

BUDDY Oh, yeah. Lynn Lavner and that festive little neighborhood of mine and Merry Christmas. Mary, M-A-R-Y. Merry
JOHNSTON: Mary. Mary Christmas, is that right?

KAY OSTERG: Sure, why not?

BUDDY Have you seen Mary's?

JOHNSTON:

KAY OSTERG: No, but I've heard all about it.

BUDDY It looks like a gingerbread house. It is the cutest thing.

JOHNSTON:

KAY OSTERG: How wonderful.

BUDDY Merry Christmas from the After Hours Crew. And they're all getting ready to bring you after hours. Starts up here
JOHNSTON: in just a second. We've been here since about 1 o'clock courtesy of Jay Lee and the Musical Curfew folks. We've got a great show for you this morning. So stay tuned.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

MAN: We regret that the following material has been censored to comply with the Federal Communication Commission's April 16th 1987 ruling, which greatly expanded the types of programming it considers sensitive and/or offensive. The Pacifica Foundation and KPFT have always been on the cutting edge, upholding the right to freedom of speech and the expression of diverse ideas and cultures. Pacifica is appealing the FCC's decision in federal court and can use your support in this matter.

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ANNOUNCER: The following program contains language or images of a frank or sensitive nature that may be considered objectionable by some. Listener discretion is advised.

[HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING]

NARRATOR: The disorders began with a routine police raid on a homosexual bar, The Stonewall, on Christopher Street.

CROWD: (CHANTING) Say it loud! Say it proud!

MAN: We take great pride in what's happened in the gay community and what's going to happen.

REPORTER: People of Dade County have said, enough, enough, enough.

CROWD: (CHANTING) Human rights are here to stay! Anita Bryant, go away!

MAN: There's no question in my mind that the people of California don't want homosexuals teaching in the classroom.

MAN: State Senator John Briggs has just conceded the election.

REPORTER: Both Mayor Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk have been shot and killed.

REPORTER: Dan White has been found guilty of one count each of voluntary manslaughter.

CROWD: (CHANTING) Fight now! Fight back!

MAN: It has now broken loose. Cops are now bashing heads.

MAN: And here comes the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

REPORTER: Gay power, gay politics. That's what this report is about.

REPORTER: There are gay and lesbian people singing out here. What's your reaction to that?

WOMAN: I think it's terrible. If I had a rock, I'd throw it at them.

WOMAN: The real message of these gay games is that every one of us is a winner.

WOMAN: Tonight, we are marching, as are others across America. And we shouldn't have to be.

ROBIN TYLER: Come on and say it so they can hear you in the Capitol! For love and for life, we're not going back! For love and for life, we're not going back! For love and for life, we're not going back! For love and for life, we're not going back!

WOMAN: I think that's Robin Tyler on the stage leading the chant, for love or for life, we're not going back.

LEA DELARIA AND BRUCE HOPKINS: Good afternoon, and welcome to the National March on Washington DC for Gay and Lesbian Rights and Choral Reciting!

[CHEERING]

LEA DELARIA: Let's hear it out there!

[CHEERING]

LEA DELARIA: I'm Lea Delaria.

BRUCE HOPKINS: I'm Bruce Hopkins.

LEA DELARIA: I'm a dyke!

BRUCE HOPKINS: I'm a faggot!

LEA DELARIA AND BRUCE HOPKINS: And we're best friends!

[CHEERING]

WOMAN: I want you to savor this next moment. I have the proud task of telling you that the official count of the Lesbian and Gay Rights March, the official count is over 500,000 strong! 500,000 strong! Look at you! 500,000 strong!

[CHEERING]

500,000 strong. One of the largest marches in United States history!

[CHEERING]

One of the largest marches in United States history! 500,000 strong.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

WOMAN: You may all come out.

MAN: We must destroy the myths once and for all, shatter them. We must continue to speak out. And most importantly, most importantly, every gay person must come out.

[CHEERING]

Difficult as it is, you must tell your immediate family. You must tell your relatives. You must tell your friends if indeed they are your friends. You must tell your neighbors. You must tell the people you work with. You must tell the people in the stores you shop in. You--

[CHEERING]

Once they realize that we are indeed their children and we are indeed everywhere, every myth, every lie, every innuendo, will be destroyed once and for all. And once you do, you will feel so much better.

[CHEERING]

CROWD: (CHANTING) Gay rights!

WOMAN: When do we want them?

CROWD: (CHANTING) Now!

WOMAN: What do we want?

CROWD: (CHANTING) Gay rights!

WOMAN: When do we want them?

CROWD: (CHANTING) Now!

WOMAN: What do we want?

CROWD: (CHANTING) Gay rights!

WOMAN: When do we want them?

CROWD: (CHANTING) Now!

WOMAN: What do we want?

CROWD: (CHANTING) Gay rights!

WOMAN: When do we want them?

CROWD: (CHANTING) Now!

WOMAN: What do we want?

CROWD: (CHANTING) Gay rights!

WOMAN: When do we want them?

CROWD: (CHANTING) Now!

WOMAN: What do we want?

CROWD: (CHANTING) Gay rights!

WOMAN: When do we want them?

CROWD: (CHANTING) Now!

WOMAN: What do we want?

CROWD: (CHANTING) Gay rights!

