

Deadair Dennis (00:00):

Hi, Jim, were you having trouble hearing me just a second ago?

Jim Jefferies (00:03):

I was. I could hear you. How that,

Deadair Dennis (00:04):

Okay. Yeah, I pulled the just put the phone on speaker. I don't know why it wasn't sending you audio. I just did a test and made sure everything worked and it usually works. I use this every day, but no worries. We'll do it this way. So, Hey,

Jim Jefferies (00:14):

I'm sorry about the, so they just told me about the, the wanting to film it. I have stuff they just told me. I'll be honest with you. I, I was the time they call me. I was changing a baby diaper and I'm covered in baby vomit. I just, I couldn't.

Deadair Dennis (00:29):

No worries. That's

Jim Jefferies (00:32):

If you told me a few hours earlier, I, I, I, I, I pulled this time out for such, for this exact call. Ya know?

Deadair Dennis (00:41):

I appreciate it. Appreciate. I kept telling the people if you wanted do either, or I don't know what they tell you, and I don't know what information you're given, but I gave all the options out there. Do not worry about it at all. I'm just glad that you take any time to talk to me.

Jim Jefferies (00:55):

I, I literally just get an email. You gotta phoner here and phoner there, and radio there, and radio there, and you know, I mean, it's just, it's, it, it would've been a whole production to get ready to do a bloody camera thing. You know, I, not that I'm like a lady who takes a long time to get dressed or anything like that. I just if you, saw what I, when I got the text, you would've said no as well,

Deadair Dennis (01:21):

Don't worry, dude. Like I have everything in my house set up just so I can walk in and do video zooms and all that stuff because I have to, I understand the production, everyone else needs to go into to get it done. So do not worry one bit. So alright, let's go ahead. And by the way, how are you, cuz I know you had to postpone because you were in the hospital or had an emergency?

Jim Jefferies (01:43):

No, no, no. I had to postpone some gigs cause my baby had COVID. My wife had COVID and I had symptoms. I had full on symptoms, but I never tested positive. So I don't know whether that was just me being a hyper contract or just willing it in my mind or, or whatever, but maybe, maybe I'm the cure.

Maybe, Fauci he should take my blood and see what he can do with it. Cause, cause I, I, I was being vomited on by a person with COVID, you know,

Deadair Dennis ([02:12](#)):

Hey, you know, dude, I've gotten this far as well and have keep testing negative as well. Maybe they should do take blood from the both of us, mix it together and start handing that out as the vaccine.

Jim Jefferies ([02:22](#)):

Exactly. But I, I, I don't you that, well, maybe that would cause a new virus it's even worse.

Deadair Dennis ([02:28](#)):

Yeah. Take the blood from two drunk comedians and start injecting it into people. Yeah. Everyone's just gonna get surly and even more sick.

Jim Jefferies ([02:36](#)):

Yeah. I, I I'm living my life now. Cause my big concern was baby was the baby. And the baby had two really bad days. Like we're sick, we're sick, sick for a couple of days. But then after that was fine, you know, and it was, it was but like I'm glad we got it outta the way almost, you know, but now, you know, I, I, I, I've been traveling around the country telling jokes, doing meet and greets with people. I'm triple VAX. I, I, my baby's had it. I I'm just living my life. I, I, I wear masks to be respectful of others, but I, I, I'm not worried about anything anymore.

Deadair Dennis ([03:06](#)):

That's good. Yeah. I mean, there is a point where we just kind of have to accept that this is our life. You know, some people have to go back out and do things like we're okay with the delivery drivers going out to work and making a living. Why can't the rest of us go back and out, out there as well? To a degree like, you know, I do mostly my, my works freelance as you know as, a comedian, but two, a lot of my money comes from doing freelance podcast recordings and I deal with so many people that still believe that you can't put two people in a room and safely record a conversation. It's crazy. By the way on that. So I, I didn't know. You had a second kid. Congratulations.

Jim Jefferies ([03:40](#)):

A yeah, a Little COVID baby, you know, I got married and then, and then me and the wife were gonna wait a year and then maybe have one. And then I think he was conceived about two months after we were married. So it was pretty quick.

