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SPEAKERS

Scott Lewis, Harvey Milk, Jewel Gray



00:01

The following program contains language or images of a frank or sensitive nature that may be considered objectionable by some listener Discretion is Advised



00:14

I am what I am I have my own special creation so come to give me the all the Ovation it's what I want little Bryden and it's not a blaze lies not worth a damn to you can say hi you've discovered after hours continuing tradition on KPFT



Jewel Gray 01:11

I don't want sprays I don't want bang my own drum some pretty bad things from a different angle oh god life is a sham until you can shout out what I am and what I need no excuses I do my own deck sometimes he is notified been knocked down till you can shout out



Harvey Milk 02:31

we must destroy the myth once and for all shatter them we must continue to speak out and most importantly most importantly every person must come out 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 name you must tell the people your work you must tell the people the stories you shot once they realize that we are indeed the children that we are indeed everywhere every every lie every innuendo will be destroyed and you will feel so much better



Jewel Gray 03:58

do my own deck sometimes.



04:42

You may all come out and where will you be when they come



Jewel Gray 05:35

out Good evening, if you're toiling away to die, you found after hours a continuing tradition on KPFT Houston 90.1. Tonight, this is Jewel gray with a lot of friends in the studio have a lot of friends. And more to come. I'm expecting. Nancy Ford is supposed to drop by some time. Nancy, if you're out there, we're waiting. And Jan from last week is going to be here Jan Downs and we have in the studio with us tonight, we have Diane Williams, one of my favorite people. And Susan Palmer, Marianne today and Scott Lewis right now. And these are going to be some people we're going to be talking with tonight, we're going to discuss a few things. One of the things we're going to talk about is the the names project quilted St. Thomas today. And we're going to talk about that in just a few minutes. But let me run down what we're going to do this evening. After we talk about that, I guess somewhere around 115 We're gonna go to break through, um, excuse me do that every time. I do that every time. We're going to go through what is it this way out, I should write it down. We're gonna go to this way out about 115. And when we do that, we're going to talk a few things about some of the finances going on for PW A's in town this week, some of the shocking news that some some of the people with AIDS out there found out about their services in Houston today. This week, we're going to talk about that a little bit. And how about Tabitha Ann Landers in the paper? How about that, guys? Did you? Did you really love that or what? And Landers? Nobody knows, okay, we'll talk about and landers and glad to be gay. And a friend, a friend of mine and, and a real, real positive force in this community passed away this week. And we're going to talk a little bit about Steve shifflett. He was a real mover and shaker back about 10 years ago here in Houston and saw his way to be kind to me, and I want to talk a little bit about Steve, I want to talk tonight, a little bit about gay Republicans. Is that a topic we can find? All right, we could find things to talk about. And a little bit about the violence on the street. We're hoping to get a hold of Q patrol here in a few minutes. And I want to first I want to talk a little bit about St. Thomas. Does anybody have a problem with? Does anybody have a problem with having the quilt at St. Thomas this week? Did anybody have a problem with that? Speak or forever hold your



08:29

Queer Nation did a demonstration there. as it regards queer nation did a demonstration there as it regarded the Montrose singers doing a performance at St. Thomas, St. Thomas had the Montrose singers had been doing performances there for many times, we'd always build they'd always build it as a gay men's choir and everything. There was not a problem until all of a sudden, one of the administrators got a hold of an ad that said, gay men's choir performing at St. Thomas. And then all of a sudden they freaked out. And they asked after they had already signed a contract and everything. They told them that they could not perform there anymore. And the Montrose singers went to them and said, Well, we've already done all our advertising. We've spent lots of money, blah, blah, blah. And St. Thomas said, well, it doesn't matter. You still can't perform there. Then they went to Rice and Rice University and they got Cameron Hall for it. And during that time, many people called St. Thomas and St. Thomas consulted their

lawyers and found out they had to hold true to their contract that was signed already. Otherwise they were going to be sued and said okay, well you can perform but if you perform, you can't say you're gay. And that, you know really ticked off a lot of people. So Queer Nation, along with the Montrose singers went to St. Thomas and protested. That's where a lot of this is coming from other than the fact that it's a Catholic University. And Catholics historically have not been calling to gay people in general. So now this

J Jewel Gray 09:59

this thing With the choir that happened with the course that happened last year did it around Thanksgiving. Yeah, somewhere around that about the holiday time. I remember reading about that. That's why I found it so strange when I heard that the quilt was going to be there. Why? Why does? Can anybody speculate why they chose pandering?