MAN: Harvey, do you have a few words for KPFA?

HARVEY: Come on out. Join us. Bring your friends.

MAN: What do you think about the turnout so far?

HARVEY: Well, it's never enough. Never enough. Never enough.

MAN: And I ask people all over this country to do one thing. Come out. Come out, America. Come out.

BUDDY We're queer.

JOHNSTON:

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Are we? Are we, Judy?

KAY OSTERG: Absolutely. Is Anybody out there?

BUDDY They're there.

JOHNSTON:

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

KAY OSTERG: Awfully quiet, little mice.

JIMMY CARPER: Merry Christmas.

BUDDY Merry, merry Christmas, Mary.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Thank you, Helen.

BUDDY Louise.

JOHNSTON:

KAY OSTERG: Thought your name was Blanche.

BUDDY Blanche. Listen, you know what I want Santa Claus to bring me for Christmas this year?

JOHNSTON:

[INTERPOSING VOICE]

JIMMY CARPER: Hairy chest.

BUDDY What?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: A hairy chest.

BRUCE REEVES: A man with a hairy chest, hairy chest.

KAY OSTERG: Uh-oh.

BUDDY Turn them off? No. A guy with a hairy chest about between 5' 4" and 5' 8". Well, never mind.

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE REEVES: Leaves me out. Thank God.

BUDDY Who was that?

JOHNSTON:

MAN: We don't--

BRUCE REEVES: Big Bruce!

BUDDY OK. We got a lot to cram at you this morning. Do you remember these?

JOHNSTON:

CROWD: Yes.

BUDDY This is a little gold-colored condom that we threw in the parade at you last year. And if you want one of these,

JOHNSTON: call me right now at 526-4000. These are the little rubbers. Can you say rubbers? I guess you can--

KAY OSTERG: You can now.

BUDDY --because I just did. These are the rubbers we threw in the parade last year. They say, Gay and Lesbian Radio

JOHNSTON: *After Hours* on them. So give us a call at 526-4000, and we'll--

JIMMY CARPER: Got too many of those--

BUDDY --throw one of those that you. It's going to be a great show, so stay with us. Right?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Right.

KAY OSTERG: Right.

BUDDY Right.

JOHNSTON:

[MUSIC PLAYING]

MICHAEL CALLEN: Michael Callen. And we're living in war, W-A-R, war time. We'll tell you all about it. Stay tuned. This is *After Hours*, radio celebrating life from the heart of Montrose coming at you live. Live and in queer color. Can you say, "queer color?" Yeah, we just did.

[CROWD NOISES]

JAN SLUZER: The protest had actually been going on for a couple months. But the culmination came with the demonstration in front of the studios of KRON Television, the local NBC affiliate. About 100 demonstrators, members of a group called ACT UP, were protesting a segment of the TV series *Midnight Caller*, a show which focused on an AIDS-afflicted bisexual man who knowingly infected his one-night-stand lovers.

At the beginning of *Midnight Caller*, radio talk show host Jack Killian gets a call from a former girlfriend who is pregnant and has also tested HIV positive after her tryst with the AIDS-infected bisexual. She asked Killian, a former policeman, to track down Michael Barnes. Killian goes from bar to bar with Barnes' picture in hand.

JACK KILLIAN: Maybe I just want to understand.

BAR PATRON: A man's education is a lifetime of learning, pal. We're talking about political statements, personal liberation, if you can understand that.

JACK KILLIAN: Mike Barnes left his lover to die alone. Now, that's some political statement. And I got a friend who's probably going to die of AIDS because of Mike Barnes. Now, where is the liberation in that? You tell me.

JAN SLUZER: Ever since the script of the episode was brought to the attention of ACT UP, the coalition had been working to get the show canceled. Failing that, they tried working with the show's producers in an attempt to eliminate script inaccuracies. ACT UP spokesperson Terry Beswick organized last night's demonstration.

TERRY BESWICK: They were not hearing our demands. We felt that they were insensitive and didn't understand our position that this misrepresentation of people with AIDS, people with HIV, will increase violence.

JAN SLUZER: Through negotiations with the show's producers, ACT UP managed to get this line written into the script.

**MIDNIGHT
CALLER
CHARACTER:** Mike is an exception, an aberrant, not the rest of us.

JAN SLUZER: When Killian catches up with Barnes, the bisexual is about to seduce his third victim.

**MICHAEL
BARNES:** Why can't you understand it's my life? It's all I have left of my life. And I am simply going to make the best of the time that I have.

JAN SLUZER: The portrayal of Michael Barnes as an irresponsible hedonist was another sore point with the ACT UP coalition. Dr. David Werdegar, director of San Francisco's public health department, was also troubled by the show's inaccuracies.

**DAVID
WERDEGAR:** The other thing that I deeply resented in the movie was the depiction of the gay community and this fellow leaving his lover. If there was anything in our community that characterized our community, it's the responsibility of the gay community.

JAN SLUZER: This is Jan Sluzer for KQED radio news.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

**BUDDY
JOHNSTON:** At a time when we're being told what we can't do, *Terrific Sex in Fearful Times* tells us what we can do. Brooks Peters is a writer whose work has appeared in *Vanity Fair*, *New York*, and *Omni* along with *Playgirl* magazine. He lives in New York City and has recently published a new book called *Terrific Sex in Fearful Times*. And joining us by telephone from New York is Brooks Peters. Brooks, can you tell me why you wrote *Terrific Sex in Fearful Times*?

