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transgendered, people, hear, transgenders, performance, vote, houston, gay, talking, politics, bill, queer, texas, voice, life, gay lesbian, closet, lesbian, katrina, called

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suede



00:26

Oh yes, you've tuned into after hours queer radio with attitude right here on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of after hours is ready to bring you news interviews, dialogue and music geared for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people and their friends. Hear it after hours, we may be diverse, but we have one thing in common. We are all out of the closet and urge everyone to come out of their closets. That means standing up for yourself taking responsibility for your own life and being proud of who you are. Realistically, we know not everyone can do that because of age job or frame of mind. That's okay, we're here for you too. So sit back, relax, and enjoy this week's edition of after hours.



01:46

Hello, Houston and welcome to rafter hours queer radio with attitude. And welcome to the



01:56

July 11. July on trying to July



01:59

11 Episode Episode Episode, they seem to be episodes you know, there's this unfolding of life here. That's true on Jimmy Carper and of course, that is the the other voice you hear is that of their diploma. And before we get any further I want to talk about the opening music that I played because I'm really excited about it. It's named groove around the world and it's by a local man, Jerry Richard Jr. who I got a chance to meet here at the station for one of their events. what a what a really nice guy. It's on a CD with like nine other total of nine cuts. And there's a slight little Christian fiber woven in there. That's really nice and really uplifting. I enjoy

it and I'm not particularly religious person. All religion isn't bad. No, no, no, no, no, no. It's a nice spirituality. I like this group around the world and hey, man, which actually Hey, man is my favorite. My favorite. My favorite my favorite? No, I can't play every song every night. So if you like this, you can get in touch with him. Care of unity productions. Keene, Texas, ke N E where the heck is that? I have no earthly idea.



03:29

Keen Texas.



03:34

Oh, 760-597-6059 the name of the CD is the regeneration project.



03:39

76059 Yeah, Jerry Richard Dallas, I think



03:43

I don't know.



03:45

Keen, we're insulting you. We're really sorry. But I'm sorry. Hey, there lots of towns in Texas. I've never been one of many.



03:56

Well, we've had a lot of stuff to talk about tonight. A lot of interesting things happening during the week. Yes,



04:01

we're going to be talking about bolts, local politics, and state politics and national politics. And actually, this is all going to be really how transgenders relate to the Gay Lesbian political movement and vice versa. Most people don't think of his term as vice versa, but does and we'll be talking about that. We have an interview with Glenn Smith that we did not get on last show because right, we got really involved in the feedback on that show. Jimmy has really been good for those of you who did not hear the last the last show that we did. We talked about transgendered youth, I guess really bardiglio queer youth in January youth



04:39

in general and and the problems that that adults have in in in dealing with or ministering to, or even just telephone counseling with



04:53

and that really turned out to be I thought one of the better shows that we've done and I have to say that my email really reflected that I got a quite a bit of emails, too from a couple of therapists. Actually, no kidding. Yeah, a couple of therapists who wanted to use that as part of their therapy with a couple of transgender youth patients will get her. So I was really proud of that. You know, you must be doing something right. There. I was calling to say, Can I have a copy of that? I've got a client that this



05:21

really needs to hear this makes you think you're in the wrong business?



05:25

Well, I'm not getting 120 bucks an hour.



05:28

My thought exactly. My thought, exactly.



05:31

But that felt pretty good. And the feedback that I had gotten from a lot of the folks at the transgender youth that have been listening to the show was really very positive. not unanimous. Well, no.



05:43

Yeah, it's not ever gonna be you know, I mean, because the I think teen equals a time of questions a time of uncertainty.



05:53

Oh, I hated the teenage years. If I had to do over again, I wouldn't do it.





05:57

And as a segue Okay. Speaking of those years of uncertainty, we have somebody with quack we should have to pee. Those there. Okay. Okay. Okay. So, um, and this is, this is one thing, this is a piece of news that we talked about last week, and it broke my heart, because for selfish reasons entirely. That Kwak the queer artists Collective is disbanding. But they're having one more performance over a diverse, diverse works. When is it now



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it's on Friday and Saturday, next week, at eight o'clock, and you can make reservations at 713-942-7307.



