

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Satellite distribution of the BBC World Service is supported by a grant from the Capital Group. KPFT has access to the BBC World Service through affiliation with American Public Radio. KPFT receives no financial remuneration for its broadcast.

- Can I tell you what the gay movement's about? After I got elected, I got the phone call I knew I'd eventually get. I got quite a few of them.

[PHONE RINGING]

One was from a 17-year-old child in a small town in Minnesota.

- Yeah, hold on.

- And the boy is handicapped.

- Who is this? All right. Thank you.

- And the boy's parents found out he's gay.

- Oh.

- And they want to put him in an insane asylum. And that boy needs help. And the gay movement is about the letter I got from Southwest Africa when he read about a gay person getting elected here. And that person has hope. And that 17-year-old kid in Minnesota has hope.

[CHATTER]

And we have gay leaders not understanding that and are more worried about their own personal power. They're not gay leaders.

- Hello?

- They're offensive.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Somewheres in Des Moines or San Antonio, there's a young gay person who all of a sudden realizes that she or he is gay, knows that if the parents find out, they'll be tossed out of the house. The classmates would taunt the child. And the Anita Bryants and John Briggs are doing their bit on TV. And that child had several options, staying in the closet, suicide. And then one day, that child might open a paper. It says, homosexual elected in San Francisco. And there are two new options. The option is to go to California--

[LAUGHTER]

[APPLAUSE]

--or stay in San Antonio and fight. Two days after I was elected, I got a phone call. And the voice was quite young. It was from Altoona, Pennsylvania. And the person said, thanks. And you've got to let gay people so that young child and the thousands upon thousands like that child know that there's hope for a better world. There's hope for a better tomorrow.

Without hope, you'll only gaze at those Blacks, and the Asians, the disabled, the seniors, the us's. The us's, without hope, the us's give up. I know that you cannot live on hope alone. But without it, life is not worth living. And you, and you, and you have got to give them hope. Thank you very much.

- We're talking and laughing about Christmas in July and how much fun this is. And it is a lot of fun because being alive and having a good time is a lot of fun. And then, we get a phone call from a cop who says, I love the show. And it's taken me months to get up the courage to call in and say something.

And I can understand your fear. And I can understand the knots you must get in your stomach dialing into something like this. And I can also understand being in a position that you're in and having to listen to the fat jokes or watching on television when 2,000 people marched in Montrose to protest the murder of a gay man simply because he was there.

And how hard it must be to stand by and listen to other people who are filled with homophobia, and bigotry, and ignorance laugh about it. And you can't say something about it. Just like our friend from the post said, Paul Broussard died because we are cowards. And until we get up enough guts or whatever it takes to stand up and say, hey, look, enough of this. We're here and we're queer. And that's it. So get over yourself.

This woman that wrote the paper, I can't get her out of my mind, and said, all these queens don't-- all they want is equal treatment. Why are they screaming so much about this one murder? We're screaming because bigotry came into our neighborhood and killed one of our friends. And you don't give a damn.

That's why we're screaming. That's why we're angry. And until you care about us and understand some of our pain, the world will continue to go down the toilet. And that's where we're going. I believe that. I really do. We're going to have a good time and hopefully hang on to each other and not all go down together. But until we get a grip, kids, we're in trouble.

I want the day when police officers can come up to me and dispatch and we can talk as openly about our feelings as the guy that just separated from his wife and is out screwing everybody and having a real good time. I want to be able to take my lover to work and kiss him goodbye just like Debbie does her husband, who is a police officer at HPD. Till that day, we're going to keep bitching and complaining.

Sorry for the interruption. We'll get back to Christmas in July. And a special request for a cop who found the courage to call. Thanks for calling in. Thanks for listening. And please tell your friends about us, especially the ones that wear the blue uniforms, and the gray uniforms, and the dark-colored uniforms, and the ones that swear to hold us together and to protect us from the insanity that seems to surround us so much. Anyway, if you ever need a policeman--

- If you ever need a policeman, all you got to do is holler. They're always there right on the job. For instance, here's the best one that money can buy.