**BROOKS
PETERS:** The reason I wrote the book was that I got sick and tired of people telling me that sex was dangerous and that sex was causing AIDS. And that that's why they were so afraid to have sex. And I think it's important for people to remember that it's not sex that causes AIDS. It's a virus. And that there are thousands of ways to enjoy sex that don't include exchanging the virus.

And we're living in a period where people are refraining from sex and a lot of people going back into the closet because they're too afraid to confront sex. They're told that it's dangerous and that they could die if they have it. And that just isn't true. And I wanted to inform people of the variety of experiences they can have that are still hot and erotic and perfectly safe.

**BUDDY
JOHNSTON:** Being part of the gay community, we've been faced with sex and safe sex brochures and safe sex literature until we're about ready to scream. Why would we want to pick your book up on the shelf as compared to a lot of other books around regarding safe sex?

**BROOKS
PETERS:** Essentially, this is the first book that tells you what you can do rather than what you can't do. And it talks about sex in a very positive, very uplifting, very loving way. And it's not clinical. It's not scientific. It applies to every person. And it's a hell of a lot of fun.

BUDDY There's talk that during the late '60s and early '70s, we were living in the so-called sexual generation. Do you
JOHNSTON: think that people are still having or enjoying sex as much as they did in the late '60s, early '70s? That period of time that you and I grew up in.

BROOKS No, I don't think-- I think people are still having as much sex as they used to have. I don't think they're enjoying it
PETERS: as much. And I hope that if by reading this book or other books like it, they can learn to appreciate sex again, put the joy back into sex. Then you know that I've contributed something.

BUDDY Talking to Brooks Peters, author of *Terrific Sex in Fearful Times*. And Brooks, if you had a message for our
JOHNSTON: listeners this morning on *After Hours*, what would that message be?

BROOKS Enjoy sex. Treat it as an adventure. Don't run away from it. But be sensible and be very honest with yourself
PETERS: about what your sexual needs are. And learn everything you can about how AIDS is contracted. And don't let the fear overwhelm you.

BUDDY The name of the book, again, *Terrific Sex in Fearful Times*. Talking to Brooks Peters from New York. And we'll be
JOHNSTON: back in a moment. This is *After Hours* on KPFT.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

(SINGING) After hours. After hours.

BUDDY What's that?
JOHNSTON:

BART LOESER: It's a safe sex kit.

BUDDY A what?
JOHNSTON:

BART LOESER: Safe sex kit.

BUDDY A safe sex kit? Mm-hm. So what is in a safe sex kit?
JOHNSTON:

BART LOESER: Basically, it's a-- as we describe it, a luscious assortment of different types of condoms and--

BUDDY Luscious?
JOHNSTON:

BART LOESER: Yeah, you get a chance to try out all sorts of different types of condoms. Because condoms come in different sizes, shapes, colors. And really, what's right for one person may not necessarily be just the right fit for another. So we offer them a lot of different types to play with and try on and see what they like best.

BUDDY Bart Loeser joining us from the AIDS Foundation, Houston, right?
JOHNSTON:

BART LOESER: Yes.

BUDDY This is called live radio.

JOHNSTON:

BART LOESER: OK.

BUDDY And you have some safe sex kits for us this morning, right?

JOHNSTON:

BART LOESER: Right. What we've done in conjunction with the safe sex workshops that I've organized for the foundation is we put together different types of kits that will incorporate the use of different types of condoms to give people a chance to learn about the different types that there are and how to enjoy different types of condoms and how to play with them and get comfortable with them. As well as learn what type of lubricants are appropriate to use with condoms.

One of the problems that people seem to have with condoms is they feel that they are not very safe because they break on them. And generally though, the reason why condoms break is because they aren't used correctly. And one of the things I discuss in my workshops is what we call proper condom wear, which is how to put on a condom correctly and what type of lubricants to use.

Many people will just use whatever is at hand. That may be Vaseline or hand cream or whatever happens to be there on the shelf. And they've got to realize if they're going to be using condoms, they have to use the right type of lubricant, which is a water-based, water soluble type lubricant, something such as KY jelly or Surgilube or-- some products, there's ForPlay and Probe and Astroglide. There's all sorts of different products that are water-based.

BUDDY Astroglide?

JOHNSTON:

BART LOESER: They can be a lot of fun.

BUDDY Bruce, is that familiar brand?

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE REEVES: No, that was Mr. Hess.

MR. HESS: It's my favorite.

BUDDY Is it really?

JOHNSTON:

MR. HESS: Except it comes in too small a container.

BUDDY Does it really?

JOHNSTON:

MR. HESS: Yeah.

BUDDY Oh well.

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE REEVES: Is it made by the same people who make AstroTurf?

[LAUGHTER]

KAY OSTERG: That sounds scary, guys.

BUDDY You can get down on the AstroTurf and do it. That should be--

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE REEVES: Do we get a demonstration?

BUDDY Oh, hush.