06:45

You probably will need reservations for those performances. Since it's been announced in the last couple of weeks that it is the last performance of quacking there's a lot is that you're packing a lot of stuff in one show two from from the article, you're getting lots of good press on this. Where were they when you were three years ago.



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KPFT, though has always been always had room for us. Thanks.



07:10

Thanks. But there's, that's gonna be one terrific show. Two terrific shows, actually. So what's happening with quack? Well, I'm on Mom, we,



07:25

after three years, we've decided that it's time for us to go and do our separate work. And I think we've worked in the community and with each other. And we really learned a lot from each other and a lot with the community. But it's time for us to start moving on as individual artists and pursuing or separate work.



07:45

Well, first of all, let's see, I remember Michael and Alex came on just a few months ago talking about fabulous boys network. And so, you know, in the, in the back of my mind, I should have thought, Okay, what's going on here? And I see that Alex is still gonna be Alex is going to be performing with Okay. Okay. And so I hope to hear more from Alex. I hope to hear more from you to everybody die EMA? Gosh.



08:11

Right. And Dame is like taking Chicago by storm. And so she was the first to really fly. That's right. That's right. That's right. And so it's been really good. And kind of, since she and I co founded the group at three years ago, and she just took off over. Is it over a year ago? Yeah, in order to go into the School of the Art Institute in Chicago. And she's really done really well up there. And so we're now like, it's our turn.



08:40

Well, you know, I remember when you had someone come in from one of the coasts, to kind of, in effect, teach you performance art, like you need to teaching. So you're at a point now where I guess you can go to the coasts and say, Okay,



08:57

we actually had some local experience here in Houston with the kids from hatch.



09:00

Yeah.



09:03

To come out and see that but we, we had we devised some workshops, and met with them every week for two or three hours, two hours and did some performance workshops with them and put together a 12 apiece for the we're 12 minutes max. And it was I think, was a pretty big, pretty good success. house and it was it was very rewarding as well, it was a chance for us to not perform but direct and and sort of coach and you know, mold and do all those sort of stressful things as well. But oh, gosh,



09:35

you're too young to have that next generation coming up.



09:40

It was really great because like quack started as a project from diverse work schools out which was schools out was a performance project for gay and lesbian youth. And I went through that 9496 And so then, diamond, I went through that 96 together and we decided that we really needed that and use Then boy, no kidding. And so, for the past three years, we put it together.

And then finally, we got to work with hatch. And it kind of made everything the full sun, and we put it back into the community, put it back in the hands of the youth. And now they're ready to fly with it. Okay,



10:14

I think, yeah, it's important to mention that that kind of started well stem from schools out, which was more of a social work, kind of endeavor. And quack also sort of had its beginnings in a sense of like, you know, how as, as younger, say, like, really early 20, something people didn't either maybe just identified with the larger gay community or had some, you know, problems with feeling like a part of the mainstream gay community, how do we, where does that voice come from? Or what can we do with that voice? Now, I think what's happened over the past three years is that we've developed as artists, and so that it's no longer necessary for us to like, process, you know, so Well, I don't want to say it's not necessary for us to process socialists, because it's very important. But um, I think that the time for that kind of social work, slash art is over for the majority of us. And those of us who have developed as artists through crack would like to now establish ourselves as artists. Okay, that makes sense.