Deadair Dennis ([03:52](#)):

I was wondering how a cuz he's what about 10 now? So how was he? Nine. Nine? Yeah. How was he handling the how does a nine year old handle the pandemic and masks and stuff like that? Oh,

Jim Jefferies ([04:04](#)):

He hasn't gotten it either, well, he, you know, he was pretty good. We got him vaccinated, all type of stuff. He he handles it pretty good. You know, he, he he's got his mates. Thank God for online gaming. I'll say that mate. You know what I mean? Like that, that kept him connected to all of his friends and, and

you know, all that type of stuff. So, so he's been pretty good with it really. I feel like it's been two years, so, you know, going seven to, nine's a pretty sort of big, big chunk of your childhood, you know?

Deadair Dennis ([04:34](#)):

Yeah.

Jim Jefferies ([04:34](#)):

And, and so, so you try to make it as fun as possible. So we are getting out there we're doing things.

Deadair Dennis ([04:42](#)):

Good. And then did you was there any, I, I, was there any pushback from his mother about the vaccines again, this time around?

Jim Jefferies ([04:50](#)):

Oh, No, no. His mother was, was fine. Yeah. That story slightly embellished anyway.

Deadair Dennis ([04:55](#)):

I'm sure. Yes.

Jim Jefferies ([04:55](#)):

She was fine.

Deadair Dennis ([05:01](#)):

Good. And then I, I'm curious to find out how well did you handle having to keep your kid from home? like zoom learning?" Did you have to go in there and now learn how schools in America works?

Jim Jefferies ([05:13](#)):

Well, I didn't mind. I didn't mind zoom learning. I like having my kid. I always find it weird. Whenever you hear parents go, I can't wait for the kids to get back to school." It's like, am they that much trouble to you? He basically runs his own life. You know, he tells me, oh, I just make sure he is fed. Make sure he is clean and make sure he is doing his homework. You know? But apart from that, I, I take him out the weekends and all that, but he's got his own social life and I stuff, but people always go, can't wait for the kids to go back to school. The bloody school runs a pain in the neck. You have to get em to the bus stop really early. And then they get, they get, you know, school day ends at like 2:30. So my day doesn't end at two 30. It's always, you know, you have to break your day up to go pick 'em up and drop 'em off. So I, I like having him around. I enjoyed the zoom schooling.

Deadair Dennis ([06:03](#)):

That's great to hear because I also was working sound at a comedy club. And again, as a comedian myself, I've been listening to nothing for the past year of comedians doing the same shitty, hacky jokes about not being able to teach your kids on zoom. So it's lovely to hear somebody who has a positive aspect on it. I love it. Thank you.

Jim Jefferies ([06:22](#)):

Well, I wasn't teaching him the school was teaching him, you know, I, I had difficulties. I had to learn how to do long division again, you know, like I know how to do it in my head. I just dunno to carry the one or whatever, you know, but no, no, it was good having him around we'd have lunch together when he was his lunch break. Oh, I like his company. He's, he's my, he's my friend.

Deadair Dennis ([06:44](#)):

Well, speaking of the, you know, having the relearn things, you obviously, as all your fans know, and if they couldn't figure out by your accent, you grew up in Australia, you lived in England, but you also moved to America at some point. And as a comedian who moved from Australia to America who grew up and, you know, you're only a couple years older than me. So you grew up in the eighties and nineties where television between our two countries are vastly different. Now with the internet and everything, you know, you could watch the same programs everywhere. When you moved here to America, did you have to try and refamiliarize not re but familiarize yourself with American comedians and American comedy?

Jim Jefferies ([07:21](#)):

Yes and no, by, by that stage, I was very aware of things. And you know, also by that stage, took the early two thousands DVDs. You could buy anyone specialized, but growing up, I often get asked what comedians influenced you. And the truth is I can't give you an answer that, that you're gonna know who the comedians are because all I saw on Australian TV was Australian comedians. You know? Now I, I, I saw Eddie Murphy delirious. That was a big deal because that was released, released on VHS, but we didn't get HBO specials. You know, my first experience at George Carlin was he was Rufus from Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure. Richard Pryer was an actor to me. You know, we didn't even have, we didn't get Saturday Night Live when I was a kid. So even when you saw something like Wayne's world, you didn't know that it came from a sketch that that didn't sort of register. You know?