JOHNSTON:

BART LOESER: Well, it's funny you should mention AstroTurf. Because AstroTurf is made out of petroleum products, which are just the opposite of what you should be using. Because anything that is oil-based, like your Vaseline or anything with vegetable oils or any Crisco or anything like that, can be dangerous. Because it breaks down the elasticity of the condom and can--

BUDDY So-- I'm sorry.

JOHNSTON:

BART LOESER: Oh, well, it just breaks down the condom, so it makes it much weaker. And that's generally the reasons why they do break.

BUDDY Will you come back after January and let's talk a lot, like for an hour or so, about safe sex and what we can and

JOHNSTON: can't do?

BART LOESER: I'd love to. And you know--

BUDDY Cause you've got--

JOHNSTON:

[LAUGHTER]

BUDDY Kay, what's funny about that?

JOHNSTON:

KAY OSTERG: Just the look of glee on your face.

BUDDY On my face?

JOHNSTON:

KAY OSTERG: On your face.

BUDDY Well, see, I think safe sex is a joke. Because back when I did it, it was called-- you were called boring. You know
JOHNSTON: what I mean? Because there are things that you don't do. And there are certain things I haven't done most of my life. And now, it's fashionable and called safe sex.

BART LOESER: Well, that's what my workshops are all about is you mention the word "boring," which is what most people think of when they think of safe sex.

BUDDY But that's not true, right?

JOHNSTON:

BART LOESER: Not at all. Just as we were discussing with Brooks Peters, and he was talking about how we're making sex fun again and taking the fear of AIDS out of our sexual lives.

BUDDY Right.

JOHNSTON:

BART LOESER: And that's what I do with my workshops. It's addressing those fears and teaching people that we do have a lot of concrete facts now about AIDS. We know how it's transmitted and how it isn't and what they can do that's safe and a lot of fun. And we also help them expand their sex lives so they can have a lot of fun with safe sex. And the last thing you'd ever call it was boring.

BUDDY If anyone's interested in having one of these workshops, how can they get a hold of you right now?

JOHNSTON:

BART LOESER: They can call me at AIDS Foundation Houston. My number is 623-6796. And we are listed in the book. And you can also call the AIDS Hotline, which is 524-AIDS.

BUDDY Unlike the number that channel two gave out the other night after *Midnight Caller*, which was wrong.

JOHNSTON:

BART LOESER: Right. That was wrong.

BUDDY Some poor guy probably got a million calls.

JOHNSTON:

BART LOESER: We tried to reach them beforehand, but it wasn't quite soon enough.

BUDDY And we got a couple of safe sex kits we can give away tonight?

JOHNSTON:

BART LOESER: Yes, I brought two safe sex kits here tonight.

BUDDY Great. If you would like one, what would you say?

JOHNSTON:

MAN: I want one.

BUDDY Shut up. You can't have one.

JOHNSTON:

KAY OSTERG: I want to know if they're multi--

BUDDY I thought--

JOHNSTON:

KAY OSTERG: --made for the women too.

BART LOESER: These are for either sex.

BUDDY I thought that was an Alka-Seltzer, but it's a condom.

JOHNSTON:

KAY OSTERG: Excuse me, what is it?

BRUCE REEVES: Oh, what a relief.

BUDDY It's a condom. Hush. So you'll come back though after the first of the year, right?

JOHNSTON:

BART LOESER: Yes, and I wanted to mention if they are interested in the workshops, do give me a call at the foundation. We can set workshops. Or if you want to host a home workshop for your friends, we can do that. And I can come out and take all my things out there and discuss it.

BUDDY All your things?

JOHNSTON:

BART LOESER: Also--

BRUCE REEVES: Oh, so a Tupperware party.

BART LOESER: Oh, yes. It's just like a Tupperware party. We have a lot of fun, and you learn a lot.

BUDDY OK, if you'd like the safe sex kit right now, give us a call at 526-4000. We got a couple of these to give away. Bill
JOHNSTON: Travis is standing by on the phone from Dallas to give us a report about something that's going on up in Dallas. And it looks like we've got two calls right now. 526-4000, that's the number. But I think we've got the winners of the safe sex kits. And Bart, you want to stick around and talk with us about AIDS and so on and so forth as we get into this conversation? Because it's going to get pretty deep.

BART LOESER: Oh sure, I'd love to. And also, beyond these two, we also have these kits available at AIDS Foundation Houston. And they are tax-free.

BUDDY OK.

JOHNSTON:

BART LOESER: Or tax deductible donations for \$5.

BUDDY Great, great. OK, and we'll be back in just a second.

JOHNSTON:

[MUSIC PLAYING]

(SINGING) After hours. After hours.

BUDDY Going to go to Bill Travis, I believe, in Dallas. Is that right?

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: Yes.

BUDDY What are you doing, sexy?

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: Just sitting here talking to you on the phone.

BUDDY Is this phone sex?

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: Something like that.

BUDDY Do you want a safe sex kit?

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: Sure.

BUDDY We already gave them away.

JOHNSTON:

[LAUGHTER]

BILL TRAVIS: I'm too late, huh?

BUDDY Friends and family can't qualify.

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: Oh, well.

BUDDY Hey, Bill's with *Lambda Weekly*?

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: Yes.

BUDDY At KNON in Dallas?

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: 89.3 FM, Sundays Can? Can?