11:11

Yes, it does. And you've done it in a variety of ways, not just the performance arts, but I know you've been involved with the poetry slams, and, and other things have always been



11:22

a lot of fun, too. Yeah. Now,



11:24

I've been to a quite a few of your performances. And from my experience, I mean, powerful is kind of a word that you use, but it's the these are the types of performances that you are just bombarded with so many things about life about, about things that happen to people throughout their lives, bad things are the way people look at things and or are making you look at different aspects of life, that people leave the performance quietly, just walk out single file, not a word of said, you know, any other play or performance paper alert, you know, gapping and carrying on but right, you're you need a week to process all of this, it's,



12:11

I think, actually, that has a lot to do with it. I think that is a factor that factors into why crack dissolve, because it became a little, at least I'll speak for me personally, became a little bit too difficult really, to continue with that. It became almost like for me, as a performer, I felt like that dredging up all that stuff is very important. But there are other directions and other avenues I'd like to pursue artistically that don't have to, you know, that I don't want to go through those, those processes unnecessarily each and every time I go on to say, I don't want

to be marked as such as a performer that, you know, oh, it's Chuck Jackson piece. So therefore, we've got to be careful, or we got to we got to prepare ourselves or brace ourselves, you know, I went and you know, that kind of, quote unquote, negativity, if you want to call it



12:59

that, no, it wasn't negative at all,



13:01

or say moodiness or maybe some sort of theatrical angst, is quack has always sort of worked with, you know, what's going on in the group put it on stage. And that's really, you know, I know what we sort of figured out what's going on between members. I put it on the stage. And it was like, Okay, you guys, enough was enough.



13:22

I have always had this admiration, because you put yourselves out there into the community. I mean, your innermost thoughts and fears and desires are put out there. And it's like, I don't think I could do that. I mean, I've done this a long time, but, but nobody out there knows that much about me. You know, I just don't laugh every



13:43

workshop should come and see what happens. If any of us ever do that,



13:48

that's that's really that. That's, that's strong stuff. And I, and I guess if you can do that, you can do a lot of other things. Yeah. And I think it's time to. So where are you going? Check?



14:00

Personally? Yes, well, Jack, you know, I'm, I'm, I wear many hats, I guess. Yes, you do. We all we all do. I mean, just to for the, for the public record, many dresses don't get paid as full time performance. We don't get paid at all.



14:18

So we pay we have Yeah, okay. We all





14:21

work very, very hard at what we do elsewhere. This is something that we do in our spare time. Sure. And oftentimes for charity. Yes. So what do I want to do? I mean, I want to I want to pursue an individual, a solo career. I want to see where this will take me. I'm gonna have some ideas boiling, boiling, that will work simmering. In the back of my head, boiling,



14:46

Oh, I like your ideas, boy.



14:49

So, you know, I also you know, I'm a I do poetry. I'm a scholar, I teach. So I do all sorts of things. And I feel like and you know what quack is totally how To me, I joined when I was 24. And it's been three years, and it's given me a lot of confidence. And I'm ready to sort of like, you know.



15:08

So the big question is, did you get a boyfriend?



15:19

I don't know. It's just I know nothing about your personal life that just came out of the blue. No crack was a good way to meet people, too. Yeah, sure. That's why people are celebrities, why all those people went to act out meetings.



15:35

I used to go well, it's good to finish say,



15:37

say, at six, though, you are kind of the mother of this group. Now, what are you going to be doing? Well,



15:46

I'm still pursuing my arts administration, I'm working in diverse works. And continuing with that, and really working with community groups in arts and in the same way, but I also am going to be doing more of my own work, and really trying to figure out what it means to be an artist on my own. I mean, it's been great having to for three years, to bounce ideas off of everybody,



and really be able to kind of work together. But it's gotten to the point where I need to figure out exactly what my voice is without six other voices here around kind of talking to me. So now it's about my own clarity. And, and I need to figure out what those what are those things in my life that I can dredge up and throw onstage again,



16:29

you realize that you are the gay voice for the Asian community.



16:40

And I'm the gay voice for the white community, the white trash community, anybody wanting to know? Me? I, I, hey, I know and I think that



16:52

you have brought more understanding to to the Asian community.



16:59

And I think that that's, it's been really important for me, and I think that's one of the reasons why it was so important for me and quack to have that, because we were a multi gender and multi ethnic You bet. And really putting all that out and all those dynamics and, and in some ways, just like Chuck insists that I kind of created that and so that I did speak as this very, like, queer Asian voice. And that is just one portion of like, what my art is, and I needed to figure out what else is around there beyond just being Filipino and being queer.



