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SPEAKERS

Speaker 10, Speaker 7, Speaker 11, Speaker 3, Speaker 8, Speaker 12, Speaker 2, Speaker 13, Speaker 5



Speaker 3 00:02

Whatever. Lane Are you there?



Speaker 7 00:04

Oh, yes, I am, can you hear me? Yes.



Speaker 3 00:07

This is Lane Lewis, tell us a little bit about yourself.



Speaker 7 00:11

I'm 25 years old



Speaker 2 00:13

Hi, Elaine, this is Brian.



Speaker 7 00:19

Brian, good to hear from you back in action



Speaker 2 00:25



Speaker 2 00:29

This is a family program I'd appreciate if you keep it on that.



Speaker 3 00:30

He's gonna slap you've



Speaker 7 00:32

I've worked with adolescents since about 1988 in various different shelters around the city. And one of the things that was always very much a concern to me was the way that the issue of gay and lesbian youth was addressed. And so, a year or two ago, I made it into my mind that this was something that I was going to do for myself. I never dreamed that at 25, it would have already played a part in making that happen. I co founded the Youth Center, Hippie, with Bill Scott about a year ago, and under the incredible direction of Tracy Brown. A year later, we're a quarter of a million dollar corporation providing social services to runaway homeless Dunaway, youth gay lesbian youth. And we're the only social service agency in Texas. And as far as I know, in the country, providing social services, specifically to adolescents living with HIV. We have education programs where I know Troy can speak one of the youth can talk a lot about going on the street and educating youth instead of one of the things that I always was appalled that was that a lot of people would train adults to go on the street to do outreach to adolescents. Well, what we do is we take the youth that we help off the street, we train them, and we send them back on the street to educate their peers that they used to run with. We think that's far more effective than sending adults out to do the same thing. We have a drop in center, that will be open 10 to 10. Starting next week at 811, Westheimer, suite 201. Where you can come hang out, get food, clothing, we can help you with shelter, education, hang out, watch TV, play games. We even have some employment, paid positions that you know, we can pay you some money to do various things. We got a lot going on over there.



Speaker 3 02:32

What's your current caseload amount in line?



Speaker 7 02:36

Well, we have six young people living in the house, we have a late a waiting list of about eight to nine. We have total case, you know if we were to open both of our drawers looking at between 50 and 80.



Speaker 3 02:51

And what criteria do you use to grant someone admission to your program?



Sneaker 7 02:56

Speaker 7 02:59

If you are 13 to 21 and you are a runaway homeless thrown away, you are HIV positive, or you are gay or lesbian.

S Speaker 3 03:07

So the reason I asked that I think hippie is beginning to get the reputation that they only take gay youth. So the distinction with your program is that you're an organization unlike most others, that specifically seeks out younger people that happen to be gay or lesbian.

S Speaker 7 03:27

Right. And the reason that we do that is because 30 to 50% of all runaways, nationally 30 to 50% are runaway gay I mean, I'm sorry, are gay, lesbian, or bisexual, and those that aren't gay, lesbian or bisexual that are truly heterosexual are having homosexual intercourse via prostitution. And more than often they're medicating their sexual confusion with drugs and alcohol and and various other things. Targeting these kids, and it's frightening half of them. And no one is being specifically sensitive and providing support groups as far as being runaway homeless, things like this.

S Speaker 3 04:12

I think this is another instance where we have the evidence to support that there is a phenomenal problem here, but that we as Americans tend to, you know, pull the ostrich bit. Isn't the current statistics on teenage suicide 30 to something like 40% of young people who do kill themselves or attempt to kill themselves are actually gay or lesbian.

S Speaker 7 04:36

The way that I've seen it is that a gay lesbian youth is three to five times more likely to attempt or commit suicide than any other population.

S Speaker 3 04:47

Well, what would be the single most important thing that we could convey to the audience tonight to prevent that from happening aside from just literally physically rescuing them?