BUDDY We're talking about AIDS and homophobia and all the attacks that were involved in this week. Can you tell us

JOHNSTON: what's going on in Dallas, Bill?

BILL TRAVIS: Well, we just had a double execution style murder here in Dallas back in May. And a high school student from Mesquite, Texas was put on trial. And he was given only a 30-year sentence because the judge said that basically that the gay men deserved to die because they were out picking up high school students.

BUDDY You can say "queers."

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: Queers, that's good.

BUDDY Isn't that what he said?

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: Judge did, so I guess that's fair to say.

BUDDY Yeah. How's the gay community reacting in Dallas?

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: Well, the gay community in Dallas has been thoroughly and totally outraged as well as the gay communities across America. We've gotten calls from all over the country. I was working the hotline today, and we received calls from New York, Miami, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Seattle. The list goes on and on. People have heard about it, and they're just shocked and amazed that a man like this could sit and be a judge.

BUDDY Isn't he up for re-election?

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: 1990.

BUDDY Does it look like he's going to get re-elected?

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: Well, at this point, no. But are we on the air right now?

BUDDY Yes, sir.

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: OK, well, I'd like to tell everybody that's listening to go ahead and get a pencil and a piece of paper. Because I've got a couple of addresses for you to write to.

BUDDY OK, grab a pen and a piece of paper, please, and hang on. What's the status of the trial again? Or is that--

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: OK, the defendant, Richard Lee Bednarski, was sentenced to 30 years in prison. The prosecution had recommended life in prison. But the judge said, no, that's a little bit too stiff because all he did was kill a couple of queers. And that's the judge's own words.

BUDDY Uh-huh.

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: So what we're encouraging people to do is to write to the state judicial conduct board. Because in Texas, there is no provision for recall of judges.

BUDDY Uh-huh. And you have those addresses for us?

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: Yes, I do. The person you need to write to is Robert C. Flowers.

BUDDY Robert C. Flowers.

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: That's the State Committee on Judicial Conduct.

BUDDY State Committee on Judicial Conduct, yeah.

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: Post office box.

BUDDY PO box.

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: 1-2-2.

BUDDY 1-2-2. I'm sorry.

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: 12265.

BUDDY 12265.

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: Capitol Station.

BUDDY Capitol Station.

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: Austin, Texas.

BUDDY Austin, Texas.

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: 78711.

BUDDY 78711. Robert C. Flower, State Commission on Judicial Conduct.

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: Right.

BUDDY PO box 12265, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas, 78711. If you missed that phone number, give us a call here at ~~a~~*After*
JOHNSTON: *Hours*, and we'll hang on to it. And we'll make sure that the switchboard has that number for you also. Bill, you're involved with the March on Austin?

BILL TRAVIS: Right.

BUDDY How's that coming?

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: Oh, moving right along.

BUDDY OK, we'll see you there?

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: You will see me there.

BUDDY OK, hang on just a second, would you?

JOHNSTON:

BILL TRAVIS: OK.

BUDDY We were talking earlier before the show about something that was going on in Alabama also. And with a report

JOHNSTON: on that, here's Matt with the *Mobile Press Register*, the paper, I guess, in Mobile, Alabama, right?

MATT: OK, this story is Dateline, Birmingham, Alabama. And it was published on the 13th, which was last Tuesday. And it starts, three Jefferson County district judges deny that they violated the rights of AIDS-infected defendants when they asked them to enter pleas and hear sentences by telephone rather than appear in court.

But attorneys and civil libertarians say defendants who are infected with the deadly disease should be able to appear in court like anyone else. This is a quote, "Courts have an obligation to provide defendants to all safeguards, which includes speedy public trials," close quote, said Steve Haberlee with the State Board of the Civil Liberties Union of Alabama.

District judges Mike McCormick, OL Pete Johnson, and Jack Montgomery said they simply requested that the defendants waive their right to appear in court and all did so. McCormick and Johnson said their bailiffs don't want to handle the prisoners for fear of getting AIDS. Montgomery said, he doesn't want himself or the people in his courtroom exposed to defendants with the virus.

Most of us are trying to resolve the problem in a way that doesn't conflict with the defendant's constitutional rights, Johnson said. And that was a quote. OK, another quote, "I don't think we can ban them. But if I suggest that they don't want to be here, they waive their rights," close quote.

Montgomery said, if the defendant has AIDS or another communicable disease, he doesn't allow the person in his courtroom. Quote, "I'm not going to bring someone in here erupted with herpes or tuberculosis. It's not just AIDS," Montgomery said. Quote, "I'm not going to have someone come down here and infect the general public and me," end quote.

McCormick said, he asked the Criminal Justice Committee of the State Bar Association for guidelines in dealing with an AIDS patient but none were available. Quote, "I guess we'll have to decide on a case-by-case basis," end quote. The bailiffs and the judges were concerned about a violent defendant who could bite or bleed in a fight, McCormick said.

But Dr. Michael Saag, an AIDS specialist at University Hospital, said it was very unlikely that person could get infected with the AIDS virus through a human bite or during a fight. Quote, "To my knowledge, it has never happened," he said.

In April, McCormick used a telephone hook-up to listen to the guilty pleas made by John Lewis O'Neal on a burglary charge, said Harry J. Blaylock, a lawyer who then represented O'Neal. McCormick gave him probation for the burglary charge and an earlier theft charge. Quote, "McCormick told me he didn't want to have him in there because he had AIDS," end quote.