S Scott Lewis 10:22

I read the very little coverage that was in the twit. Over the quilt being here, I read that a letter to the editor that someone had attacked the choice of St. Thomas. And this was a letter I read was a reply. That why we chose this was obviously someone that was involved with it. This person's letter stated that they chose it because of the extreme amount of savings. It had been here in the past at the George R Brown. And they save so much money that this person felt like they could put that money out for PW A's in the community. And while I agree with that, and of course, we want to do anything, you know that money, we want to want to get it to the PW A's. But I feel like that supports their homophobia, it encourages it and tells them slap us around, it's okay, we'll come back and support you with our dollars.

J Jewel Gray 11:24

I agree. And that's why I wanted to talk about that today. It's because in a way, that's what we've told them by letting by signing on to do something with these people that have already showed us their the true colors, has just just told them outwardly that, you know, we'll spend our money at your place, even if you discriminate against us. And that's the wrong, that's the wrong message we want to send. And I think I'd like to tell some people at St. Thomas, if anybody's listening, and if anybody wants to write a letter to St. Thomas, you can find the address and the telephone book, and tell the people at St. Thomas, we're real disappointed in that I expected better from St. Thomas, for some reason. They had a good reputation until the stuff with the core Chorus was of course with my interesting singers, the singers, until then, and I had a lot of respect and have since lost a good deal of it over this. That wasn't something else you said Scott was about. There was a definite lack of media over the quilt being here. What does anybody speculate on what that might have been? Why? I know last time when it was at the George R brown convention center, it was at this huge, beautiful arena. It was in the middle of downtown, there's a big park area in front of the convention center that the release of balloons when they name names was held. I mean, it was obviously a downtown downtown event. And it was as moving as it could be wherever it is. I mean, even if it wasn't a garage, it would still be a moving tribute to people. But the fact that it went from this grandiose scale to the jariabek Athletic Center at St. Thomas, to me was I kind of went why, you know, why is this happening? And I understand how much money it cost last year and how much money it saved

this year. And I can definitely respect that. I can respect their choice of venues as far as the Treasury goes. But it's it seems kind of odd that you would go from this to that without a better explanation, especially with someplace that has already discriminated against this once before. Absolutely. And there was no media coverage. There wasn't good farmers. I mean, do you think somebody deliberately has kept this from the media, so it doesn't draw attention to it? It's so small and this at St. Thomas. I mean, I know there's been a little publicity, but very, very little. I'm really surprised at what's happened about this. I also sat at a booth today from 10 o'clock till three o'clock this afternoon for the age mastery workshop, giving out information and networking with some of the people down there that hadn't seen in a long time got to see a lot of people. And one of the things I wanted to talk about was there was a small demonstration there. And it was by the fundamentalist out there who had had their things to say. And while they have the right to say that, so did the opposing view have the right to present their opposing view, which I believe queer nation did today. At the same simultaneously with the fundamentalist at which time I believe there was a small group of people inside the the auditorium there who began playing Missing out the no queer nation T shirts. And I began watching these T shirts pop up all over the auditorium there. And I was really, really disappointed in this immature display at such a sensitive place of, of posturing. I mean, that's all it is, you know, it's some political ego boosting, Bull. The people that are doing this is an owner of a commercial t shirt shop, and he's selling those T shirts. I mean, there's a reason that he's doing this, and it's for money. You know, I understand, he may have originally felt that this was a problem that he didn't like the word queer, and that was a problem. But he's making money off this and he's using, he's using the, the money that he makes from the T shirts, a tiny percentage of the profit is going to is going to age related causes. But that's the tiny percentage off the profit. Coordination, on the other hand, are not coordination, some other group, queer queer turf, those guys, queer turf is selling T shirts. They've donated even the cost of making the T shirts to aid. And to me that says where somebody's heart is that that says what's important? Well, you know, politically, I would like to, I would like to take a middle road here and say that I can see both issues here. And I have talked to lots of people who have who've taken either side strongly. But the point here I'm trying to make tonight is that at the quilt, that display of infighting was just absolutely inappropriate. And, and to me, it was very disappointing. See the people, one man came up to me that I've known a long time and said, See my shirt, what do you think? And I said, I, I find it disgraceful. And he was really surprised that I'd found it that way. And I explained to him I said, this is a place where we come together, to, to express to each other and to everyone who's, who's looking, how we how we feel, and what's going on and to let some of that grief and loss be you know, dealt with and what and in the minute you get off the floor and to some other place and this battle is visible on someone's chest, this battle of inner circle is visible on someone's chest, I really thought it was inappropriate, in a place of respect in a place where, you know, we're mourning our dead, it was inappropriate. Exactly. I hope that the people who were in charge of this this year will consider some other options next year or the next time we have the quilt in town. And I hope they consider some of the local sensitivities when they consider some of these natural national events coming through our city that they will pay just a little bit of tension. Some local considerations like what did the people here want? Marianne, you've been off quiet.