S Speaker 7 04:57

Well, I'll tell you one-- parents need to realize this is one of the things I've talked to parents. When I talked to him, I'm like, You know what the worst scenario that I can paint for you is that you and your child will not get this resolved. And if not, your kids can end up on the street. And within 14 days of your child hitting the street, they will be on drugs, prostituting, HIV positive, or combination of the three are dead, or dead. Well, yeah. And that

they need to realize that 120,000 to 130,000 youth across this country get involved with prostitution, and only a third of those a year, and only if, and 1/3 of those are still in the house. When they're doing it. You know, and I took a reporter out on the streets not too long ago, who has lived in Montrose for years, and within an hour, easily had her convinced that prostitution and all these things with these street kids happen every day of every week, on the street. What I'm mad as hell about is that in 1993, there are people that don't understand that anytime you bring a child into this world, each one of them has the right to food, clothing, shelter, and unconditional love, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, or whatever else you can dream up, and no one has the right to take any of those things away from anyone.

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Speaker 3 06:21

That's a very profound message. I'm sorry, they're hearing it in other countries and not here. It's very true.

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Speaker 7 06:28

One of the things I know y'all were talking earlier about telling parents and one of the things that I've talked with that I've talked when I talk with the youth about whether or not to tell parents or not, and I think this is crucially important, because you risk a lot. And we can't afford to empower youth to come out in their personal life in their in their private life, to the point to where they get overconfident at home and tell mommy and daddy in their, in their, in the home. Good disastrous things can happen. What I'd usually tell the youth is that parents usually know, they usually know already. And no one asks a question until they're ready to know the answer. But if your parents don't ask, don't tell him. But if they ask, don't lie, because if you lie, then what they're good at, what they can do is they can see that lie as your shame and your fear. Because if they ask, be sure you tell them, because once you've told them, you can hold your head up, and the fear and shame becomes their issues. And you no longer have to carry all that stuff for the family. They have to carry it and they have to deal with it. Now, unfortunately, very often they deal with it by discharging the youth, youth from the home. And that's when it becomes this: to try to mediate and work towards family reconciliation when possible. But never, never, never, never. This is something I always tell the youth when I'm working with them and their family. Never will I ask you to deny your sexual orientation. Never. No matter, no matter what. If this is what you say, then this is what I'm going to take you out because there's other things that we need to be worried about, as a case manager, then who you are attracted to, such as making sure you're clean, making sure you're sober, making sure you're fed, making sure you're safe if you're practicing intercourse or sex. These are the things that we try to keep the parents focused on.

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Speaker 3 08:27

I think that's one of the important things that people need to realize about the organization, PFLAG, they teach gay people that so many of their problems are not really their problems, but yet they're their parents problems. And they there's a clean division or always has been in my understanding of PFLAG, the parent and its role in letting the child accept itself and that being

separate from their own acceptance of kid is really, I think that's very important to make a young person understand their parents, their parents' disfavor of them, is their parents, and they shouldn't take that on and own it themselves. Because it's not theirs.

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Speaker 7 09:10

You're absolutely right. Quite often I say, You know what we all do the best we can with what we've got, including parents, I truly believe that every parent no matter how poor they are at parenting, they do the best they can with what they've got, unfortunately, a lot of people don't have as much as other people have, as far as coping skills and learning how to deal with problems.

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Speaker 3 09:32

I don't think most of them have near enough.

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Speaker 7 09:34

Right, exactly. In fact, I wouldn't mind saying--

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Speaker 2 09:37

We're going to go to our little cheap looking WEATHER GIRL here for station identification. I just have to say that you're listening to After Hours of continuing tradition on weird radio 90.1 FM came out that was World Radio. Well, they can't hear us in other parts of the world. KPFT Houston, Houston 90.1. Lane, how would you say that parents, I've been told that the coming out process for parents is equally as long as my coming out process or anyone's coming out processes. And that's something that we shouldn't really rush? How do you address that?