- Help! Please!

[SHOUTING]

[SIRENS BLARING]

- Someone call a policeman? I'm a real policeman. Oh, and I'd love to give you the third degree. While gazing at my sexy form, with rapture, you'll be stricken. Take one look at me, fellas. In me, you'll find some chicken. A ruffian wants to fight me. I gave him one cold gaze. And as I really messed his hair, I says to him, I says, you're arrested. You're arrested. Now come at once with me. We're going to the station. And the sergeant, she'll serve tea. Now stop that tittering, I insist, you horrid, horrid man because I'm a real policeman.

- No.

- Honest to God, I am.

[LAUGHTER]

Oh, you're a large one, you are. By walking down the street one day with my girlfriend by my side, she said, look at that horrible fistfight. I think I'll run and hide. But instead of fainting, as you suppose, my smelling salts, I drew. And dashing mascara on my eyes, into the fray, I flew. So I says to him, you booger, you're arrested. You're arrested. Now come at once with me. We're going to the station. And the sergeant, she'll serve tea. Now stop the snickering, I insist, you horrid, horrid man because I'm a real policeman.

- No.

- Honest to God, I am. While cruising in my squad car last night, I came upon two lovely boys parked in a car. I'll be damned. There they are. So I shined my flashlight in the car and I says, OK, fellas, what's going on in there? One of the boys said, well, nothing, officer. We're just sitting here talking, just chewing the fat. And so I said, well, how long have you been parked here? He said, about an hour, sir. I said, you mean you've been parked here an hour and nothing has happened? He said, no, sir. I said, well, here, you get out and hold the flashlight. Let me in there.

[LAUGHTER]

Well, I'll never forget my toughest arrest was a bartender big and rough. He says I wasn't a policeman. I didn't look tough enough. But did I bawl him out something terrible. Right then, I called his bluff. And fluttering my kerchief in his face, I said, I've had enough. Oh, I'm so mad I could spit.

[GATHERING SPIT]

So I says to him with authority in my voice, you're arrested. You're arrested. Now come at once with me. We're going to the station. And the sergeant, she'll serve tea.

- Wait, wait, wait. Hold everything. Hold everything.

- What's the matter with you?

- You said three times, the sergeant, she'll serve tea.

- Certainly, I said it three times.

- No, you mean the sergeant, he'll serve tea. You don't know your English.

- Well, you don't know my sergeant. Now stop that snickering, I insist, you horrid, horrid man because I'm a real policeman.

- No.

- Honest to God, I am. Whoops.

- We're here. We're queer. Whoo.

[LAUGHTER]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Girl had had one too many burritos.

- I know it.

- And they have a conga line again.

- I love it.

- And I know they're just--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

- I really like this song.

- Yes.

- I love this. This is brand new from Romanovsky and Phillips.

- Good words. Good words.

- Yeah.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

They've had one too many margaritas. Whoo.

- Whoo.

- Romanovsky and Phillips. And it's-- well, you know what it is.

- Yeah.

- Caller number 15, you can win if you can tell us what holiday we've been celebrating.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

[LAUGHTER]

- That was a hint.

[LAUGHTER]

- Yeah, if you call us at 526-4000--

- We've got a New York City gay man chorus.

- --or 526-KPFT, we're going to give you this New York City Gay Men's Chorus.

- CD.

- It's 526-5738 or 526-KPFT.

- And what caller number?

- 15.

- 15?

- All we want to know is what holiday we've been celebrating.

- Oh, OK.

- It's a pretty--

- I think they can cope. Even though it's 3:30 in the morning, they can cope, girl.

- Here we go. I remember this is not Christmas. This is June. And there's still lots of hungry people.

- July.

- Well, June, July, August. It's not Christmas, Mary.

- No.