18:13

It's always listening.



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Jewel Gray 18:14

It's hard. Oh, talk do that again. Oh, what a voice. Oh, I love it on the radio. She was worried about that. We're gonna go to we're gonna go to Matt at the Q patrol if we can get him on the phone to patrol. Hi, Matt. How's it going? Hey, great. quiet night tonight. We're Yeah, tonight.



18:38

Oh, well. Right now. We're sitting in the atrium club. And it's pretty quiet. Oh, we're cruising around tonight. People are having a good time. No riots in the street here in Houston.



Jewel Gray 18:48

Oh, great. Well, that's good news. Oh, how was it last night?



18:56

Understand the way major incidents and things have been pretty cloudy the last few weeks. It's been a good time. You know, people come out and feel safe. Well, good.



Jewel Gray 19:04

The weather's good out there too. I understand. Oh, this beautiful.



19:08

Nice. So breeze blonde was still really muggy. But the breeze helps.



Jewel Gray 19:12

You got a good crew tonight. Oh, well,



19:14

we've got several mobile patrols and we're out. We're rolling. And we've got East Metro space. Working with us tonight assistance patrol group and we're out here.



Jewel Gray 19:25

Well, great. Matt. Listen, I'd like to connect with you again later this evening. Actually, this morning, if if I call you can I reach you with this number?



19:36

Mobile phone with us tonight.



Jewel Gray 19:37

Okay. We'll talk to you soon. All right, thank you. Okay, that was cute troll. Let's see if we can. That was Q Patrol. And that was Matt with the Q Patrol. Now that was technically my technical wizardry or I push the button here. Rustle some paper jewel. I really like it when you do that risk. Thinking paper thing. I'm reading notes here, people I just keep panning if there's not a finger going like crazy there's a note in my hand we love you Jimmy. Come back in and let me know we've got a couple of songs I want to play here. And we'll and then we'll come back and talk a little more about some of the more local news here in town. The first one we're going to listen to sweet hungry honey on the rock I'm gonna stand it's going to be followed by consolidation, consolidated unity of oppression and your girlfriend we won't be silent we will not bow down to ah ha yeah, we will not bow down to



21:01

justice



21:03

we will not bow down to explore what you don't do just came Tala re re I just came time I just won't explore what you don't do we will not we will not obey and justice we will not obey Okay, we're



Jewel Gray 22:21

back. And I wanted to let whoever was calling here know that we were we appreciate their information. There was positive media coverage on the quilt at 6pm newscast on channel 26. Thanks for calling in and letting us know. Let's channel 20 cents right? Before we get away from this I want to make a mention here that at two after hours, we try to play music with a message. And we hope you listen with your hearts as well as your ears to our messages. And that's why we chose those songs we just listened to. I'm going to stand unity of oppression and we won't be silent. We won't be songs one of my favorites. We were just sitting here talking actually word I can't get a word out of these pieces a talkie as people I know and suddenly all of them know nothing. But somebody mentioned the Randalls thing this week about how the press how the press has been taking gay ads and then press Houston press the one that told one Hello. Hello. Most story almost pull him out of the closet.



23:39

No. I was really proud of him. But the same press that did that story is taking gay ads and personal ads. And Randals the people Randles have decided that that's not something they

want and have pulled the press from the shells there. What do you guys think it is? What can we do about it? What did they do when we did this? We hate Randals right?