17:34

Really. These mics pick up every



17:39

I'm so sorry. And I'd like to say that, you know, quack has corrected this, you know, from this sort of grassroots thing we you know, six to one diamond had a meeting one summer we went to someone's house sat in the living room, and from there went to getting grants from not only city of Houston, but state of Texas. And, you know, we've been we put in a lot of work. And I think that what quack would like to see is for other people who can who feel that they have a voice to share with the community to come out and do it yourself and get together and find people with like minds and and create a voice whether it's through performance, or you know, other any of the other arts. Wow, public art. Yeah, something that Houston is lacking in,



18:04



18:24

tell if nothing else, you can just go around to two groups in the gay community queer community and teach them grant writing. Oh, yeah, that's the fun part. Oh, yeah. Right. Anyway, so it's,



18:44

it's Friday and Saturday, etc. At eight o'clock and diverse works.



18:48

And what's that number?



18:49

It's 713-942-7307. For reservations. Okay.



18:54

We look forward to seeing everybody. Yeah, absolutely.



18:57

Better make those reservations, folks. It's going to be packed. Thanks for coming. Thanks, Jason.



19:02

Okay.



19:04

And you're listening to after hours courier radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station. Sarah, you're



19:12

back. Now I'm back and Okay. Yeah. And Katrina Are you waking there?



19:17

Let's wake her happy. So



19:18

okay. And we have something that we want to give you Vanessa, once you go ahead and take this in and show her



19:25

and not not just one of our fingers. No, no. Okay.



19:30

Since we realized this is probably going to be your last show. We have got a we bought a cake or Katrina that says that really should give



19:41

me that a few minutes ago given the Sugar Bugs would have kept me away



19:48

with rainbow icing all over it



19:50

and it really isn't ribbon we'll instead of well. I can't read what it says we'll miss it. Well, Miss



19:57

you can? Yeah,



19:59

yeah, was really a funny one when we, we, when I gave her the spelling on the name, she said, Kay, ATS it, just do it.



20:06

Don't ask her mask. So



20:09

I just wanted to let you know on the air that yes, we will miss you for the listeners



20:14

will get better. That's right.



20:18

And where are you moving to Katrina? Where are you moving to?



20:23

I'm going off to Minnesota,



20:25

Minnesota,



20:27

where it was 11 below zero today.



20:31

Yes, more importantly, no humidity.



20:35

Well, there is that. There is there is right.



20:39

Yes. More importantly, civil rights law that protects transgendered people. Yeah, well, I can have a governor who says he will not get rid of it.



20:48

I contacted Jane V already. I contacted Jane PHE. She knows you're coming and she's anxious to meet you. Oh, cool. So for the audience who does know Jane Fi is the activist activist. And you really want if you want to meet the best of the very best Jane Fi is the person



21:05

so we can get together up at the Mall of America. The middle of the Camp Snoopy, which is a photo most of you hadn't been in the Mall of America in Minneapolis. That is a bizarre place to be. Yeah.



21:18

I'm afraid to ask what is Camp Snoopy?



21:21

It's something out in the middle of that mall. It's just it's a giant giant theme park based on snow. Camp Snoopy. Yeah. And for totally inane trivia purposes. It's built right on the site of where they're all baseball stadium used to be somewhere out in the middle of it his home plate from old metropolitan stadium. So that is a bit not that anyone really cares. But it's just bizarre.



21:47

Well, it makes it makes it interesting. Now, I said makes it very interesting. Yeah. Well, I just wanted the audience to know that that yes, indeed. If you don't if you tune in next month, and Katrina is not here. That's because the Trina has a J. O B. Girl. She has a job. And she is going to be going to Minnesota and we're going to miss her. But we know she'll go into take Texas kick butt politics with her so



22:14

yes, um, don't fret, my column will not disappear from the Texas trying good. As long as long as I have access to the internet I can or carrier pigeon or carrier moose or whatever. You're most



22:27

probably allowed plentiful up there.