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Speaker 7 10:16

Actually, I think parents probably have a longer coming out process, simply because they're a little bit more set in their ways. Their support system, you know, if I'm coming out as a young gay male, I can, there's bars I can go to. But there's only you know, the place to go to, you know, here in Houston is PFLAG. And I would more likely to feel comfortable going to a bar than my parents would be to go to a gay support group. You know, my mom is very, very, I feel very supportive of what I do. But she still won't come to my events. She has been to Hippie, and she's very excited. And she's donated money to hippie because she believes in it. But she doesn't like a lot of the hoopla. And I'll tell you talking about coming out, you know, there was an article in the Houston Chronicle recently with a picture of me and a youth plastered all over the front. And it was very unsteadily for me because I was coming out in a sense, because I was forcing my parents out as well. Does that make sense? Because the majority, I knew the majority of my parents' family, read the Chronicle. The majority of the church I grew up with read the Chronicle. The majority of people in Pasadena I think, read the Chronicle.

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Speaker 3 11:44

But now they know why you've been walking around that bowl of fruit in your head, all these years doing that Carmen Miranda imitation.

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Speaker 7 11:52

And I was really nervous. And you know, quite often, my I have a nine year old nephew. And he has asked me several times about my earrings because I wear two hoop earrings. And he says, you know, well, I've heard that, you know, if you wear an earring and you're right here, that means you're gay. And I said, well, it doesn't have to necessarily mean anything. But would it matter if someone you knew was? And his response was? Well, I guess it wasn't? Well, after the article came out, he called me and said, Hey, girl, said Uncle Lane, I read your article, I wanted to congratulate you. And I said, really? Did you read it? And he said, Yes. And I said, Well, what did you think? And there was this long pause. And he said, Well, I think it's really neat that I have an uncle that can influence other kids lives. And it's like, he didn't even see the gay word. You know what I'm saying? It's like, he saw it, and he understood it. But that's not what he thought was important about it. But then yet, my father may have people that he works with that. That's all they saw. And yet, we continually say that youth are uneducated or our youth, aren't our strength. Adults are the responsible ones. Adults are the mature ones. Well, I tend to disagree them. I would disagree with them on occasion, but I think that's a perfect example.

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Speaker 3 13:11

Well, perhaps this would be an appropriate time to say that PFLAG is having their monthly meeting tomorrow at 2pm at 7601 Fannin, which is the intercare building. And if you need other information regarding PFLAG or related issues, they can be reached. Or you can leave a message at 8679020. And as I have pledged to make this a part of my 1993 I want to point out to everybody their responsibility in this. It's your responsibility as parents to come to terms with your gay or lesbian child. It is not their job to make you understand, it is your responsibility. There is not a better nor finer place than for that to start with PFLAG so they meet tomorrow at 2pm at 7601 Fannin, the intercare building or give them a call 867-9020 at least after all your child's life just very well may depend on it.

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Speaker 2 14:16


and that has been a public service announcement from Brian Bradley 1993 Copyright The year of the soapbox

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Speaker 3 14:26


length. Yeah, Lane. I think there's a couple of folks here that like to say how do you know you were going to send Troy over but Troy didn't make it. We've got Lesley and Michael and Raven here tonight.


 Speaker 8 14:38
Hey guys.


 Speaker 3 14:41
Do that more time. It was almost like the Andrews Sisters. Hi, Laura lane. That's Maxine in Mexico.


 Speaker 2 14:50
Why they go like who the hell are the Andrews Sisters? Seeing their new video. They're all dead!


 Speaker 3 14:58
Anyway And we've not heard very much from you tonight, Michael, what is there about you that's unique. And perhaps we should know about. They can't see your hair over the radio. So don't worry about it.

 Speaker 8 15:16
A year and a half ago, I came out to my father, and told him I was gay, and he kicked me out of the house. So you're like, 16, like 16. I'm gonna 17.

 Speaker 3 15:26
And I used to be that old.

 Speaker 2 15:30
Really?

 Speaker 8 15:31
I decided that instead of moving back to my mom's, I would try and live on my own with my friend. And it wasn't as easy as I thought it would be.

 Speaker 3 15:43
You still trying to go to school or things like that, oh,

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Speaker 8 15:48

I lived on my own for two months. I did a lot to work to get there. Things were really rough. It's not as easy as you think it is. It really isn't. That I decided to move back with my mom and go back to school. And I couldn't handle it going to school, and having to hide in the closet. I think it's like really sad when society makes you stay in the closet and not be able to come out. So I decided that I would drop out of school. And I dropped out and got my GED. I'm not saying that's what you should do, you know. But the alternative I had to do for myself, it's the only thing I could do to cope with, you know, I couldn't go to school and hide in the closet. And what's sad is that it took me dropping out of school to realize that I could have come out of closet, you know, I could have gone to school and said, Yes, I am gay if they asked me.