Blaylock said, quote, "What can I say? He was out on bond." That's his client, O'Neal. O'Neal was out on bond. Therefore, there wasn't any reason he couldn't be there. O'Neal, 30 years old, said he wanted to go to court. Quote, "My lawyer told me to do it over the phone because he didn't want to make him mad," the judge that is.

McCormick said, the main reason he asked that O'Neal not be brought to court was quote, "that my bailiffs didn't want to handle him," end quote. David Gispas, an attorney who now represents O'Neal, said AIDS victims feel they have to comply with a request to stay out of court because they fear they will anger the judge.

Health officials say, AIDS can only be transmitted through sexual contact, sharing infected needles, or through infected blood products.

[MUSIC - CHARLIE MURPHY, "GAY SPIRIT"]

(SINGING) There's a gay spirit singing in our hearts, leading us through these troubled times. There's a gay spirit moving around this land calling us to a time of open love.

SPEAKER: I'm here partly tonight to say some good things about Texas. I'm proud to be a Texan. I know that I could not have heard Harvey Milk's challenge to me had not something in my life in this state prepared me to hear the word of freedom that Harvey spoke to us.

I am here tonight because it is time that all of us who love this state, that gave us life, and has nurtured us and taught us our values to stand up and claim the history of this state for freedom and justice and human respect away from the forces of narrow-mindedness and bigotry that too often dominate the politics of the state of Texas.

[MUSIC - ROMANOVSKY & PHILLIPS, "LIVING WITH AIDS"]

BUDDY Romanovsky & Phillips. And the song called "Living With AIDS." It's very, very beautiful, isn't it?
JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: Yes.

BRIAN KEEVER: Wonderful song.

BUDDY Do you like that?
JOHNSTON:

BRIAN KEEVER: Wonderful song.

BUDDY Are you going to change the name of that group?
JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: Which group?

BUDDY The PWA Coalition.
JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: Not at this point. There's no specific plans for it.

BUDDY See, I want it to be called The People Living With AIDS Coalition.
JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: Oh, that's definitely what we promote is living with AIDS.

BUDDY Bruce Cook joining us along with Brian Kever--

JOHNSTON:

BRIAN KEVER: Hello.

BUDDY --from the PWA Coalition, right?

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: Yeah, PWA, People With AIDS.

BUDDY People Living With AIDS.

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: That's right. That's right.

BRUCE REEVES: He's not going to quit.

BUDDY They just--

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: You're not going to get rid of us that easy.

BUDDY They just leave the living part out sometimes. And there's going to be--

JOHNSTON:

BRIAN KEVER: Not Bruce.

BUDDY --a Christmas party. Yeah, not Bruce. That's right.

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: I do my damndest.

BUDDY If you were at the rally, he did his damndest. It was a great speech. I thought the rally was beautiful though.

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE REEVES: It was great. It really was.

BUDDY It really was all together. It says, come one, come all. There's going to be a Christmas party at the coalition

JOHNSTON: offices, 800 Rosine, right? A block west of Waugh Drive down from Albrittons at Lawn Dallas, Sunday. That's today.

BRUCE COOK: Today.

BRIAN KEVER: That's today.

BUDDY Holy ghost.

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE REEVES: Whoa.

BRUCE COOK: Yes.

BUDDY It says right here food, food, food, food, food.

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: Uh-huh. Lots.

BUDDY And beverages.

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: And beverage, yep.

BUDDY Does that mean there's going to be food and beverages?

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: Lots of food, lots of beverages.

BUDDY Entertainment by the Montrose Men's Chorus?

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: Yes.

BUDDY And it says plus surprises, surprises, surprises.

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: Santa Claus with a sack full of surprises. You get to sit on Santa's lap.

BRUCE REEVES: No kidding.

BRUCE COOK: Uh-huh.

BRUCE REEVES: Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha.

BUDDY I got invited to a party last week, and it says on the card, come sit on Santa's lap. But at this guy's house, I'm

JOHNSTON: afraid to go. It'd be everything but Santa's lap he'd be trying to get us on. Anyway.

BRUCE COOK: You got that one too, huh?

BUDDY Did you get that?

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: Oh, yes.

BUDDY So you know what I'm talking about, right?

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: I think I'm on the same mailing list you are.

BUDDY Well, I saw him today. He came-- oh, never mind. He came by the station to make sure I was coming to that party, so I don't know what he's got up his sleeve. But anyway, how's the PWA Coalition faring the holidays?

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: We're doing our damndest to make sure that it's a real good time of year. It can be a very depressing time of year for anybody who is single or has a particular problem. But for somebody that may be facing something like AIDS or HIV infection, it can be doubly difficult for them because they're so unsure. It can make the depression a little worse possibly. The alienation that sometimes comes with it is a little bit amplified.

BUDDY What do you think about when you wake up in the morning?

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: What do I think about when I wake up in the morning?

BUDDY Yeah.

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: The stack of messages on my desk that have to be taken care of, what I'm going to look like in the mirror when I face it. I think of the same things I used to think of before I was infected with HIV. I went through a period of adjustment. But I now live with AIDS just like you said. I am living. I'm not dying. I'm living. I think of the same things. I worry about other people who don't have that good a positive outlook and attitude.