22:29

Well, I did bring a knife to cut the cake with and some some paper towels. And maybe later you've maybe you'd be willing to share some of that with us. Yeah, I



22:38

don't think I can eat all of that by myself. Go to sleep in the next week.



22:44

Just wanted to let you know that we appreciate everything that you've done for this show. And we will miss you. Well, I appreciate



22:49

having the opportunity to be on the show



22:51

and this town to



22:53

That's right.



22:54

What was that? We we appreciate everything you've done for this town.



22:59

What is community? Yeah, and for the community, it's deeply appreciated.



23:04

Well, like I said, I really appreciate the fact that I've been able to get involved into something over the years because five, six years ago, I was closeted as they come and it my only connection to reality was this little radio station. And I heard all these voices on the air. The Gay Lesbian shows Jimmy's. Back then Deborah Bell was doing gay and lesbian voices. And I would sit and listen to these shows. My little little Walkman had set up at various places that I've worked and thinking and thinking to myself at some point I'm going to run into these people I don't know how I don't know how I'm never gonna get out of my closet but one of these days I'm gonna cross paths with these folks and



24:02

I have I've been able to have you ever crossed paths Yeah,



24:06

I'm getting you're just finally getting getting to meet Deborah and Jimmy and putting putting faces to these voices that I heard



24:17

becoming the state's second openly transgendered attorney. Yeah, yeah.



24:23

It's been it's been it's been a ride



24:26

Yeah. darn near starving to death at times.



24:28

Yeah. Sadly, you know, I as far as you know, employment law here in Texas, I don't see it getting any better anytime. So



24:40

I don't I don't either. Well, I just wanted the audience to know that you know, before you just disappeared from the air here that was it that we that we've taken notice of it and we appreciate you and we're gonna miss you.



24:54

You know, there were times when we were in the closet too.



24:57

Yeah, I think my lasted about 11 seconds but Yeah, I can't I



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25:01

can't ever picture Sara.



25:05

I sort of blew through the closet somewhere it was a screen door. I have got a cute story to tell this occurred to me at work. I've been I've been dying to tell this story. This is I happen to work at a bank in this, these two men came in to get a loan. That so happened, I knew them. And I don't want to say their names because I didn't get their permission, but I knew them. Well, our loan officer happens to sit next near me. And when they came in, they spotted me. I knew them from queer nation. Sure. So I walked over to him said hello. And they said, Oh, hi, how are you? And they gave me a nice big hug. And one of them said, I'd like to introduce you to my life partner name. So and so they said, Oh, well, my life partners name is Sarah, you know, and in so we had a wonderful little conversation. So they went downstairs and take care of loans. And afterwards the loan officer came back up and said to me, what's a life partner? What? No, I kid you not. Okay. Jimmy, you know, this is white corn bread from, you know, from the woodlands or someplace, you know, okay. Yes. She's in her early 60s. She said, Well, you know, so what's the life partners? So I explained that. And she said, do you mean, you mean, they're gay? And I said, Yeah, so my. And she said, Well, I didn't understand it. Well, there were a couple. And she looks me right in the eye and says a couple of what she did not have one. And I stood there with my, my jaw hitting the floor. Where do I go here? Okay, Heather has two moms.



26:59

Who's Heather?



27:02

Lori and I have been joking about this for three days, you know, a couple of what it just blew my mind. So I tried to explain this to her as gently as I could. And you could just see this light going on. Like, oh, I was like, you know, you've seen Ellen on television, right? Well, this is the male version. Okay.



27:23

And they didn't get canceled.



27:27

Oh, I just I just thought that was so fun. I just I had to share that because I stood there. For the first time in ages. I was truly speechless. I had no comeback for that one.



27:40



Did you? Did you ever tell the couple about this? Did you ever



27:43

tell? No. I didn't I but I



27:48

would appreciate it. Oh, yeah. I was



27:51

just utterly speechless. And I thought, did she come out from behind a rock and she'd been living in a cave? How was this possible?



