

B.K.: Beaten up, strip searched-- and they found out that the guy had made a terrible mistake.

JIMMY: Remember, this is Leather Lawn, and that's a mistake.

B.K.: I got an apology. And someone was forced retired because of it. And it was all very quiet. And you won't find an official record of it unless you go to the officers involved in straightening and smoothing things out.

MAN 2: Wow.

B.K.: But you learn really fast that you're only as good as your connections are. And you can be the best soldier, sailor, or marine. You can be the best person you know how to be. And if the cards aren't laid right for you, or if someone has it out for you, you can be in so much trouble so quickly, because they do have 100% control over your life.

JIMMY: And they can make the cases look like they want them to look if they want you out.

MAN 2: Sure.

B.K.: Yes.

JIMMY: And that's what-- when I found all those documents, that was really amazing, you start going through there. And there's letters from congressmen in there. There's letters from the president. There's letters from admirals, vice admirals, letters from all these different legal entities that are supposed to be helping soldiers.

One of them, I'm really mad at after reading all this stuff. And that was the one in DC, which is-- they usually do really good work. But I'm not sure who the attorney was because I'm really bad with names. Is it Serviceman's Legal Defense Fund?

MAN 2: Yes.

B.K.: Yes.

JIMMY: And they're usually really, really good.

B.K.: SLDN.

JIMMY: But they had an attorney in there for a while that seemed to be working for the other side. And so that didn't help.

MAN 2: Wow.

B.K.: Well, it's taken them a long time to get up to speed. We were kind of impressed right before AVER had its National Convention in San Diego this year in April, they had a little annual get together for their-- and they're going through a restructuring. And they're going through-- I think the fact that they are starting to concentrate, that they are seeing servicemen killed by their comrades, they are starting to react much more proactively, I would say. And it's just not going to be slid under the table anymore. People are going to ask for accountability.

MAN 2: I would have to say that it's not the fact that soldiers are getting killed by their contemporaries. It's that that's getting national news coverage.

B.K.: Absolutely.

JIMMY: Yeah, I think that's more what it is.

B.K.: Absolutely.

MAN 2: Yes. I have a question. You mentioned earlier that all in all, you had-- you said you had a great time being-- how do you jive that with having been treated the way you were in that incident with-- I mean, that seems a contradiction.

B.K.: I went into a job that could have been very simply, I will take this piece of paper. I will fill it out the way it's supposed to be filled out. I will file it.

And I could have done that day in day out, never put myself 1 inch over the line for anybody or anything. And instead, I found myself impressed with a group of people who basically had their own community. They had pride in themselves. They had pride in their country. They had faith that some way, somehow, inevitably right would well out and win out.

And so they put themselves into that job wholeheartedly. They put their own personalities and personal lives on hold. And they made themselves the best professionals that the military could ever dream of. And I had the honor of serving with these people. And that kind of bootstrapped me up. And I would not give up those relationships for anything.

JIMMY: You have to remember-- I was talking to a friend who had never been in the service. But after you're in the service for a few years, when you get out, you have a complete-- it's a different mentality than if you'd never been in. And I constantly butt heads with friends of mine, because there are things I do. I honestly believe in standing up for people.

If they're in the right, and they're a friend of mine, I will go out of my way and stand up for them. I don't care who's coming down on them or anything else. And you learn to do that.

And then my friends who have been-- and this isn't meant badly upon these friends. But my friends who have been civilians, who have never been in the service, oh, it'll just blow over. We'll just watch and see what happens. Oh, don't get involved because you're just going to stir sh-- the four-letter word.

[LAUGHTER]

You're going to stir the bucket. And you get accused of stirring the bucket a lot, when all you're doing is standing up for people's rights. And so it's a very different mentality. And that community is there. And it's a very large community, large than they would admit. I don't think it's--

B.K.: You can get on the internet, and you can send-- oh, absolutely. You get on the internet-- they aren't accounting for bisexuals. You get on the internet, and you can contact any base, find out what their attitudes are, what their policies are, how aggressively they enforce "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." And you can get a heads up on just about any command you want to go to.

MAN 3: So why don't they just give up with it already?

JIMMY: Well, here's the deal.

B.K.: The dinosaurs aren't dead.

JIMMY: The dinosaurs aren't dead, and--

MAN 3: Yeah, but I mean, Great Britain now is--

JIMMY: All the Western nations that belong to NATO, the Western nations. So I don't mean like Turkey. I mean, basically, non-Muslim nations or non--

MAN 3: Sure.