- But there are hungry people all over this city. And a lot of them are gay and lesbian people. Some of them are AIDS patients who can't pay their rent and who have no place to go get groceries. And they depend on things like Stone Soup and the Colt 45s. So please go down to the BRB today if you can. And go to Christmas in July. Or pick up your checkbook and send a check to somebody. You know what I mean?

- Colt 45's trouble fund.

- Yeah.

- Or your favorite neighborhood bar, just bringing a few canned goods over every time you stop by.

- Or support your favorite radio station like KPFT.

- Yeah.

- It brings you something like *After Hours*. Girl, we're going to win this war. We're on our way. Did you know it?

- We've got to.

- Going into our fourth count on one, two, three, four years of service.

[LAUGHTER]

Service? Girl, I can get better service than this.

- I'll bet.

- Especially that cop, if I could get him here.

- Oh.

- If he had hair on his chest, I would melt.

- Right.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

- Would you turn him away if he didn't?

- No, girl. I'd-- oh, please.

- We have a winner.

- Who's the winner?

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Stana.

- Well, congratulations. And thank you for listening.

- Yeah, get that out today, would you?

- I'll get that in the mail right away.

- Perfect. Why can't I have a-- I can just-- I just want a cop all that leather, all those leather accessories hanging on their hip.

- Oh.

- Those big, long, hard nightsticks.

- Girl.

- And those--

[MUSIC PLAYING]

[LAUGHTER]

Oh, Ms Michaels.

- Oh, I know it. She almost came out on this album.

[LAUGHTER]

- What does he want?

- Action.

[LAUGHTER]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- She just wants to scream, we're here. We're queer.

- Queer!

- La, la, la.

- Oh, oh, oh, oh.

[LAUGHTER]

- Well, you know she does on this album.

- I know.

- Because we're just everywhere, Mary. Everywhere, everywhere, everywhere, everywhere, everywhere. We're just everywhere.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- We're coming out in Kansas.

- We will be able to speed up that day when all of the children, Black men and white men, Jews and gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words old Negro spiritual. Free at last. Free at last. Thank God Almighty. We are free at last. I have a dream today.

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

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- I have a dream today. But I don't know what will happen now. We've got some difficult days ahead. But it really doesn't matter with me now because I've been to the mountaintop.

[CHEERING]

I don't mind. Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity--

- We must destroy--

- --has its place.

- --the myth once and for all, shatter them.

- But I'm not concerned about that now.

- We must continue to speak out. And most importantly--

- I just want to do God's will.

- Most importantly, every gay person must come out.

- And he's allowed me to go up to the mountain.

[CHEERING]

I've looked over. And I've seen--

- As difficult as it is--

- --the promised land.

- --you must tell your immediate family. You must tell your relatives.

- I may not get that with you.

- You must tell your friends, if indeed they are your friends.

- But I want you to know tonight--

- You must tell your neighbors.

- --that we as a people will get to the promised land.

- You must tell the people you work with. You must tell the people in the stores you shop in. You--

[APPLAUSE]

- And so I'm happy tonight. I'm not worried about anything. I'm not fearing anything. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord.

- And once they realize that we are indeed their children, that we are indeed everywhere, every myth, every lie, every innuendo will be destroyed once and for all.

[APPLAUSE]

And once, once you do, you will feel so much better.

[APPLAUSE]

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

[CHEERING]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- We will be able to speed up that day when all--

[MUSIC PLAYING]

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

- They've got to understand something. They've got to understand something. That we're not talking about white politics. This is not a movement from the waist down. We are talking about our right to love and to choose and to live. And I don't care about straight tolerance. And I don't care about straight understanding. You better hear me in Washington.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

We are demanding our civil rights.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Once they realize that we are indeed their children, that we are indeed everywhere, every myth, every lie, every innuendo will be destroyed once and for all.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

You will feel so much better. And I ask, I ask people all over this country to do one thing, come out Come out, America. Come out.