BUDDY We're talking about *Midnight Caller* also. You saw that program?

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: Yes, I did.

BUDDY What did you think? You heard-- the report we had from San Francisco, they weren't too happy with it.

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: There was-- I was glad that they toned it down from what it originally was. There was a very violent ending on it originally. Originally, the man who knowingly went around infecting people was shot and killed, which we were very afraid would continue to promote some of the violence that has been directed towards gay people because of the AIDS issue, which is a very big reality. Actually, gay bashing has increased in the past couple of years.

BUDDY It's gotten worse.

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE REEVES: You know, Bruce--

BRIAN KEEVER: Even in Houston.

BRUCE REEVES: --that wasn't the only problem with the original episode. After he was shot and killed, he was placed in a body bag marked contaminated biodegradable material and carted off by men in spacesuits.

BRUCE COOK: Amazing. Amazing that there was still that kind of mentality out there.

BRIAN KEEVER: Amazing is not the word.

BUDDY What do you think when you hear stuff like the reports that we heard this morning from Bill in Dallas? And then
JOHNSTON: the judge in Alabama that's not going to let the kid in the courtroom because he has AIDS. How does that make you feel?

BRUCE COOK: It makes me mad as you know what.

BUDDY Mad, you can say, mad as hell. The preachers say it.

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: Mad as hell, thank you. I'm real sensitive about what I say on the radio these days now.

[LAUGHTER]

BRUCE REEVES: I wonder why.

BRUCE COOK: Well, I got cut out last time when they replayed.

BUDDY We didn't cut you out. We just turned the dirty word upside down and played it.

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: Oh, OK.

BUDDY We just can't play it forwards, but we can play it backward.

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: That's true, OK. It makes me mad. Because for eight years we have been educating and trying to let everybody know. And for eight years, there have been still people out there sticking their dang heads in the sand refusing to understand what the realities and the myths of this disease are.

BUDDY What people? Gay people?

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: Everybody. Gay people are much better now. Because obviously, our community was affected, and we were the first ones to have to learn. But there are still gay people who do need to learn more.

BUDDY Someone told me that he knew a young man, like young, 19, 20, that had been tested, and he tested negative.

JOHNSTON: And as far as he was concerned, that was his credit card to go out and do anything and everything he wanted to do.

BRIAN KEEVER: Wrong.

BRUCE COOK: Very wrong, yes.

BRIAN KEEVER: Big-time wrong.

BRUCE COOK: One thing that I think that we should all learn from this now is the era of absolute gay freedom and our brains being located below our belt lines is over. This has taught us responsibility. Individual responsibility not just for ourselves but for other people, the people we care about. I mean, I totally 100% believe that we are sexual beings. And even sick, we continue to have those needs, emotional and physical.

BUDDY Mike, Mike Mike, Meesh used to come in on Waldenstein and talk about the excitement that he had. He was very,
JOHNSTON: very sick near the end. But he would come in and on the air talk about how excited he was when he had enough energy to masturbate. And we would get a lot of phone calls from people because they thought that people with AIDS shouldn't have any sexual desires. I guess it should all stop.

BRUCE COOK: Baby, when they put me in the hospital, the only thing they did was get rid of my PCP. They didn't cut anything off.

[LAUGHTER]

BRIAN KEEVER: That's right.

BRUCE COOK: It's true, it's true. And it's a very important part of the positive outlook of life and continue to living is to feel as a whole person. And that can be a part of it. The key is the responsibility, education, knowing what is not safe. That's why what Bart does with the AIDS Foundation is very important.

BUDDY When I talked to Brooks Peters earlier, the author of *Terrific Sex in Fearful Times*, before we got on the air, he told
JOHNSTON: me something that I agree with, that human people, us, were built to have sex.

And as a community of gay and lesbian people, I think one of our biggest problems is to educate ourselves that that sex is good and healthy. And it's not that nasty, dirty, nasty, filthy thing that our families, some of them, and our churches and our society has thrown on us for the last however many years.

BRUCE COOK: Well, what's very hard is gay men and women, we have faced that problem for years, eons. That's always been a thing we've been fighting. And now, on top of this, having to fight something like a virus that is sexually transmitted and has been blamed on us of all godly things.

BUDDY How do you believe that sexually transmitted business?

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: How do I

BUDDY I mean, do you believe that? Do you buy all that 100%?

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: Not all of it. I realize that a large part-- it's not just a sexually transmitted disease. But there are sexual practices, certain sexual practices, that seem to indicate that this is a possible route of transmission. I am not saying that every sex act is a way of transmitting this disease. It's not just an across-the-board sexually transmitted disease. I mean, you've got to try pretty hard to do this. It leaves us a whole realm of wonderful things to do.

BUDDY Now, he's got the gleam on his face.

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: Uh-huh. Actually, I've learned a lot more.

BUDDY Jimmy, you were out there at Channel 2 protesting Tuesday night, right?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Sure was.

BUDDY And there was a handful of people?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: About 15 people.

BUDDY Yeah.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: It was cold, and it was outside the loop.

[LAUGHTER]

BRUCE COOK: Not the warmest atmosphere.