JIMMY: Anyway, all of them except for the US have gays and lesbians serving openly, at this point in time, in Afghanistan. And I do have some friends in Afghanistan. And they say it's amazing because nighttime comes, and you have all the gay soldiers sneaking out and crossing to the tents and the other countries because over there you won't get in trouble. But you will get in trouble in the American tents.

MAN 2: Wow.

JIMMY: And it's-- I envision--

B.K.: It's a cultural exchange, international relations.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY: So what I envision out of all this is basically--

B.K.: Make love, not war.

MAN 2: There you go.

MAN 3: There you go.

JIMMY: --a repeat of World War II. So we've come full circle, all the way back to Article 93. It's not Article 93, but you have-- all these discharges are put on hold because--

MAN 2: Do you think that's what's going to happen once this is over?

JIMMY: It has been. They have it has on hold.

B.K.: It has, it has.

JIMMY: And I have a couple of friends whose discharges were already in the works. And now they're overseas on the front line.

B.K.: I tell you, one of the great unsung tragedies of September 11 is very simple. Airplanes slid into the Pentagon and took out one of the generals who was leading the chant for overturning Don't Ask, Don't Tell. He was a very brave man, went forward with collecting the data, had managed to convince several people to look at the data. I thought we had a great chance.

And now they're having to rebuild that movement from scratch. It is going forward. It's just not at the same level.

MAN 2: Yeah. And it's probably not going to go too far with a Republican president.

JIMMY: No, no, no.

MAN 4: When you speak of internet, getting on the internet, there are a lot of good stories on the internet of people that have come out in the military. One of them that I get on the-- I get on news chats a lot--

MAN 2: We're talking with Rainbo de Clown. [LAUGHTER]

JIMMY: Yes, news chats.

MAN 4: --51 today. I get on the internet often, on news chats, you know, MSN and whatever, Talk City. And they'll get on this military thing, you know, gays in the military. It will always come up.

And then I'll start shooting out names such as "US Army Captain Michael McManus revealed today that General Colin Powell knew he was gay while McManus was serving as his personal bodyguard." You can find all that.

People say, oh, he was never a bodyguard. It's common knowledge now. And there's a whole bunch of people out there. All you to do is basically go to Google, type in gay--

MAN 3: Good old Google, yes.

MAN 4: --military, you will find a lists of names of people that have come out. And they've got some fantastic stories.

MAN 2: Not only that, but if you go to Google and put in your own name, you may find out some stuff.

JIMMY: I have.

MAN 3: You know people? That's kind of weird.

MAN 5: One of the few civilized conversations I ever had with my dad about my being gay was a conversation involving him in the Navy during World War II, and knowing that at least one of the people he served with was a gay man. And this is World War II, you know?

MAN 4: And sometimes when I get on the internet, I will get on the news chats. And I'll just mention Leonard Matlovich. And I will do the whole quote that's on his gay-- MAN 1: Oh, yeah.

B.K.: --on his tombstone.

MAN 4: --tombstone. And when you start saying names-- and you've got to be informed. You've got to check all this stuff out before you start putting it on the news chats-- before long, that conversation is over with. They're done. And they're-- you'll get [INAUDIBLE].

B.K.: I look at it I look at it this way.

MAN 4: I won't check out that site or whatever.

B.K.: When President Clinton backed down off his promise to the service members of America--

JIMMY: We were mad.

B.K.: When we were waiting for that executive order, we were waiting for the leadership. Several of us had already prepared our commanders. Several of us have already come out in our commands, in preparation for the grand coming out day.

JIMMY: There were lots of people from that--

B.K.: I came back to the United States, and was in New Orleans, awaiting the huge party that was going to go on, as everyone was a mass out themselves. And they say, well, this wasn't a civilian movement. Well, it came from within the military. And we were ready to mobilize and let America know that there we are. Deal with it.

JIMMY: Everyone asks why we don't--

B.K.: And instead, we got deep sixed.

MAN 3: I remember That vividly, because there was this big push. And really, the gay community had never really pushed this. They'd never been behind it.

JIMMY: They didn't push.

B.K.: It came from within the service.

JIMMY: The gay community did not back-- the gay community is a separate community from the--

MAN 3: This is some--

JIMMY: --military gay community.

MAN 3: But this is something that--

JIMMY: It is a separate lifestyle. It is a separate community. It is a separate mindset.

MAN 3: We didn't even know anything about-- all of a sudden, out of the blue comes this--

MAN 2: January 20, 1993, that's the first time we heard about it.