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Speaker 3 16:48

So it was your problems with inner turmoil, more so than going to school and being taunted or physically threatened or anything? Because I'm not I'm not trying to play that down. Because I think a lot of times mental concerns are much more pressing than physical.

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Speaker 2 17:06

Well, absolutely.

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Speaker 3 17:07

You should know, Scott.

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Speaker 2 17:09

We're not gonna get into that yet. That's at 1:45. Lane.

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Speaker 3 17:12

there on the hospital with your name on it. Hold and wing devoted to you? Well,

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Speaker 2 17:18

the Scott Lewis wing devoted to eating disorders. I

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Speaker 3 17:22

know, I keep telling them, it's that hair that you're putting on your head. Didn't you watch Rush

Limbaugh The other night I swear to that nonexistent God, everybody's always trying to swear to Rush Limbaugh showed a hair dye bottle and said this was a great and serious threat to the American male. So he was advising everyone to go great like our president elect is going to be. Well, but but I just told him that Twinkies had more to do with it. And I heard I would

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Speaker 2 17:50

I just put that hair dye out. And I'm very proud of it. And I'm sad to say Russia's Get out of my hair, Jimmy. Lane.

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Speaker 3 17:58

Please, how we have a guest over on the right here.

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Speaker 2 18:00

How common is that for gay and lesbian teenagers that they drop out of school?

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Speaker 7 18:05

Well, I give an example, a certain group a few months ago, had nine young people in the group with me, five of which were high school dropouts. And one to five where high school dropout and of the five, two had their GED. And the rest of them one had graduated and two, were still in school. And that's pretty consistent. Anytime we have group, the people running group, keep a stat sheet where we put down you know, age, race, gender, sexual orientation, whether or not they've been abused or not, whether or not they have house or not, or living arrangements, whether or not they've been fed, whether or not they're going to eat. And one of the questions is school. And if they've dropped out, we put DO and consistently, at least half at least half of every group has dropped out.

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Speaker 2 19:06

And and did that get any better later? Do they eventually GED and go to college? Or is this is that that the end of the road for their education? Typically?

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Speaker 7 19:16

Oh, goodness, it's hard to say right now because we just got started. So I don't know what

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Speaker 3 19:21

you don't have all the answers, Lane?

S Speaker 2 19:24
And that's why we brought you on.

S Speaker 3 19:27
let's not leave the impression that you know, getting a GED automatically makes you some genius or a member of Mensa because it doesn't. The message needs to be if you have to drop out of school, do at least go back and get your GED as a stopgap measure. But just possessing a diploma or GED is not going to be enough to get you through life. You need a good education. And I'm sorry, that's just not happening. Yeah, Raven, you had something you wanted to say.

S Speaker 5 19:57
Yeah, I have one more point about HIV testing. This is the difference between between confidential and anonymous testing. Confidential means that they you give them, you give them your name. And they say that they won't give it. But a lot of the times the government will will break break a law and--

S Speaker 3 20:14
--now get out of here sometimes sometimes break the law and a Republican administration.

S Speaker 5 20:19
Yeah, Republican administration. Sometimes--

S Speaker 3 20:21
--so you're telling people that they do need to go have themselves tested for the HIV virus but but they need to do it with the words anonymously.

S Speaker 5 20:29
Yeah, make sure, make sure it is anonymous testing, or else Or else we might know your name, yet city and county health clinics will do it confidentially. You must give them your name, places like Planned Parenthood and the Montrose clinic, you do it by numerical sequence and sequencing and not by name. So that's very important.

S Speaker 7 20:48
What we do have, you can go and get a free HIV test at the Monrose clinic. That is done by

youth. I think someone one of the youth mentioned that earlier.