[CHEERING]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- What do we want?

- Gay rights!

- When do we want it?

- Now!

- What do we want?

- Gay rights!

- When do we want it?

- Now!

- What do we want?

- Gay rights!

- When do we want it?

- Now!

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- We must destroy the myths once and for all, shatter them

- What do we want?

- We must speak out. And most importantly, most importantly, every gay person must come out.

[CHEERING]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

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

[CHEERING]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

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

[SHOUTING]

- When do we want it?

- Now!

- What do we want?

- Gay rights!

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- It's almost 4:00.

- Is it?

- It does go by so fast.

- It does.

- Time just slips away.

- I really like that Nona Hendryx that you did there--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

- I want to borrow this for a while.

- Yeah.

- Because I'm not familiar with the song

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

- I think it's a very powerful song. And it lends itself to your mixes.

- Well, we'll get-- I'll get-- now, we'll get it. It'll be all right. Here's our dear friend, who's no longer with us anymore except through the miracle of recorded tape, Pat Parker.

- It's called for the straight folks who don't mind gays, but wish they weren't so blatant.

[LAUGHTER]

Some people got a lot of nerve. Sometimes, I don't believe the things I see and hear. Have you met the woman who's shocked by two women kissing and in the same breath tells you that she's pregnant? But gays shouldn't be blatant. Or the straight couple sits next to you in a movie. And you can't hear the dialogue because of the sound effects.

[LAUGHTER]

But gays shouldn't be blatant. And the woman in your office spends your whole lunch hour talking about her new bikini drawers and how much her husband likes them. But gays shouldn't be blatant. Or the hip chick in your class rattling a mile a minute while you're trying to get stoned in the john about the camping trip she took with her musician boyfriend.

[SHOUTING]

But gays shouldn't be blatant. You go in a public bathroom. And all over the walls, there's John loves Mary, Janice digs Richard, Pepe loves Dolores, et cetera.

[SHOUTING]

But gays shouldn't be blatant. Or you go to an amusement park and there's a tunnel of love, and pictures of straights painted on the front, and grinning couples coming in and out. But gays shouldn't be blatant. Fact is, blatant heterosexuals are all over the place, supermarkets, movies, at work, in church, in books, on television every day and night, every place, even in gay bars.

[LAUGHTER]

And they want gay men and women to go hide in the closets. So to you straight folks, I say, sure, I'll go if you go too. But I'm polite. So after you. Thank you.

[APPLAUSE]

- Violet of the airwaves, here is my request.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- This Christmas in July thing has been fun.

- Yes, it has.

- But I'm not going to play another Christmas music--

[LAUGHTER]

- --any more Christmas music till after, ew, Thanksgiving.

- We have done Christmas music until December.

- Whoo.
- But it's still not too late for you to do some Christmas stuff today.
- Oh, that's right.
- 6:00 this evening at the BRB, they're having a Christmas in July fundraiser.
- That was one of my favorite all-time songs. Did you know that? Of course you did because you gave me that album.
- Yeah.
- Which I dearly love.
- After you-- you were looking for it for months, and months, and months.
- I had been looking for it for years, and years, and years, not just months, and months, and months.
- And I just happened to have a copy that had been played maybe once.
- Yeah, that's where we got that from.

[LAUGHTER]

Charlie Doren, pilot of the airwaves. See, I love that because I've been doing radio since I was-- well, I don't want to say that because that was almost 20 years ago.

- Ooh.

[SNORING]

[HUMMING]

- KPFT.
- Hello?
- Yeah.
- How are y'all doing tonight?
- Fine. How are you?
- Y'all just about to head home?
- Yep.
- Yeah, this is Chris. I was just calling to tell y'all to have a good night.
- Well, thank you very much.
- I am-- my chest is covered with hair.

[LAUGHTER]

Hi.

- Bye.

[HANGING UP PHONE]

Did you hear that?