MAN 3: Yeah, comes this gays in the military. What? Who?

MAN 2: Let me tell you what we were for, Jimmy.

JIMMY: Well that guy, remember--

MAN 2: We were for--

JIMMY: --there was the--

MAN 2: --health insurance at that time.

JIMMY: There was the thing on the mall that year, in DC, for National Coming Out Day. And on NPR, we had-- the army guy whose-- damn it. I'm really bad with names. And he came out on the radio. And he ended up being discharged.

MAN 2: Is that the one who became a politician?

JIMMY: No, he got out in 19-- he actually got out in--

B.K.: Oh, gosh, I'm spacing on his name.

JIMMY: --1980-- no. He came out in 19-- he got out in 1978, fought the service, eventually won his case. And then instead of going back, took a settlement for \$1.6 million, and put that towards his campaign fund to get elected.

MAN 4: Wow.

JIMMY: He died in 1988 of AIDS.

MAN 5: Yes. Who was this?

JIMMY: That is the--

B.K.: Gosh, [INAUDIBLE]--

JIMMY: --senator from Arizona.

B.K.: --Arizona.

JIMMY: He was army too.

B.K.: Yes.

JIMMY: Yes.

MAN 4: Also, if you go on the internet, you'll find some guys that are like soldiers of the year. I mean, they were--

MAN 3: Oh, well--

MAN 4: --soldiers of the year.

B.K.: Go back on your list of the Medal of Honor.

MAN 4: Or they were the poster [INAUDIBLE] pictures of models for the military, whether it be the Marine Corps, Army, or whatever. There's a whole bunch of them. Just get out there and look. It's on the internet.

MAN 3: Wow.

MAN 4: You were talking about medals?

B.K.: And this is one reason why this big push that-- our chapter is hoping that the entire AVER organization--

JIMMY: Well, tell them what?

B.K.: --and hopefully nationally, will follow the Veteran's History Program.

JIMMY: Tell them what AVER stands for?

B.K.: American veterans for equal rights.

MAN 2: Tell us a little bit about that organization again.

B.K.: OK, well this is a group that everyone used to know--

JIMMY: Well, these people haven't heard.

B.K.: --as the Gay, and Lesbian, Bisexual Veterans of America. And of course, you listen to that, and you go, wait a minute. What did we miss? Well, we missed the point that if we aren't going to honor that sacred bond, that sacred bond of military service, if we can't honor that amongst ourselves, then how the heck can we go out and ask anyone else to honor it?

So this year, in April, the organization stepped up to the plate, went ahead and made an inclusive name change to American Veterans for Equal Rights, decided to get reborn hard and heavy, and go after it. They decided to take an activist stance.

As a brand-new chapter, just begun this year, Houston chapter says, well, what can we do? They're going to bring a Texas convention here in San Antonio, actually, because they are our senior-sponsoring chapter. They're going to be hosting the National AVER convention in 2003--

JIMMY: Wow.

B.K.: --to bring to the backyard of our Commander-in-chief, our cause. We're here. Here are our numbers. We're ready to prove to you that you cannot deny our service. And we're going to stand up for those folks in uniform who cannot stand up for themselves without facing criminal consequence.

Then we're going to take it in 2004 to the front lawn of the United States Congress and to our Commander-in-chief, when we're going to hold our brand-new chapter that was also pretty much our sister start chapter. We're going to host the National AVER convention right there in Washington DC.

We're hoping to more than double our numbers by then. So we're inviting all the military veterans. You don't have to be a veteran to be a member of a AVER. All have to do is be interested in overturning the ban against gays in the military. And we will welcome you.

MAN 2: I am so glad to see you include bisexuals and transgenders because I've been to transgender--

B.K.: Well, I'll tell you, we had to wait for-- like I said, the dinosaurs aren't dead yet. There are some people who are very set in their ways, that there were no-- I've been told by some senior folks that there were no transgenders. And I'm like, I served with them.

MAN 2: Phyllis Randolph Frye.

MAN 3: There is an incredible number of transgender people who went into the service thinking that they would be-- they could cure themselves. It was with the macho thing.

B.K.: Well, I wrote this fellow back, who told me that he spent a year going around the country and could only find four. A little email--

MAN 3: Well, he didn't look very hard.

B.K.: --a little email that-- I had 12 people who answered just one email that I sent out, from the city of New Orleans. They have 12 transgenders there who are opening up their own chapter. And we will be sponsoring them from Houston Chapter.

MAN 3: Good, good, good.

B.K.: So there's no denying it.