BRIAN KEEVER: Did you take your pills?

[LAUGHTER]

BUDDY God forbid, you should--

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: No. No, but I had my passport.

BUDDY God forbid, we should have to go outside the loop.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Well, it was important because we showed them that we would go outside the loop.

BUDDY What did you think of the show *Midnight Caller*?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: I did not think it really presented a positive viewpoint. We've got enough problems with this disease. We do not need negative viewpoints being shown. There's enough of that already.

BUDDY Right.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: We need positive.

BUDDY Rob, you had watched it today, I think, again.

JOHNSTON:

ROB: Right, I watched it another time today. And my basic view of it was that it wasn't as awful as it could have been. It wasn't as awful as we were led to believe. And a little later on in the show, I'm going to be talking about some of these reasons why it wasn't so bad.

BRUCE COOK: It definitely could have been worse. There were some things that they did to soften the blow, the impact of what the very dangerous message that was still underlying the whole thing is, that people with AIDS are carriers. People with AIDS are irresponsible people and should not have sex.

BUDDY People with AIDS are dying, and that's it.

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE REEVES: That's right. That's one thing that was a big problem is that they equated having the HIV virus in your system with a death sentence, and that isn't true.

BRUCE COOK: Wrong.

BRIAN KEEVER: That's not true at all.

BUDDY Yes, that's not true.

JOHNSTON:

BRIAN KEEVER: But one thing I did see that I thought was very unusual is that they portrayed the straight pickup bars and the gay bar, and they portrayed the straight bar as just a meat rack and really made the gay bar look kind of rather tame. Even though they did try to say that it was a leather bar. Which back to our phobias yet once again, the best redeeming quality of the entire show was the fabulous bartender in the gay bar--

BRUCE REEVES: Yeah, absolutely.

BRIAN KEEVER: --who was the most positive person on the entire show.

BUDDY Who was written in after the protest though.

JOHNSTON:

BRIAN KEEVER: I know. But he was. He was just the most positive best person you could have on the show. The only problem, I saw the show, and I was expecting a lot worse than I got even though I didn't feel the show-- I don't think the show did our community a service.

BUDDY I agree with you because-- what sticks out in my mind is as the hero, I can't think of his name. The radio guy was walking up the street with the police sergeant. He said something about, do you remember the good old days before they came or something. Like before the gay people came to San Francisco, everything was fine. And that's the line that everybody is going to remember. The fact that the guy was out infecting people, that's the line people are going to remember. Whatever is good, they're not going to hear that. They're not going to remember that.

BRIAN KEEVER: Well, what they're going to remember is that that bar that was the heterosexual bar that they tried to make it look real bad. Well, that probably is the same bar that Bubba goes to on the weekend. So to him, that looked normal. All he saw was homosexuals. And the biggest problem I had with the show was the gun should have never entered the realm of possibilities for that show. Even having it on the show, even though she did not kill him, even having the gun on the show was reinforcing all the stereotypes of, let's go out and shoot the queers.

BRUCE REEVES: That's absolutely right.

BUDDY And that's what the judge in Dallas just said. It's OK to go out and shoot the queers because they're just out in the parks picking up kids. Right?

BRUCE COOK: Wrong.

BUDDY But isn't that what the judge said?

JOHNSTON:

BRIAN KEEVER: Judges are [INAUDIBLE].

BRUCE COOK: That's what he said.

BRUCE REEVES: Of course, that's what Louie said several years ago too.

BRUCE COOK: And he learned.

BUDDY So what do we do?

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE REEVES: Shoot the judge.

BRIAN KEEVER: We vote them out of office.

[LAUGHTER]

BRUCE REEVES: Thank you.

BRUCE COOK: No, the violence is not the answer on either side. Come on. Come on, Bruce.

BRUCE REEVES: Education is the answer.

BRIAN KEEVER: The best thing to do is vote them out of office.

BUDDY That's true.

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE REEVES: Well, I don't know if that's going to happen in Dallas.

BRUCE COOK: Just voting them out of office is not going to be the answer. Some of the positive things about this show were that it did spread the message of education. It did spread the message that the general community is in danger, does have to be aware of that, and does have to educate themselves. Several of the women in that show. I remember there was line one of the women said. I know you're not supposed to sleep with strangers, but I did it anyways. And that message was very important that that got out.

BUDDY Do we not do that though still?

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: Yes, we still do. And that's why the need for continued education is very important.

BUDDY I think you're right. That's the problem that a lot of people won't face. And you hear this from a lot of gay leaders
JOHNSTON: and lesbian leaders. They'll tell you, well, we're just going to candy-coat everything up and just make it real nice and pretty because people don't want to hear this. People don't want to hear that.

BRIAN KEEVER: Well, they have to.

BUDDY

So we hide the truth from ourselves.

JOHNSTON:

BRUCE COOK: Yeah, but the problem is now we've been hiding it from ourselves for so long. And look at the thousands and thousands and thousands of gay men that have died. And now, there are more non-gay men.

I met a 19-year-old beautiful blonde little girl from Katy, Texas a couple of weeks ago who's HIV-infected. 19 years old, and she's not a drug user. She's not a high-risk personality at all. This is heartbreaking to me. I mean, it's been bad enough to me to watch my friends die and myself get sick. But now, it's imperative--