- Yes, I did. So did 1/2 of the world.

- So did all of Houston.

[LAUGHTER]

- Well, girl, he said his chest is covered with hair.

- And then, he said good night.

- Well--

- Now is that a tease or what?

[LAUGHTER]

- Well, please. Now what am I going to do?

- You're going to go home and go to bed.

- Whoa, hold it. This is a family show.

- Oh.

- It just depends on whose family.

- That's right.

- Oh, god, I'm tired. What's that? Happy birthday greetings to David.

- Happy birthday, David.

- Happy birthday to you.

- To.

- Happy birthday to you.

- To.

[LAUGHTER]

- No, Mary. Don't do that.

[LAUGHTER]

- I can't do the do-to-lous over here?

- You have been doing the do-to-lous.

[LAUGHTER]

- Is that what my problem is?

- What are we doing next week?

- Well, I'm not-- I don't know, you see, because I was going to go off to--

- I thought the GOPC was going to be here.

- Next week, the week after.

- Oh, the week after they're going to be here?

- I think so. Yeah, I'm going to talk with Tony this week.

- To talk about the redistricting?

- Yeah, but you see, I thought I was going to be in Montreal. So I didn't really care.

[LAUGHTER]

- Well, I'll tell you what, you stay here. And I'll go down--

- No, no, no, no.

- --to HPD and look for this hairy-chested cop that just called. Get your pencils and paper please so I can give you my home telephone number.

- Well.

- Actually, it's the number to the *After Hours* hotline. That's where you can reach us. But it does ring in my house.

- Yes.

- Just about, how far would you say from my bedroom?

[LAUGHTER]

- Not very far.

- No, be nice. Be nice. Be nice. Let's see. What else, Mary, is happening? Huh?

- You're looking at me?

- What? You're in charge of getting people on this sideshow.

- Well, we're looking for Gay Fathers Fathers First. They'll be coming up sometime soon.

- And there's a big conference coming.

- No, that already came.

- Oh, it did?

- Yes.

- Well.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- That was the Lynn Lavner thing.

There's also-- well, get your pencils and paper. And I'll tell you where to get information. There's also interview coming up in a couple of weeks with somebody very special. It's going to be a secret.

- Oh?

- Because as soon as I can tie her down and talk to her.

- Her?

- It's not the mayor. And it's not the chief of police. I'd like to talk to the chief, though, on the show. Do you think maybe she'd do an interview with us?

- You can only ask.

- I'm trying to get up the courage to ask.

- Yes.

- I don't know what she's going to say. You know what I mean? So I'll work on that. Also, you work on this. Write us a letter to *After Hours* in care of KPFT. It's 419 Lovett Boulevard, Houston, Texas 77006. Or you can call us on the *After*-- I'm trying to be nice.

- Yes.

- On the *After Hours* hotline, which rings about that far from my bedroom.

- Hm. That's not very far.

- The answering machine is there. And it'll take your message.

- Or he'll pick it up.

- Yeah, and say hello? Hello? Hello? A lot of people call. But a lot of people don't say anything. Isn't that weird?

- They just, hello, hello?

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

- Hell, they don't say anything. They just listen. I think they're waiting for me to say, hey, come on over. I don't know what they're waiting for. Anyway, that's another show.

- Yes.

- The number is 529-4636. That's the *After Hours* hotline. Area code 713, 529-4636. Or you can write us at KPFT, 419 Lovett Boulevard, Houston, Texas 77006. Or to find out what's going on in the gay and lesbian community--

- You can call the Gay and Lesbian switchboard.

[LAUGHTER]

- And the number is?

- Is 529-3211.

- Hurry, Mary. We've got to go.

- And until next week, have a great week.

- All right. Love you, babies.

- And remember what Harvey Milk said, rights are not won on paper. They are won by those who make their voices heard. So speak up, America. Gay and lesbian life.

- Ooh, that's scary.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- You're tune--