27:59

People see what they want to see, you know, as a prime example. That's why it's really important to come out. Yes, it is not you just can't let people assume things because it's not going to happen.



28:14

Well, that actually sort of leads into our subject we're going to talk about tonight, which is about politics in in politics. Especially gay and lesbian politics, the importance of coming out.



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It's the and in in our studio this evening. Yeah, Scott's Monica and Vanessa, of course,



28:35

George W. Bush right here. Yes.



28:36

Richard rich brat. And Jackie Thorne. Well, I wanted to start this by talking about how I ended up getting into politics. And maybe we'll start with that. Okay. I'm kind of an unusual case. I get into politics. I was 14 years old, the first time that I went south. That's what that's that's where Yeah, I mean, you've always I've always been in politics. And I bring that up, because I noticed

that today that one of the great civil rights leaders has passed away. And I was telling Lori, I remember him very well. Jesse Jackson is the one who got rich and famous, but he's the one who did all the work. And politics is often like that. You want to talk about that. Monica?



29:24

We were talking about it earlier today. Was that? I know we were talking about Bayard Rustin erfahren. Ruston? Yeah, we were talking about Bayard Rustin, who actually was a black gay male who organized the civil rights march who, who I said, as I saw who anytime that other African Americans start bringing up the fact that quote unquote, de the, you know, the gay and lesbian community is hijacking the Civil Rights Movement. I said if it weren't for Bayard Rustin, there would have been no march on Washington. No. So I'm on March and some of the other major marches of the, of the civil rights era. But it wasn't. It wasn't via rustling we were talking about who's,



30:10

you know, and all of a sudden I saw I just drew a blank. It occurred, it occurred to me. But the point that I want I wanted to make about that was that the thing that I remember most about the Civil Rights Movement, besides from being shot out and things of that kind, was that actually no time in south to the majority of blacks participate. The vast majority of blacks were so frightened,



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well, how they lived here. Well, that was gonna come here in March and then go away.



30:35

Well, that's exactly right. That's why That's why Martin Luther King wrote the letter to Birmingham Jail. from Birmingham jail. It wasn't written it White's it was written in black ministers who wanted him to shut up and go home. Because when he left, the kk k, burned down their houses right. Now, here we are, we're in the 90s. And I'm looking at the transgender community. And I see the Cristino. So many parallels. And then once again, here we have the transgender community with the vast majority of people are sitting on their hands and doing nothing, while a small group of people are working their butts off until they fall off. And that has, it always seems to be the case of what's been true to gay lesbian community for as long as I can remember. Yeah. But I then



31:16

and then then you get well, why didn't you work harder? From the ones who were sitting on their butts?



31:21

Yeah. Yeah. And somebody today,



31:26

ones that are criticizing? Yeah. are the ones that are throwing all the criticism that this isn't happening or dead isn't happening? Or why did this happen? Because you're behind it and get out and vote the last election, or you're behind wasn't registered to vote?



31:42

Yeah. Along those lines, I like to tell us from back in the bad old days, when I worked in the oil and gas engineering industry weren't too many good experiences that I had there. But right before I left that to go to law school, I heard a good story. Guy was talking about back when he first got started in engineering design and all that back in the early 60s. He, he started to work replies, and there was at lunch, there was some political discussion. And he was about to hop into discussion. And one of the older guys taps him on the shoulder said, Show me your right to bitch. Excuse me. Okay. That was kind of his reaction to what's that said, your right to pitch your poll tax receipt, which is the equivalent of voter registration. And the guy said, Well, I'm only 19. You know, at that point, the age was 21. Right? So he didn't have one. And the guy said, okay, you've got a legitimate excuse for not being registered to vote. So he could participate anywhere, but the bottom line is, I see so many people who bitch and bitch and bitch and bitch, yet, when it comes down to asking them, you know, what did you do during political season? Ah, split about all eight days straight and EJ is getting drunk. Etc, etc. and killed.



33:07

Yeah, like, I don't like voting for the Democrats. Like booty Booty Republic, there



33:13

isn't a real choice. Anyway.