MAN 3: No. And--

B.K.: We need to stop denying our own so that the country will stop denying our own.

JIMMY: This is--

MAN 5: I recently met a man who was a veteran of World War II, who was a gay vet.

MAN 1: Sure.

MAN 5: I was talking to him sitting at Lobo's.

MAN 2: Plus, there's at least twice as many bisexuals than gays.

B.K.: Easily.

MAN 2: So.

JIMMY: Well, there's a lot of people who said-- like in the service, they would say they were bisexual because it's more acceptable to [INAUDIBLE].

MAN 2: Sure.

JIMMY: And so they do have marriages of convenience.

B.K.: Exactly.

JIMMY: There is a lot of that for cover up. And so then they are bisexual, because they can't admit to their spouse, that they've been married to for 10 years, that they really are gay.

MAN 4: Wow.

JIMMY: So then you're stuck in this marriage. And it's not necessarily a bad marriage--

B.K.: Or you do have real marriages of convenience--

JIMMY: [INAUDIBLE]

B.K.: --where you will have--

MAN 3: Gay men--

B.K.: --gay partners--

MAN 3: Gay men marrying a lesbian?

JIMMY: Yes.

B.K.: Yes. And they will bring their partners along.

MAN 3: Well, there's a lot of reasons for that, benefits.

JIMMY: I used to have a fiancée in the military. And she would go to all the command--

B.K.: Functions?

JIMMY: --all my command functions, including my Dependent's Cruise. And I would go to all her command functions at the Marine Corps base here over at MCRD. And it's just--

MAN 3: Well--

JIMMY: --it's very convenient.

MAN 3: It would be nice if you were just able to bring your boyfriend though, or your girlfriend.

JIMMY: Well, you know, now, here's the deal.

B.K.: Well I was bringing my boyfriend. I am bisexual, so at the time. [LAUGHS]

JIMMY: I would bring Tom. And the way we did it is that this woman had a friend who was her girlfriend at her base. And so Tom would say he was dating this woman. And I would say I was dating this other woman so that-- it was this fours-- so we could always go out as a foursome.

And that way, they could be together and we could be together. And if we ran-- since we didn't always go to gay places, you went to some of the places where the military would hang out, downtown or something, if people ran into you that you knew, then it was no big deal because--

B.K.: --Or if you were being filmed. I wish I had some of the film taken of my friends and parties, because--

MAN 2: Phil--

B.K.: --wonderful memories. Absolutely, surveillance.

JIMMY: Surveillance. I do know, like--

B.K.: The age of the witch hunts. That's when I was serving.

JIMMY: Well they're still doing witch hunts.

B.K.: Yeah, but I'm talking--

MAN 2: Where's this filming take place?

JIMMY: Well, I didn't get out until--

B.K.: NIS--

JIMMY: I did not--

B.K.: --Naval Investigative Service was out there filming.

MAN 2: They-- where? Like--

B.K.: They would have barbecues. They would film outside clubs.

MAN 2: Oh.

B.K.: And just about anything they wanted to collect, they had carte blanche to do.

JIMMY: They have the right to enter your house and search your home.

B.K.: --enter their house.

JIMMY: Their house. You're renting the house from some civilian. But because you're in the military, they have the right to go in there and do whatever they want, and search the home.

MAN 2: That's right.

JIMMY: Because you're not under-- you're not a civilian. MAN 2: That's right.

B.K.: You are government property.

JIMMY: And people don't realize that the laws-- everything gets suspended when you go in the service. And it's just amazing. And--

B.K.: I have literally seen people brought up on charges for getting sunburned.

MAN 3: What?

B.K.: And the charge was damage to government.

JIMMY: Yes, damage to government property.

MAN 2: Yes.

B.K.: And that is a criminal charge.

MAN 3: Oh, that's silly.

B.K.: That happens all the time.

MAN 2: Just because somebody's in for you?

B.K.: Could be.

JIMMY: Could be, or--

B.K.: I knew some senior people who used to-- I can't say the first word-- for mm and giggles, would pick a name off the roster and destroy a career by the end of the week because that's what they did to amuse themselves.

JIMMY: [EXHALES]

MAN 4: I hear that you can't get tattoos in--

B.K.: You have to remember the military is a great bunch of people. But it has its problems just like civilian society. It takes all kinds.

MAN 4: I hear they get bent out about tattoos and things.

WOMAN: Sometimes.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

MAN 4: But, you know--

JIMMY: It depends on the tattoo.