Jim Jefferies ([08:13](#)):

And so, so I saw all those, those bill Murray movies and, you know, Dan Aroy and that type of stuff. I, I didn't know, there was a show Saturday Night Live. The comedians never came out to Australia to perform, you know? And not that I would've ever been taken there as a kid, so I, I never had any exposure. So it was just Australian comedians and, and, and Eddie Murphy. But then after that, when I became a comedian and I started, you know, I was a bit, bit wanky to say, study the craft or anything like that. But when I got more into it, you know, obviously people said, oh, you gotta watch this guy. You gotta watch that guy. And that that's when I started watching comedy is really, after I became a comedian,

Deadair Dennis ([08:53](#)):

You have jokes about it, and I'm sure you've met plenty of celebrities in the world. How do you, has there anyone you ever ran into that, that you've been starstruck by? Because I've worked in radio. I worked in, you know, comedy TV, so my life I've met tons of celebrities and I just, in my brain already told myself, don't get Starstruck, just treat 'em like normal people. Was that for you, when you started working in LA, in the entertainment industry, running across people, was there anyone you ever came across that you just got star struck goofy, walked away was just like, I can't believe I did that?

Jim Jefferies ([09:29](#)):

I still get starstruck by meeting celebrities. You know, I've become friends with a couple, not, you know, yeah, look, look, I, I, I, I, I'm friends, I'm friends with Russell Crow. He's, he's a, he's a great guy. And I was star struck when I first met him, you know? And now he's just me mate. You know? So Brad ti came on and was the weather man on my show. And he is just the nicest guy you could ever meet. But I got, you know, you get I a stars struck when I met him. I don't think it goes away. But then the, the, the flip side of the coin, I don't think I get, like, I, it's not, like I can't talk in front of anything stupid like that. You know what I mean?

Deadair Dennis ([10:06](#)):

You're not crying like Michael Jackson fans.

Jim Jefferies ([10:08](#)):

Yeah. They, then I get the flip side of the coin. Sometimes I'll do a meet and greet and people will come up to me and they'll be, they'll start to stutter because they they're stars struck. And I think stars, struck of me? Like, what the fuck? You know what I mean? Like, so, so people have their things. You know? I'm trying to think if there's anyone that I was like, where I was like, it was like, oh, Paul McCartney. I met Paul McCartney at the improv and I could hardly talk, but I, I, I still kept it together and sort of went, "Hey, thanks mate." And he was like, "you are really funny, man. You're really dirty." And I was like, and I just went, "yeah, I, I am," that's all I could get out. You know?

Deadair Dennis ([10:50](#)):

I, this may fall flat because of not knowing Saturday live, but there's a Chris Farley bit where he meets Paul McCartney and the whole thing is him.

Jim Jefferies ([10:56](#)):

Yeah. I love that sketch.

Deadair Dennis ([10:58](#)):

Yeah. It's just that was awesome. Okay. yeah,

Jim Jefferies ([11:03](#)):

That's the fun thing about me. I I've got like 40 seasons of Saturday live to get through. Sometimes I just watch, I watch, I literally just watch a season from 1992 and I'm like, oh, this is great.

Deadair Dennis ([11:15](#)):

Oh yeah. They're putting a lot of old episode or old sketches, like on their YouTube. So sometimes you'll just get a sketch from like eight years ago or a sketch from 18 years ago that just come up on YouTube as new and it's fun and great.

Deadair Dennis ([11:28](#)):

By the way...

Jim Jefferies ([11:30](#)):

I watche them all on Hulu. They're all sitting there.

Deadair Dennis ([11:30](#)):

Oh yeah. There's that too. I, that also reminds since you brought up Paul McCartney, I don't know if you ever heard this story, but he, a couple a year or two ago, two, two or three years ago played with the remaining members of Niana with Kurt Nova and David gro. And I think pat smear yeah. And he gets interviewed afterwards and he goes, yeah, this is a fun thing to do. These guys were great. And they go, Hey, did you know they were in a band called Nirvana? Goes, no, no idea who had who they were. They, they seemed like they knew each other. Yeah. It's just so oblivious to everything. Your comedy's well known for being two things with most audiences, especially mainstream people that know you're tangentially through things, is that you're and you brought it up offensively crass but also very insightful, especially when it comes to like progressive and social political viewpoints. Have you ever found that some of your audiences clash, because some come to you for your viewpoints, some come to your crass?

