but a girl at school and I think girls just being girls, you know, he is a handsome boy and I think they're just teasing him. And then she said something along like, well you don't have a mom or of the nature. Like there was a, there was a negative statement and he pivoted was like, I don't like was tell me something new. You know what I mean? He was very much like, yeah, that's right. So what else you got <laugh>? Right?

Corey Andrew Powell ([22:33](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Like what, what light are you shedding here already?

Jason Rudman ([22:36](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Right. They simply put, they walk in their truth. Yeah. Because cause we do, how could they not? Right. We as two dads that were purposeful about building a family to deny them their truth means we deny what we actually put on this planet. Exactly. Right? Mm-hmm <affirmative>, you can't do that. Like there's no half stepping, there's no, you can't be half in and half out right about loud. It's about live out loud and live their truth.

Alvin McCray ([22:56](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

And you're not teaching our kids how to become liars either. Cuz once you start denying Yeah. The truth about whether it's your family dynamic or about them themselves, they develop this habit of keeping things close to the breast. Mm-hmm <affirmative> and omitting some truth, which is essentially lying. And so we're not trying to raise any liars about who they are and where they're from. They're very proud about

Corey Andrew Powell ([23:15](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

That is so important. That is important to us here at the NSLS and the Motivational Mondays podcast specifically. Because one thing that comes up often is this notion of you must live in your authenticity and your true self. And it seems like one of those Oprah cliche things. But at the end of the day, all the successful people that I've interviewed here on Motivational Mondays from CEOs to Olympic diver, Greg Louganis to, I mean just a whole range of people. It's that moment when they said this is what I'm working with. This is it. I'm not gonna apologize for it. So people either get it or they don't like and that's the moment when they bring forward all their life.

Alvin McCray ([23:53](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Goodness.

Corey Andrew Powell ([23:54](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Family history, this is who I am. And so you're raising your kids in that way, which is tremendous. And also I wanna ask about when it comes to how you involve them in the greater L G B T Q community, because with that comes a whole sense of community as well of other kids potentially who have same-sex parents, et cetera. I mean, how do they navigate through that world? Are they involved? Are they aware of like charitable efforts you guys are involved with? How do you work with that?

Alvin McCray ([24:19](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

I'll go first cause I'm so proud of my organization that I'm on the board of Family Equality. I talk about it all the time. Family equality.org is an amazing organization that really helps the LGBTQ individuals find a pathway to parenthood. And so when Roman was about used a year and a half year, about a year and a half, we took 'em to P-Town for Family Week, which just happens every year. It's a, uh, annual event

Corey Andrew Powell ([24:43](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

And let's just say people listening. P-Town is Provincetown, Massachusetts an amazing coastal part of Cape Cod, but we're a predominantly L G B T community lives there, happily, wonderfully great community with arts and landscape. Just beautiful, beautiful part. So you take them there for a family week

Alvin McCray ([24:59](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Or a week? We have a week. And so we thought that Roman might be too young to realize what was going on, but he adapted so well. He saw other kids with same sex parents, which is why I think it's important for us to have done that because he's clear about what he sees it at home cuz he sees it out in public. We take him where we can, like we live in Cleveland. We had the uh, L B T Q Day or Gay Pride out in front of our condo where we live in Cleveland. And he was there with his sunglasses on dancing around all these, you know, rainbows and people of multiple persuasions. But this is a lived truth that he's been in. So he is not foreign to him. Eden, we've had a couple opportunities to take her.

Jason Rudman ([25:34](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Yeah. I mean, not much. Cause I, I think our goal right, Corey, is similar to how we should live our life. We should be able to move effortlessly through any lived experience and any experience that we choose. Right. And so for the kids, it's about, it's funny, I was just talking to Roman. So we were going to run the LA Pride run in June Right. Because he wants to run, he likes to run. So we're gonna run that. That'll be his first pride run. Right. So he'll be able to celebrate his dad Right. And his dads as part of that. So I think we are conscious that we don't prevent them mm-hmm. <affirmative> from experiencing that side of who our family is in the same way that we take them to an African American history experience. Right. Or a family reunion. Or a family reunion. Right. The beauty is they show up wherever they show up. Yeah. That's the beauty of them being kids. And they, they don't ask questions about it. They're like, oh, we're here. We're hanging out with the cousins. Great. I've got two dads. Why are we talking about this?

Alvin McCray ([26:31](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

Yep. They make flags, they make artwork at school. Sometimes on holidays you'll see an element of rubbing rainbow flag in some of their designs or just something just so they know. And it lets us know, rather that they understand exactly where they are.

Corey Andrew PowellSpeaker 4 ([26:42](https://www.temi.com/editor/t/CTnXasZDL3hu4TTG3wE8LE8Ava70H1M9uGUYnG6FrY4Odqt7eq4knpJQI-bE9VPk3Bs1ZTRN0uFdBm-m0jFOMHVLtcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink)):

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