B.K.: There's an old tradition, so--

JIMMY: It depends-- one, in the Navy, tattoos no big deal unless it were to--

B.K.: It's explicit.

JIMMY: Yeah, explicit. And in the other services, if it came down below your elbow, because a lot of people roll their sleeves up, you don't want it to show. In the Navy, it's no big deal. You know, you're a sailor.

MAN 2: Yeah.

JIMMY: Of course you get a tattoo.

MAN 2: Yeah, they probably don't want you-- they probably frowned on pierced nipples, though.

JIMMY: Actually, piercings are a different story. But they don't frown on them so much anymore--

B.K.: No, mm-mm.

JIMMY: --at all. It just-- you can't have tongue, lip, eyebrows--

MAN 4: PA--

JIMMY: No, you can have PAs because they're [INAUDIBLE].

B.K.: And guys are not to have their ears pierced in uniform.

JIMMY: Not to have your ears pierced in uniform. And actually, I just read all of these.

B.K.: I used to have a command master chief. He used to run around the exchange, writing out these little report chits to these people for wearing earrings or, my gosh, they're holding hands back in these aisles. And I'm like, but, Sir, it's UNITAS. These are the foreign navies. You have no control over these sailors.

[LAUGHTER]

He's the same fella who went apocalyptic when the fax came over showing the photograph of the two sailors kissing in New York Times Square.

MAN 3: Yes.

B.K.: And he was running around our headquarters going, not in my Navy, not my Navy. And he ran into one office space and was going on like that. And my CO and XO were trying hard not to bust out laughing. Because everyone in that room, including this fellow's wife, were gay.

[LAUGHTER]

Now I happen to know this, because she was dating another senior enlisted person that I knew. So I mean, let's be real, folks. These folks are out there putting it on the line for you. And all these people can do is try to make life difficult for them? Aren't there better things to do with their time and our money?

JIMMY: So you guys meet at the community center over here the first Monday night--

B.K.: --of the month. 7 o'clock.

JIMMY: 7 o'clock, which is why I usually have problems making the meetings.

B.K.: Well--

JIMMY: 7:30's good

B.K.: --we're looking at a more amenable time to everyone. So--

JIMMY: 7:30's good

B.K.: --if you come and make one meeting, let us know what you're up to--

JIMMY: We will [INAUDIBLE].

B.K.: --what your schedules are, we will work around that. There are application forms up at the community center, the new AVER application form. So--

JIMMY: And your website [INAUDIBLE].

B.K.: --please come on up.

MAN 2: It just seems really sad to me that, here are perfectly good human beings, fighting and doing things to defend the country. And yet a bunch of those laws and beliefs that they're defending don't seem to apply to them.

B.K.: Mm-hmm, a lot of people always thought, well, you put on a uniform. That doesn't mean you put your life on the line. Folks, they flew an airplane into the Pentagon.

MAN 2: Yes.

B.K.: One of my dearest, most-loved persons in the world had that airplane slide under his feet and take out just about everyone who worked with him. If it wasn't for a freak accident that the ceiling fell down and knocked his chair under his desk-- and he was slammed under a World War II surplus desk, he would have been toast.

MAN 2: Wow.

JIMMY: Wow.

B.K.: And this is someone that they would destroy in a heartbeat for a crazy, outmoded idea.

MAN 2: You have to remember, war doesn't see sexual orientation, or identities, or-- you're just another body for a bullet. I mean, as crude as it is, that's a fact. So what's the web page real quick?

B.K.: I'm going to give you, instead of the web page-- because that is definitely under construction at this point. It's up. it's down-- I'm going to give you an email address averhouston@yahoo.com. That's A-V-E-R, Houston-- I don't need to spell that. Do I need to spell that, folks-- at yahoo, Y-A-H-O-O dotcom.

Send me an email. Give me your contact information. I'll get you out of form. Please come to our meeting first Monday of every month, 7 o'clock at the community center at 803 Hawthorne at Stanford. And we'll be happy to meet and greet you.

MAN 2: Now when is that again?

B.K.: That's the first Monday of every month, 7 o'clock, at the Community Center in the Montrose. That's 803 Hawthorne at Stanford.

MAN 2: That's right.

JIMMY: And they need activists.

B.K.: Absolutely.

JIMMY: They need people who are willing to be out there on the line.

B.K.: Activists, historians, those of us that are able. We do have members that are still in the service, that are still under Department of Defense. But if you're under the Department of Veteran Affairs, come on down. Because we will handle you out in the open as you want to be. It's time we get this history program underway so that they cannot deny your service.