Jim Jefferies ([12:25](#)):

I've alienated the left and the right. And I, I haven't, I haven't meant to, but I have left wing people who hate me and rightly people who hate me. And I'm just like, I guess that makes me a moderate, I guess, you know?

Deadair Dennis ([12:40](#)):

By the way that chose the comedian brain, you went to you've, you've made the left and right. Hate you not I've made the left and right. Love me. You've made them hate you that's classic comedian brain.

Jim Jefferies ([12:50](#)):

Well, I, no, I hope I've made a lot of moderates, like, look, I have, I have left wing opinions and I have right wing opinions. And I don't even look at 'em like that. I just look at, oh, this is what I think, you know, and I try to on stage, just sort of give it, you know, and there's like I say, on the Jim Jefferies Show, there's things I look back at and I go, yeah, maybe I should have left that alone. Or maybe, you know, the problem with that show was every week you had to talk about something and the problem with being a political pundit or whatever it was, you know if you asked me an opinion on something, I had to give it, I had to go, okay, well, push comes to shove. That's my opinion. But with most people, my opinion on things, that things, that it was my opinion, but I didn't really give a on some of the topics.

Jim Jefferies ([13:37](#)):

You know what I mean? Yeah. I don't give a about there. There's certain things that I don't, and I don't wanna get into it now, because then I have to answer that fucking question. You know what I mean? But, but it's, it's I look, I just, I just, I, when I see certain comics, there's things that say, Dave Chappelle said that I don't agree with, but I still think he's a brilliant comic and, and, you know, for more reports, a really great guy, I don't know the guy. you know what I mean? But it's, I don't have to agree with every single topic he has. And I agree with some of his right wing topics. I agree with some of his don't agree with some of other topics he has. I just think, surely you understand that we're all individuals and you can enjoy a person on a level of, do they make me laugh or don't they, you know? But it turns out that's not the case for many people, many people are all or nothing people, you know, so that person's bad.

Jim Jefferies ([14:29](#)):

That person's good, that person, you know, so it, it, it's not a, like I'm looking at all the comedians who, who are trying to cancel at the moment, you know, a different, different comics. And so, you know, my

friend Jimmy Carr is in hot water at the moment because he, he said a joke on his special, I, I can, I can only tell you this: Jimmy Carr is one of the nicest human beings I've ever met my life. I won't say a bad word about the guy. You know what I mean? And then like the Joe Rogan thing, me and Joe get along fine. I, you know, I don't wanna speak on that matter. You know, it's, it's, it's not up to us to fucking get in trouble for other people all the bloody time either. Yeah. Does that make sense?

Deadair Dennis ([15:10](#)):

Not totally. Makes sense also. And I will say Jimmy Car's Netflix show the fix. I watch that every, I watched an episode of that every night before go bed and that, you know, it's a collection of good, funny, hilarious people and just a good panel formatted show.

Jim Jefferies ([15:25](#)):

I can tell you this, you know, like Bob Saget dies and the whole world comes out and just has story after story, after story about how Bob Saget has helped them or when they were early on. And he helped me early in my career. And he was so supportive. He was a guest star on my two TV shows. He was on the Jim Jefferies show and on the check and he didn't get paid jackshit for that. He got a couple hundred bucks or whatever the union minimum was to be on the show, you know? And, and he just, if you, if, if you need me, I'm there, he'd help you out. He'd give you if you'd give you everything that Blake, he's just the nicest fella in the world. And I dunno if the public knew how nice a person he was until he passed away.