24:12

Can I Can I read something? Okay. I think it's great. Okay, this is the article. It's an article in the Houston press about read those banning the newspaper. They so what's the problem already? Our editorial content, said Randall skip down a little farther. But that's different. Randall said people pay for those and besides, I'll have to stand before the Lord someday. We'd like to be there to hear Randall explain to the Lord why he wouldn't give away the Houston press but was happy to sell us copies of Kentucky bright and hot Texas loving.



Jewel Gray 24:44

Really? Boo Randall Randles for sure. Well, what can we do about it? What did they do when this happened? With the green cheater they're going to do somebody's going to do something that will be talked to I can't imagine that will be picketing again. The whole point though, is As I'm not going to say the picketing didn't work, because it worked in a number of ways. What happened before was the Randles gave out green sheets free in their in their store, and they still do, and queer nation called the Montrose area, a discrimination free zone. And we said that in the very beginning, the discrimination free zone was going to be no racism, no ageism and sexism. And obviously, no homophobia will be allowed in this small area. And we were going to try to start it there and then work out now that's still happening, we're still doing it. But we approached Randles and said, the green sheet discriminates against gay people, because it doesn't allow gay people to advertise, and it's personals don't allow to advertise any businesses or anything whatsoever. They don't want to ads for the gay Political Caucus for fundraisers and garage sales for gay events. I mean, it was a really big deal. And Randall said, Well Are people really want it, they're not making any money off the green sheet. And so we pick it in them and picketing went on and on and on. And it worked to a large extent in that the green sheet changed some of their policies. But on the whole Randles has never been friendly in any way, shape, or form. And not only have they not been friendly, they've been downright discriminatory, hostile.



Scott Lewis 26:23

Randles is the only grocery store in the Montrose you can get the green sheet at because every other grocery store said this is ridiculous. This is discrimination if they were refusing ads from blacks, Hispanics, women, so on and so forth. There would be people out in the streets, and justifiably so just as they are the gay people are justifiably out in the streets. And hence Kroger and apple tree and stop and NGOs and circle k's and 39, stores in Montrose pulled green sheet and said we will not support discrimination, which is what they're doing. They promote it. They just by distributing this paper they are promoting and encouraging discrimination against gays and lesbians.



Jewel Gray 27:08

And the it makes us angry, very angry. Sneaking of sneaking of angry, and feeling that anger

And the it makes us angry, very angry. Speaking of speaking of angry, and feeling that anger inside me. It's been something I've been thinking about since this Rodney King verdict. You know how all that anger is just pouring out. All that anger is just pouring out all over this country. And not a productive way to vent. Really. But I know that feeling that angry that frustration, and I know how bad I can feel it sometimes. And how destructive that can be in my in my life. The stuff going on with this random kid, of course, we know the verdict some something, something went wrong there in Chinatown. I mean, something really went wrong there. I mean, they changed the venue, they changed where the trial was going to be. And it turns out that the trial was held, literally in the back door of four of those men who were on trial, they all lived in the area. I'm just incredulous about that situation. Do you guys? Here it is. I'm trying to dig these people. Any other time? I could, I could barely get to words and and they would be adding their two pieces in and they're all looking at me like, What exactly do you want to know? I see the parallel here between the anger, the anger, the frustration that's inside. We feel that anger. Here. We feel it every day. What is the difference? What do you think the difference is between the anger that we feel from being discriminated against, and the anger that they feel for being discriminated against? I don't think there's probably much except maybe in the economic status with a lot of people. I think maybe they are a little more poverty stricken than some people in the gay community but other than that, yeah, there is an anger. And I think that we continually have issues pop up, you know, pop up in our community. And it's just kind of like a never ending thing. And they have one big issue that comes up for them nationwide. And ours just continually go on here in Houston. And people I think, say Oh, it's just another it's just another guy issue coming up. Oh, here comes coordination again. And I think the Paul Broussard issue last year was our big issue. And we have little ones, you know pop up now and then and my hope is that is that a positive big issue will come up that we can you know, like Juan Palomo last year was a good positive big issue. Unfortunately, it will probably be a very negative thing that comes up that we will have to fight again, but they have in Los Angeles. The community feels a huge issue now and they're very smart to it. At least bring it forth and to talk about it. Unfortunately, it's moved beyond the talking now into. But we can look at the different ways that that people have reacted to this. You know, if you look at the way people in different cities reacted violently, and with anger and hatred, and forcibly trying to change things. Now, what this, the productive side of all this anger is that the President has gone, whoa, we got to do something to calm these people down. And they've tried to rush the process of these four officers being retried, being really tried to federally try, and that's the productive side of this all the Sanchar stuff. Now, the unproductive side, which is way beyond the productive side, is that we have a billion dollars approaching a billion dollars total damage, Countrywide, and injuries and property and everything else. And it is, you know, the damage in lives alone is immeasurable. Now in Cleveland, Atlanta, Los Angeles, there's been rioting and there's been deaths and looting and blah, blah, blah. And yet in Houston, Houston, Texas, the the employees of Metro join hands together and surrounded their buildings, and a peaceful demonstration of solidarity. The members, the students of tsu, held a march and a press conference at tsu, and held hands in solidarity and made a huge statement. I mean, all this wonderful stuff. It just shows you what a civilized people can do. And the joy that that respect for this terrible crime. How it can band people together, I mean, black people, white people in Houston are holding hands. And in LA they're killing each other. So what are we doing right? And how do we tell them? This is this is right and this isn't? Well that's what I was that's what how is bringing up the parallel a while ago was you know, the different ways that this frustration is very similar at being prejudiced against is very similar. And the different ways it's been handled I've been very proud that Houston has not been less civilized in their demonstration of their anger and their their in we are angry. Oh, yes. I'm just incredulous. I cannot believe that has gone on. And I in the same place cannot believe watching film of from a helicopter of someone dragged someone out of a car and literally beat them to death. While