JIMMY: People need to be out there. They really do.

B.K.: Congress has funded this program to collect the oral histories and documentation supporting service of not only military members, but civilian workers who worked in support of it. That includes teachers, housewives, industry workers.

If you have a story to tell about how you supported your country, we want to know it. We'll help you get it down on tape. We'll help you collect documents.

We will submit this to our national convention in 2003 here in San Antonio. We will take the collective that our other chapters are collecting to Washington DC, set it out for all to see. And then we will turn it over to the National Archives and the Library of Congress, where they must, by law, catalog, reference, and make it available to future studies.

MAN 2: Wow.

B.K.: This cannot be denied.

MAN 5: You know, and for those people who were in wars before Vietnam--

B.K.: Come on down.

MAN 5: --before all those stories and all those lives are gone, some history of who these people were.

MAN 4: Can I say what countries are the ones that do not restrict gays from serving in the military?

B.K.: Can you say that many?

MAN 2: Yeah, he's just pulled it up on the--

B.K.: Go for it.

MAN 4: OK, here we go--

JIMMY: Canada--

MAN 4: --countries that do not restrict gays from serving in the military, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania--

JIMMY: Lithuania.

B.K.: [LAUGHTER]

MAN 4: --Netherlands--

B.K.: That's Lithuania, not lithium.

MAN 4: --Norway, Slovenia--

[LAUGHTER]

--Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Israel, the Bahamas, despite the fact that homosexual conduct is illegal, and Canada.

MAN 2: Yeah.

MAN 4: And you can find that--

MAN 2: You forgot Britain.

MAN 4: --at www--

MAN 6: Yeah, United Kingdom.

JIMMY: Oh, OK.

MAN 6: United Kingdom.

MAN 4: You can find that at www.gayveterans.com/rolecall--

MAN 2: Slash.

MAN 4: Slash. Well, if you just go to rollcall--

JIMMY: Gayveterans.com. You can find it.

B.K.: You can go to lifttheban.com as well. You'll find some new information that's coming up with this project. All the National AVER conventions have adopted the name Operation Lift the Ban. And hopefully we won't have to use that name for too much longer.

MAN 2: Yeah.

B.K.: It's time to put this one to bed, folks.

MAN 2: Yes, it is. Yes, it is, because a lot of queer people want to serve their country.

B.K.: And a lot have. A lot have, whether they were military or civilian. We died on those airplanes just like everyone else. We died on the ground. We went into the rubble. And we started pulling people out just like everyone else.

We suffered the loss. We've borne the burden. Now it's time that we get some recognition and respect.

MAN 4: I agree.

MAN 6: That-- can't add any more to it than that.

JIMMY: No.

MAN 4: And it also--

JIMMY: Actually--

MAN 4: --lists, on that site, famous gay men and lesbians who served in the Army.

MAN 2: Ooh.

JIMMY: Actually, what I could say is--

MAN 4: [INAUDIBLE]

B.K.: Hug a veteran. [LAUGHS]

MAN 4: [INAUDIBLE].

JIMMY: Actually, what I could say is, when they discharge them at the end of the war like that, veterans who are not discharged for being gay, they finish out the service. They finish out their career. And they have benefits. You keep your benefits.

When you come back, you've been out there on the front lines, same as anyone else, able to take a bullet like anyone else. And you get out, you have no benefits.

MAN 2: That's right.

JIMMY: So there's all these veterans running around with no benefits, compared to all these benefits-- all these veterans run around who received benefits, that had the same job.

MAN 2: They had the same job and/or lesser.

JIMMY: That is really piss poor in this day and age.

MAN 2: Sure is.

MAN 5: Wow. One of the voices-- one of the names on this list is Reverend Troy Perry--

JIMMY: Yes--

MAN 5: --founder of--

JIMMY: Reverend Troy Perry.

MAN 5: --MCC.

B.K.: Absolutely, signed the great book for me.

JIMMY: And a Leatherman. And a Leatherman.

MAN 4: Yes, a proud Leatherman.

JIMMY: Very--

MAN 4: John Ritchie, the writer, who--

MAN 2: Larry Kramer. I mean, these are all people who served. I mean--

JIMMY: The list goes on and on.

MAN 4: These are the famous people that you know. And there are hundreds of thousands of others who you don't know, because--

JIMMY: Rock Hudson.

MAN 4: --they just live ordinary lives.

JIMMY: Rock Hudson was one.

MAN 4: There you go.

B.K.: *Patriots Serving in Silence.*

MAN 2: Yeah.