33:15

My favorite. I didn't want to register to vote because I didn't want to get called for jury. Oh, Camille, let



33:21

me slap you real hard. Monica. You're gonna have to share a microphone with Vanessa because your microphone is apparently dead. It's going



33:28

out. It's not doing too well. Yeah.



33:31

That Okay, now.



33:35

Worked for six down. Okay.



33:37

But the comment I made folks was some of the other classic excuses. I've heard. And, well, I don't wanna say, and especially in the African American community. A lot of people are quick to throw this plantation analogy. Because while historically, you know, blacks didn't always vote, you know, 80%, democratic in one time, after emancipation voted those same numbers for Republicans. Wow. Up until up until that started shifting with the Roosevelt administration. The permanent break came with the Johnson administration about 64 when it massively shifted. And since with good reason, we have a very good reason since Strom Thurman and his boys were banned in the Democratic Party and shifting to the Republicans anyway. Long story short, some of the Neil conservatives and especially the black ones, okay. We'll quickly hollered the word, plantation politics. And in that's their code word for trying to get more blacks to quote unquote vote for Republican candidates, even though their policies aren't exactly the best for the African American community. And they're quick and anytime we bring up history On net, conservatives are quick to holler or black Republicans are quick to holler plantation politic, you're on the Democratic plantation quote unquote, or you're not a free thinker dadadada da.



35:15

My favorite along those lines was Clarence Thomas whining about Don't Don't make me be an intellectual slave. Yeah, that that's basically course he was of course he was saying he didn't he was complaining about being asked to be an intellectual slave to Democrats, when of course he's an intellectual slave to Republic.



35:36

Well, there you go and then so were we if we do the same thing, like you always say, you talk about all of the economic stuff that the gay, lesbian, transgendered Republican Republicans talk about but what good is it if you can't get a job?



35:58

Well, that's what I do. That's actually what, what I want to talk about here tonight is, is I wanted to talk about a couple of specific issues that have come up in the community. And I want to start with the National Gay Lesbian Taskforce. Yay. Well, let's say let's think this thing through for a minute, let's see how good this actually is, comparatively speaking, speaking, yeah. For those who don't know, the National Gay Lesbian taskforce has said it has come out and said that they will not support ending the employment non discrimination act. And last transgendered people are included in it. Thank God. Okay. That's that's good news. Yeah. Because contrary, the opposite side of that is the human rights for everybody except transgender campaign. No,



36:42

yeah. Well, we get ours. Let's our get ours first, and then we'll work on your so well, that, you know, that's BS. Yeah.



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But there are a couple things about that announcement from the National Gay Lesbian Taskforce. I want to point out, first of all, that sounds wonderful, but that they can easily say that because ENDA is completely dead on Capitol Hill. It does nothing at all is going to happen until after the election. And it may not happen then. If if conservatives sweep or a conservative goes into the White House, I don't care what happens let us say for the sake of discussion that George Bush ends up in the President say no, please no bill means cyanide now know Bill Cole ENDA, will pass in Congress anytime soon.



37:30

better pray that the Democratic?



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Yeah, it will not matter whether transgendered are in there or not, it will not pass because it will not pass any bill,



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very likely the Civil Rights Act will be repealed.



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And the argument that the argument that ENDA cannot pass, if transgendered included is absolutely fallacious.



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Well, yeah, it's nonsense, because he isn't going to pass it whether we are not included in period. Well, no, no lesbian in the word in the wording of that is going to pass in this Congress, anytime soon. Period.



38:03

The humbug Rights Coalition



38:06

is trying to maintain that if gender or transgendered is included in into that it will not pass but if transgender is excluded, they have a possibility to make it pass, which is again absolutely ridiculous dream. It is it is, for example, Human Rights Campaign likes to say well, you know, we get within one vote of getting it passed. Well, it was a legislative trick flip start with that. Secondly, the fact of the matter is that since that time, a third of the Senate has turned over. If they brought that full bill to the floor today. They couldn't get past if they bribed the people.