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Speaker 3 21:02

I've seen that you have teenagers giving other teenagers HIV tests. And it's free. And it's on Wednesdays, they have a JR model of the little goodie box. It's real not

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Speaker 2 21:13

and they can get all that information from you at 942-YUTH why you th is that correct? Right. Right. Unfortunately, I'm sorry. We are all out of time. I'd love for this to keep going on. Thank you so much, Elaine, we appreciate it.

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Speaker 7 21:26

Definitely. And please, if there's anyone out there listening, Hippie is here, Hippie cares. We can help you with family, we can help you with food, clothing, shelter, and support. We have support groups that meet almost every night of the weekdays. Specifically Wednesday and Thursdays we serve pizza after every group. If you're HIV, we can help you get social services. If you're gay or lesbian. We can help you get social services. And if you're on the streets, we can help you get social services.

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Speaker 3 21:58

Oh my god, I think we'll start drinking all of our lion now be there next week.

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Speaker 2 22:03

It won't help.

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Speaker 3 22:04

I'd like to also thank Michael, Leslie, and Raven, thank you guys so much. Nine. Thank you. You're

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22:10

very careful out there. All right, thanks.

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Speaker 3 22:12

We're gonna go tuck them into bed. Jamie, I hope the world knows I love you.

S**Speaker 2 22:17**

All right, guys. We have to go now to This Way Out.

**22:36**

Tchaikovsky was gay in both senses of torture. It's well known that the author allusions brother modius also suggested the title PowerTeacher skya for his last symphony, but potted teacher skya does not mean pathetic in Russian. It means enthusiastic or passionate.

**23:10**

Welcome to this way out the international lesbian and gay radio magazine. I'm Lucia Chapelle.

S**Speaker 8 23:15**

And I'm Greg Gordon. There's no time for queer rights in New Zealand. Rocky Mountain boycott spreads to the buccaneer Bay and discovering the passion of Tchaikovsky's far from pathetic symphony,

**23:26**

all that and more because you've discovered this way out.

**23:40**

I'm Cindy Friedman, and I'm Brian Nunez with News Wrap a summary of some of the news in or affecting the lesbian and gay community for the week ending December 26 1992. New Zealand's new federal human rights bill was introduced in Parliament without any reference to sexual orientation. Associate Minister of Health Catherine Reagan said there wasn't enough time left in this session to propose controversial amendments that would add sexual orientation and HIV status as protected categories. The measure was sent on to his select committee which will have to report back to the full house before amendments can be moved. But parliament will not open session again until late February. The Christian heritage party is already busy circulating a petition not only opposing human rights protections for lesbians and gays, but also calling for re criminalization of homosexual acts.

S**Speaker 10 24:36**

Sweden's parliament has rejected a series of motions to add gays and lesbians to existing law prohibiting agitation against minorities. The motions for increased protections came from liberal center left and Social Democratic Party members, spurred in part by the murder of a gay

man in Gothenburg that Neo Nazis had described as garbage collection.



25:00

US President Elect Bill Clinton has completed his cabinet nominations. And while they haven't fulfilled every liberal dream, they look hopeful for an end to the ban on military service by gays and lesbians. Ban opponent Les Aspin outgoing House Armed Services Committee Chair is the nominee for Secretary of Defense. Although the Congress will consider charges of conflict of interest before confirming him. Gay and Lesbian activists had protested earlier consideration of Senator Sam Nunn, who supports the ban. Gays and lesbians will be both visible and audible at Clinton's January 20th inauguration. The Lesbian and Gay Bands of America, 22 groups from across the US, will be the first group to perform in the inaugural parade. The Christian defense coalition hopes to assemble 500 protesters along the route.



25:55

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors resolved to withdraw \$6 million from the Bank of America protesting the bank support of the anti gay Boy Scouts of America. But Mayor Frank Jordan quickly vetoed the move. Jordan justified his veto by calling the Bank of America quote, an outstanding corporate citizen that has a record of major gift giving, including to gay and lesbian interest groups and quote, despite the bank's flip flop in first announcing it would cease funding the Scouts because of their policy of discrimination against gays and then announcing it would continue contributions after all. The Bank of America has not made any gifts to scouting recently. Mayor Jordan did say that he would sign into law a pair of ordinances enforcing a San Francisco boycott of Colorado.