JIMMY: That's what it was. I saw that on the--

MAN 4: Wow.

MAN 2: Alexander Graham.

MAN 4: Alexander great.

JIMMY: Well, you've been listening to KPFK, 90.1, Houston, Texas, and KEOS College Station, and--

MAN 2: You'll be back next month?

JIMMY: I'll be back-- no, next month is Gay Pride that night. And I should be out here on the street.

MAN 4: OK.

JIMMY: So--

MAN 4: I will be--

JIMMY: --enjoy the music.

MAN 4: I'll be marching the--

JIMMY: I actually don't think I'll be able to get near here with a vehicle to park.

B.K.: No, you won't. No you wont.

MAN 2: It's very tough.

JIMMY: So I hope people enjoy the music. And we'll be back in July.

MAN 2: OK, OK.

JIMMY: End of July, after the honeymoon.

MAN 3: After-- oh, oh, take pictures.

JIMMY: Oh, we're taking lots of--

B.K.: Don't ask, don't tell.

JIMMY: We're going--

[LAUGHTER]

We're going to San Diego and LA.

MAN 2: Ooh.

JIMMY: Because he was--

B.K.: All right.

JIMMY: He was served on the East Coast. So he wants to go the West Coast.

MAN 2: Nice, nice. Thanks for being here. Thank you, BK.

B.K.: Thank you. Anytime.

MAN 2: And that remember, that's the first Monday of every month at the community center, 7:00 PM.

B.K.: Absolutely.

MAN 2: OK. See you later. This has been about the third or fourth time you've been on this show in the last month or so.

B.K.: And I can't help it. As long as they keep doing the good work, I'll keep coming up here and embarrassing myself.

MAN 2: Hey, you do good. You did good.

JIMMY: It's good to have the veterans on.

MAN 2: Yes, it is.

JIMMY: The group just starting out could use a lot of help.

MAN 2: Sure could.

B.K.: Oh, absolutely.

JIMMY: The more people involved, the better. Even if they're not going to be involved, if they can just help.

MAN 4: And especially bisexual and transgender folks.

B.K.: Please, come out.

MAN 4: You bet.

B.K.: I've put my neck on the line for you and said you exist. Now don't leave me hanging.

[LAUGHS]

MAN 4: OK, thank you. OK, now some new music by Steve Snelling, from his CD, *Perfect Strangers*. This is the title cut. And you're listening to it on *After Hours*, queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station.

[MUSIC - STEVE SNELLING, "PERFECT STRANGERS"]

Ah, yes, that was new music by Steve Snelling, "Perfect Strangers." That was really nice. That's pretty music.

MAN 5: I love that. That's [INAUDIBLE].

MAN 4: Oh, well, we're just about wrapping up this show.

MAN 5: Tell them about the *Pride Guide* that's out.

MAN 4: *Pride Guide* is out. Yes, the new *Pride Guide*. B.K. brought a copy over for me. It's the national version of the *Pride Guide* is out, official magazine of the Houston Gay and Lesbian Pride 2002.

MAN 5: A really yummy guy on the cover.

MAN 4: Real yummy guy on the cover. They're over at, right now, at the community center-- but don't go now because nobody's there-- and probably just about everywhere else if they're at the community center, like all the bars, and places like Kroger's and Walgreens and--

MAN 5: They delivered one personally to our store the other day--

MAN 4: Oh, OK.

MAN 2: It is [INAUDIBLE].

MAN 5: --actually, this morning.

MAN 4: So it'll be at Lobo. It'll be Crossroads. It'll be at Basic Brothers.

MAN 5: All over the place.

MAN 4: Yes.

MAN 5: It's national, but it's got a local flavor in the center.

MAN 2: Yeah. Yeah, it's got us--

MAN 5: --in the rainbow section, of course.

JIMMY: And there's-- yes, the rainbow section. And there's a couple of pictures of me in it, as a matter of fact.

MAN 5: Oh, in your pink shirt.

JIMMY: Well, of course. I always wear pink.

MAN 5: If you see a picture with a guy in a pink shirt, most likely, it's Jimmy.

JIMMY: That is kind of my trademark. I like pink.

MAN 4: If it's a blue cape, it's me. If it's a pink shirt, it's definitely Jimmy.

JIMMY: That's right. But it's wonderful, as last year's. It's--

MAN 2: Very thick.

JIMMY: Yeah. And there's lots-- I can't wait.

MAN 5: Really, there's a lot of information in there.

MAN 4: It's huge.