38:41

They couldn't even get out of judiciary committee. That's right what Orrin Hatch would Orrin Hatch is the head of that committee it was it wouldn't be dead



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now point that all this out because I know there's a lot of sediment right now for us to go attack Barney Frank. Barney Frank has been saying some things the well the train the bill is definitely not the friend of transgender. He's been saying well the train no the bill is if Bill if transgenders get into it, the bill is going to be sunk. To which I say pardon my French bullshit. The bill sunk now honey, and it could be the Titanic because it's going nowhere anytime soon.



39:14

Can I interject something? Yeah. One of the arguments that Barney Frank is using is actually a little dangerous as far as the transgender inclusion is concerned he's bringing up the shower in the restroom is yes. And of course this kind of plays right into the religious rights GA because it's a it's a fresh reminder of gays and lesbians in the same restrooms as well



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and what's with the shower thing when did that come? Actually



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is an issue that



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pretty much Richard issue anyway transgenders usually don't want that offending appendage or unfortunate orifice. Yeah. Seen until after surgery surgery.



39:55

Yeah, actually that issue key was came up the first day that Karen Karen and Phyllis Frey went to Washington or when



40:02

you jump in there, yeah, in men's showers. It's all open. And women showers. They're separate. So what is the deal there?



40:09

Well, the actual issues here is what's called is called reasonable accommodation. Yeah. And the term as most commonly, I think you most commonly hear about it in the people with disabilities act. To my knowledge transgenders have asked for reasonable accommodation. But never once have I ever heard a transgendered person say that includes sharing showers know that you're right.



40:32

The only person who you would ever likely hear say that would be news, Wilson's.



40:39

Well, let's not even go there. Yeah.



40:42

I know. But but but again, you there probably use one or two people who have said that, but nobody legitimate.



40:47

Well, no one legitimate has said it. Yeah. And you're right, what Barney Frank is saying there is dangerous and there's a legitimate point to go after him. But the point that I wanted to make is that it seems to me that the pursuit of people in Washington is almost a waste of our time. I'm not saying we should give up on ended. On the contrary, I think for example, if we had given up on India, PFLAG would not have come out and said, Yes, transgenders should be included, okay. Because eventually, sometime somewhere down the road, that bill will pass, whether it will be in my generation or not. In this, they're going to go back and look to that language. And we need to be in the language. So I agree with that part of it. The real work that needs to be done now politically between now and God knows when needs to be done locally, don't you think on the state level and the city level and the city level is a good place to start? Okay. The truth of the matter is, when we went last time, we went to Austin, the legislature, we heard time and again, legislators say to us, I think the sodomy law is a stupid bill. The sodomy laws should be revoked. But it's a cutthroat issue. Meaning if I vote to repeal the sodomy law, my political throat will be cut by my opponent in the next election. So the lesson that we need to primers in primary Yeah, not in the general set a lesson that we need to be learning from this. And Lisa, and I've really given us a lot of thought, and the lesson we need to be learning here is that no politician will ever vote for anything we have to say, unless we can convince them it will not cut their throat. The key to winning anything in the Texas Legislature anytime soon, will be to provide political cover.



42:32

Well, there's How do you do? Well, there's one one there's one problem with dealing with something right now on the state level. Thanks to Governor rich brat. There will be no Texas Legislature until January of 2001. He's not political last but



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which Well, that's exactly what the hate crimes bill was killed. I know he says it's not true. But the fact of the matter is that George Bush worked his tail off to make sure that the hate crimes bill did not pass.



43:00

Bottom line. Bottom line is thanks to the bizarre machinations of how have legislature set up legislature meets for little over four months, once every two years benek unless bush or Rick Perry. calls a special session between now in January 2001 There ain't gonna be no legislature until then. And it's not gonna happen I could be but for it wouldn't be to help us if anything it would be to screw us even worse. So, here in Houston, yeah, we have. There are things to do here. But for a lot of people. There is only one thing between now and 2001 that's having a presence in