26:41

You may recall a report earlier in the year about brownie Mary Rathburn the 69 year old San Francisco a woman arrested in July for distributing marijuana brownies to people with AIDS. After the city of San Francisco celebrated up brownie married day and passed a measure legalizing limited medical use of marijuana, it's no surprise that earlier this month, the district attorney decided not to prosecute the two felony drug charges against her.



27:12

An item in America's TV Guide credits actor Richard Gere for finally getting the ball rolling on the TV movie version of "And the Band Played On," based on the best selling chronicle of the AIDS crisis in the 1980s by gay journalist Randy Schultz. The project had been in development for more than four years, and was considered and then rejected by two broadcast networks before it was picked up by giant cable network HBO. Once gears signed on to the project director Rogers Spottiswoode was able to line up a host of other well known actors, including Matthew Modine, Alan Alda, Angelica Houston, Lily Tomlin and Sir Ian McKellen. Phil Collins, best known for his pop music work with Genesis and as a solo artist says he would have taken any part just to be in the movie, which compares to Oliver Stone's JFK. Collins will play a gay bathhouse owner in what TV Guide called one of the most awaited television events of 1993.



28:11

And finally, in a move much applauded by activists, comic Roseann Arnold recently had a married character on her top rated TV series played by Sandra Bernhard come out as a lesbian, but it seems the issue might come even closer to home. In a recent magazine interview, Rosen's husband Tom Arnold revealed that they're trying to have a child and that their favorite name, regardless of gender is Shuggie Bet Bet LaRue Arnold. When the interviewer suggested sounds like you guys are planning to have a drag queen, Arnold responded, I guess we are.



28:54

That's news wrap for the week ending December 26 1992. compound and written by Cindy Friedman.



Speaker 13 28:59

Follow the news in your area. An informed community is a strong community. For this way out. I'm Cindy Friedman.



Speaker 10 29:07

And I'm Brian Nunez. Hello, my name is Jennifer Brown. I'm calling from Waterloo, Ontario, Canada at a community radio station CK WR and we're interested in getting This Way Out. We're very interested. We want to hear from you



Speaker 11 29:27

call me This is John Preston, the editor of a member the family game and write about one another and a resident of Portland, Maine were This Way Out, the international lesbian and gay radio magazine is an important part of being part of the whole gay and lesbian world.



Speaker 12 29:50

This is amendment to step the hate state debate with Cindy Friedman and Brian Nunez. David Smith, executive director of GLAAD LA, the Los Angeles chapter The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation claims that 16 million trackable dollars have already been pulled out of Colorado as a result of the boycott protesting amendment 2, the successful ballot initiative to prevent legal recognition of gays, lesbians and bisexuals as a minority. At least nine US cities have come out in support of the boycott so far.



Speaker 13 30:21

Speaker 12 30:11

The boycott of Colorado could be spreading out to include the city of Tampa, Florida, which repealed its gay and lesbian rights ordinance in the November balloting. The National Catholic campus ministers Association immediately responded by canceling its planned regional meeting there. The Gay and Lesbian association of choruses is considering cancellation of its 1996 festival. They're costing the city they say an estimated three and a half million dollars as well as possibly moving their headquarters out of Denver, Colorado.

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Speaker 12 30:56

Some entertainers who are not boycotting Colorado are turning their profits over to the struggle for gay and lesbian rights. They're both the Grateful Dead and Manhattan transfer are contributing funds from Colorado appearances to clip the Colorado legal initiatives project, the group that's challenging amendment 2 in court, gay singer songwriter Ron Romanovsky kept a performance state in Colorado to raise funds for Denver's gay and lesbian center.

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Speaker 13 31:22

Tom Gill, chair of the Denver based software firm Cork Incorporated, announced he'll contribute a total of \$1 million to several organizations fighting amendment 2. He wants the money to be used to educate people that discrimination is wrong in all its forms.

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Speaker 12 31:41

Colorado for family values. The proponents of amendment two is now referring its phone calls to Pat Robertson's National Legal Foundation. The foundation actually began consulting with CFV about the amendment at least as early as 1991. And that's amendment two-step the hate state debate for this week. With Cindy Friedman. I'm Brian Nunez.