

“When I got out of the fucking Poconos and came to Brooklyn, I decided to run my own party. I hooked up with my friend Val and we started a party at some pro-dom[inatrix] space in the city... Lisa Cannistraci, who owns Henrietta Hudson and who used to manage Crazy Nanny’s, had a bar in park slope called Sanctuary Lounge. She let me throw a night in her bar which I called *Spanktuary* on like a Wednesday night. Basically, if you got handcuffed to the bar you could drink for free and I convinced some of my friends to come in there and we’d do shit on the pool table.

I’d collect email addresses at that event and go to Staples at like two-in-the-morning and fucking print flyers out. We’d cut them ourselves and go to every woman’s dance party around and physically talk to each person, hand them a flier, and make them come to my party. I’ve been using the same line to make people come to my party as I used yesterday with a trans barber who has never been to a sex party before. They told me they’re terrified. I said, ‘What are you terrified of? Are you afraid women are going to jump on you? I’ve been trying to get women to fuck each other for twenty years!’ (Laughing) Not happening! I said, ‘What you’re afraid of is that you’ve never been in a sexual environment without cis-gendered men there. It’s not threatening, it’s fun, you don’t feel weird. You can watch.’ And on top of that I have a wristband system, which I created to make people talk to each other. Because I found out that the one thing women would always ask is whether or not someone else had a girlfriend and I’m like, ‘Why the fuck do you care? You’re at a sex party!’ But it’s not about that, they don’t want to be rejected! You know what I mean? The reason someone rejects you sexually eighty percent of the time has nothing to do with you. Especially with women.

I had a lot of back-lash for letting trans men into *Submit*. I would fight back against that, saying, ‘From my personal experience trans men and cis men energetically have a completely different feel in a sex space.’ I can tell a cis man walking down into a sex space within five minutes even if they’re presenting in a feminine way. If a trans man walked down there and a cis man walked down there and they both have beards and look the same it’s not the way that they look, it’s the way that they look at everybody else and I can see it a mile away. So, I had to tell the lesbians of the ‘90s that energetically it’s not the same and so our gender policy at that point was that if you’re trans and feel that you have a place in the women’s community you’re welcome! But if you’re a trans guy who identifies as a guy and you want to identify as a straight man then don’t come and it’s up to you to say who you are. So, if you see someone at the party that looks like a dude with a beard you should assume he’s a trans guy who feels he has a place in the women’s community and don’t worry about it!

That was challenging for some, but not for me. I had no problem with it. I’ve changed my gender policy like four times in the last two years...”

Red Robinson, 2020