MAN 5: That's thing's as big as a *GQ*.

MAN 4: Oh, yeah. It is. It's really huge. And it's free, absolutely free.

MAN 5: OK. here's some of the titles for it-- pride worldwide, queer and muslim was one of the articles, cultures in conflict--

MAN 2: That's been a big thing this year.

MAN 5: --lesbian erotica at--

JIMMY: Girls going triple X.

MAN 5: --girls going XXX. Oh, yeah, triple X. I'm sorry-- and police entertainment--

JIMMY: Entrapment.

MAN 5: Oh, entrapment. Well, for me, it's entertainment.

JIMMY: Well, in some places, it's the same thing.

MAN 5: Yeah, I was about to say, there are some-- but--

JIMMY: No, but I mean there's good articles. There's a lot of photographs, and artwork, and--

MAN 4: Gay and Muslim has been on a lot of people's minds in the last six months.

JIMMY: You bet it has. You bet it has.

MAN 3: I know several-- I have at least two good friends who are gay and Muslim.

MAN 2: Also, Jimmy, since you've got about four or five minutes--

JIMMY: I've got two minutes.

MAN 2: The-- there's anniversaries coming up besides Gay pride? Day, which is like 1969. That's an anniversary.

JIMMY: Yes. That's why we--

MAN 2: [INAUDIBLE]

JIMMY: That's we have--

MAN 2: Yeah, that's right.

JIMMY: --pride. You know, I'm going to have to make some time this month, next month, to put in the *Remembering Stonewall* tape. It's a half-hour tape that lets you know what happened, and why we celebrate Pride when we do.

MAN 2: Yeah. And then you've got the Anita Bryant anniversary. Already five years. And this week on Han-Net, I put out that there's also another anniversary. Phyllis Schlafly's son came out 10 years ago--

[LAUGHTER]

--at the--

JIMMY: Oh, he's been going on about this all night.

MAN 2: --Republican National Convention in Houston 10 years ago. You know Phyllis Schlafly, the ultra-conservative, right-wing-- I wonder who recruited him. If you watched *Nightline* last Friday, there's this one lady came up and said, oh, they recruit. Well, I'd like to know who--

JIMMY: Oh, yeah, right.

MAN 2: --recruited John Schlafly to be gay?

JIMMY: You've been listening to *After Hours*, queer radio with attitude, on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station. We'll be back next week. It'll be the first weekend of-- first week in June. And we will have the--

MAN 2: Pride month.

JIMMY: It's Pride Month, of course. And we will have the BiNet group on. And we'll have the *After Hours News Magazine*. So get ready for that. And get ready for a wonderful month of Pride. And don't forget the Houston Gay and Lesbian Film Festival. We'll see you next week.

[MUSIC - PINK FLOYD, "IS THERE ANYBODY OUT THERE?"]

(SINGING) Is there anybody out there?

WOMAN: We know there's someone out there. There always is. So if you're not sleeping anyway, at least you can find out what the musicians are playing on *Pat and Rosie's Night Sounds*.

(SINGING) Is there anybody out there?

Every Sunday night at the crack of midnight, we present, for your enjoyment, live, original music, performed locally right here in the KPFT studios.

(SINGING) Is there anybody out there?

Pat and Rosie's Night Sounds is really the first show on Monday mornings. But we like to think of it as the last show on Sunday night. Either way, you should listen to *Pat and Rosie's Night Sounds*.

(SINGING) Is there anybody out there?

We're on from midnight until 5:00 AM every week. So start your Monday right. Start it Sunday night with *Pat and Rosie's Night Sounds* on KPFT, 90.1 FM in Houston, the sound of Texas.

[MUSIC - THE DOORS, "ROADHOUSE BLUES"]

JAMES NAGEL: Good afternoon, my roadies. Grab yourself a cold one, crank up that radio, and get ready for three straight hours of rocking fun with your host, Smokin' Joe Montez, and myself, the Blues Hound, right here on Houston's 90.1 FM, KPTF radio. After all, you change the channel now, it'll be your own damn fault.

(SINGING) Oh, keep your eyes on the road, your hands upon the wheel. Keep your eyes on the road, your hands upon the wheel.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

DJ: Check it out, y'all. 3 o'clock in the morning. It's time for the groove.

(SINGING) I shall see--

(RAPPING) --and continue to rock this hip-hop, baby, all morning long.

(SINGING) Proceed--

(RAPPING) We're going to do it, y'all get ready--

(SINGING) --to rock the mic. I shall proceed--