Jim Jefferies ([16:06](#)):

And I'll tell you this about Jimmy Carr. If he, when he he's as nice Bob Saget, it's the same thing. When Jimmy car dies there won't be a, there won't be many people who say a bad word about the guy. He, he, he supports young comics. He he, he, he helps you out. If you are having a bit of trouble, he's always the first to reach out to you and make sure you're okay. If comics visit Britain from overseas famous comics, he always takes him out to lunch and takes him to the best clubs and stuff like that. So they feel welcome. Furthermore. He was joking. What Whoopy Goldberg said was much more offensive and, and seriously ignorant and stupid. And she look, this is a lady who's had a history of, of, of asking fucking Ted Dancing to do blackface. She changed to Goldberg, right? And to now say that I wasn't about race because they were both white people. And she got a two week suspension. When, when what's the name? Sharon Osborne, who I've had run-ins with Sharon myself. I'm no big Sharon Osborne fan. Right? But Sharon Osborn, she she defended Pierce Morgan and she's off forever. So I, I just dunno what the, the standard is now. Who's, you know, I feel the left and the right are being a bunch of fuckwits now.

Deadair Dennis ([17:26](#)):

Yeah. They just keep moving the line back and forth. You don't know where the line is.

Jim Jefferies ([17:29](#)):

I'm not excusing what people, one rule for all, or one rule for none. You know, I, I dunno, there is conversation for me even saying this it will get you in trouble with some people. It will.

Deadair Dennis ([17:40](#)):

Yeah. Well, hopefully those people don't listen to this podcast. So What Do You Really Do? Going back to a little bit lighter of a subject talking about your fans. Have you ever met one where you're like, oh, I really wish you were not my fan. I really wish you weren't here watching me with such excitement?

Jim Jefferies ([17:56](#)):

Yeah. Well, you get that of course. Cause there's, you know, like let's say I have over the world, a million fans of people who have bought tickets to see me or whatever, you know, I, I've played to, at least that amount of people that have bought tickets, you know, and you know, they're not all gonna, I, I, I have to assume that I've performed in front of a serial killer or two and a few pedophiles and you know what I mean? Like, it's a, it's a weird question to ask if all my are good people, basically it's impossible.

Deadair Dennis ([18:29](#)):

It's just John Wayne Gacy in, in clown makeup and, and panty hose listening to intolerable, just putting on lipstick. Like, oh, I can't wait to eat somebody tonight.

Jim Jefferies ([18:39](#)):

Of course you going to have a few. I'm sure there are a few people that I'm fans of that don't want me to voice that. I'd rather, you just kept your mouth shut about me actually. Don't, don't pop in.

Deadair Dennis ([18:58](#)):

Okay. And I'm you brought up your show the Jim Jefferies Show. So, which, by the way, before I even talk about that show Legit I heard heard of you before legit, but I really didn't become a huge fan of you like know you and, and digest your material until I saw legit second season on FXX was great. The show was amazing.

Jim Jefferies ([19:18](#)):

Yeah. The, the second season, I think, took a big leap forward. I'm very proud of that. I like the first season, the second season I'm I'm so I got, I got, I got more heavily involved in the production and the writing and the, this and that, you know, you know, heavily involved in all of it. But I sort of, I sort of I, I, it was more my vision of what I wanted the second season and third season, we were ready to go, I have the scripts ready to go and people ask me, they go, right. Will that show ever come back? And the answer is now no, because Billy should be dead. You know, we had, we had a character from season one that was dying and now it's eight years later. And so we, we can't really bring it back, you know? But me Dan and DJ, the three main actors in the thing, we're all still incredibly close to three of us. You know, it was, it was a very happy set that sense that the actors and the crew we all got along, you know, there was, there was moments with people or whatever with any workplace. But but for the most part, there was a lot of love on that set, you know, and I missed that show deeply.

Deadair Dennis ([20:26](#)):

That's good to hear it. Well, I was gonna say...

Jim Jefferies ([20:29](#)):

I will say about, I will say people gimme in all that type of stuff. You know, if you look back on those episodes, all, all 26 of them, I don't believe that there was ever in any format on any TV show ever disabled people were represented better than on that show.

Deadair Dennis ([20:48](#)):

Thousand percent correct.



Jim Jefferies ([20:49](#)):

So people were weren't given sympathy. They were given laughs and in a dignified way. And even if they were being teased, they were teas in each other or something like that. I don't believe there was anything in there that I'm ashamed of and with how we dealt with the disabled community. And I think now when you talk about, we need more what's the word when you diversity, right? And you're talking about even like, they talk about like, oh, we need different people, sexuality, different race, different that different, this different that, the disabled community hasn't been spoken for in that conversation. We Haven said that they need to be, you know, represented a lot better, not once. So, you know, I think that was something good we did.