being filmed from a helicopter. I just can't believe that that kind of anger is justified. There's just no justification, nothing that goes on. That justifies pulling someone innocent out of a car and beating them to death. It just, it's just as bad as is the officers beating Rodney King, it's actually worse. Because what they did, they did in the height of adrenaline and passion and, and under the guise of have some authority on unlike the people who were out there doing this out of anger and, and frustration at their private, private lives and problems. There's just no justification for that under any circumstances. Scooter, you're looking very. You're looking very like you have something here to say about this.

S

Scott Lewis 33:44

Well, I think that the parallels are pretty obvious because people don't realize it, or people don't seem to want to accept it outside of our community. But gay or lesbian is a minority, just as black or Hispanic is a minority, ethnic or not racially. Exactly. We are born this way. And we are oppressed throughout our lives because of the way we are born. And it's I think that's why we identify so closely I do personally anyway with other minorities Hispanics and blacks because I understand the oppression that they go through because of the way they were born because of something they have no control over.

J

Jewel Gray 34:29

Sometimes I wish we were all pink so that they would be so boring, we'd be so incredible. No no, I don't mean everybody. I mean I mean gay people had a purple standard there for so that we you know, because that's the only as far as I'm concerned that's the only difference is that is that we can hide what we are roughly really to strike we can some of us can't think about it. I don't think I can hide it very long. But but we can blend in and in funding. Kinda way that our, our black brothers and sisters cannot do and therefore, they're open targets for anyone who has that hey, at least with us that you know we can walk amongst people who have that hate and still still not be identified by them. Let's see what we were going to do. Oh, we have another we have another album another record here and its glory glory Bye. I know I haven't I know I have please a car Okay, is it Gauri and we'll all stand and salute while this has been played yes so much Okay we're back there's a lot of people in the in the studio this evening so Jim is literally reaching over me and being very cozy Kathy don't worry it was a Kathy it's Kathy Don't worry right yeah, Kathy don't worry we're gonna send him home a whole roomful of women here he's safe I wanted to read or actually get somebody to read somebody with a husky voice. Let's see. You know what I really liked the way Marianne was reading a while ago and OB it here in the in the paper that drew my attention. This week of a leader from Houston, who moved to San Francisco passed away recently. Am I like my rattle that paper? Yeah, that's okay. I have that. Yeah, it's it means we're here. It's the typewriter. I did that last week. I put my own sound effects. Okay. But this is Steve Shiflett passed away. Last week. I think it was last week, wasn't it? And he was a real mover and shaker around here and much honored man the day he left Kathy Whitmire. made that day