Deadair Dennis ([21:35](#)):

And you know what? You beat me to the punch of the question that, which was gonna be about how you have a lot of you featured respectfully a lot of disabled actors. So this is the reminding me of the question to write for the answer that you just gave me. So great job being a good Interviewee.

Jim Jefferies ([21:49](#)):

Well, I'll, I'll tell you what about disabled people? It was never a plan. It was something that happened organically. We had one disabled character was a main character that was based from someone from my personal life. And then, you know, he had to live in a home for an episode and for him to live in a, we had to populate the, the, the world, you know, and then Nick Daley who played Rodney in the special Nick was a dream. You know, we, we didn't, we, we, all we had was one disabled character that lived in the same room as Billy in the home. You know what I mean? And we wanted him to be funny and that type of stuff. And we auditioned so, so many people, and it's such a tough thing to say, you know, this, this person's gonna be making jokes, sometimes sexual jokes or dirty jokes, stuff like that.

Jim Jefferies ([22:37](#)):

And most people, they had to come in with their parents, you know, and help or carers. And, and, and I thought, what are we doing then Nick Daley walks through the room, man, that guy, he doesn't know how funny he is. Like, you could just feed him lines and he'd say him just verbatim. And then, you know, he wouldn't, he wouldn't bother. And still to this day, me and Nick are still mates. He came to me show at the ACE theater a couple of months ago. And you know, I, it's sad for me that that shows over, but I'm more sad that the show's over for Nick. Yeah. You know, when you, when you're, I almost teared up, then I'm sorry. I always, always, yeah,

Deadair Dennis ([23:18](#)):

No please be, be open and emotional man. I, I can imagine, you know, when you're first on the call sheet, creating something you're also responsible for providing jobs and a living for people. And also there is you're creating, you know, a lifestyle for people as well because a community you're bringing people together.

Jim Jefferies ([23:38](#)):

Yeah. I felt that on the Jim Jefferies Show. Sometimes you'd get, you know, a writer that was angry at me for one joke you're told, or you'd get, you'd get people who thought not after their jokes got on or kruer. And it's like, I was stressed out a lot. I think people thought that, that, you know, when the show's called the Jim Jefferies Show that like you are the boss, you know, but I, I, I was hyper conscious that my

performance how good my performance is, kept everyone employed. You know what I mean? I was fighting for everyone's jobs all the time, you know? So I, I, I was well aware of that the whole time.

Deadair Dennis ([24:17](#)):

The last question is, of course, you're coming here to Boston to the box center. You've just started back up your tour. I think you're hitting the road like four days with DC. Right? I believe so. Yeah. Yeah. but of course, you'll be here in Boston at the box out February 26th. So it's a new tour you've been out for, out of the game for a little while. I'm sure you've collected a lot of good material with the pandemic and life.

Jim Jefferies ([24:40](#)):

I have to trim the show down. I got too much material.

Deadair Dennis ([24:42](#)):

Perfect.

Jim Jefferies ([24:42](#)):

I went for two and a half hours other night on stage of all new stuff. And I was like, ah fuck. Cause I've had too much time to think about this.

Deadair Dennis ([24:50](#)):

You were pent up with all your comedy.

Jim Jefferies ([24:52](#)):

Stuff. I, I wrote two hour, two years of material. It normally takes me a year to write an hour. Didn't work for two years. I wrote two, you know, and then you're now I'm in the third year of COVID, I'm writing another hour. So it is what its the good thing is, you know, you can start weeding out the jokes. They're a bit mild. And you know, I, I, I think it's the tightest show I've ever had. Like for laughs per minute, I think this is the tightest show I've ever had.

Deadair Dennis ([25:17](#)):

Excellent. I'm looking forward to seeing it.

Jim Jefferies ([25:19](#)):

Thanks mate.

Deadair Dennis ([25:20](#)):

Awesome. Well, Jim was really great talking. I very appreciate all the time that you gave and how willing to participate you were and how open you were. So I'm gonna let you go back to changing diapers and being with your family. And I look forward to seeing you at the end of the month here in Boston.

Jim Jefferies ([25:36](#)):

I appreciate it, mate. I appreciate it.