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SPEAKERS

Randy Fields, Ray Hill, Jewel Gray, Jimmy Carper



00:02

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



00:13

I am what I am I have my own special creation so come take a look give me the all the Ovation It's my little bride and it's not a lie It's not worth a damn to you can say I am what I am I don't want praise I don't want pity bang my own drum something oh my god life is jam until you can shout out at what I do I do my own death sometimes it's gone Damn, tell you and shout out



Jimmy Carper 02:38

whoa wait must be Saturday night at midnight because you're listening to after hours. A continuing tradition on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of after hours is ready to bring you news interviews and music hear for gay and lesbian people. Just as Gloria Gaynor says in this song, it's time to open up your closets we at after hours urge everyone to come out of their closets. By our definition that means standing up for yourself and taking responsibility for your own life. But if you feel that you can't come out right now because of your age, your job or whatever reason. That's okay, we're here for you too. So sit back relax and enjoy this week's edition of after hours



03:41

I am what I am and I do my own deck Sometimes.



Jewel Gray 04:57

— Okay you're with us this evening. I'm Halloween evening we're hoping you're out there either having a designated driver or within walking distance of whatever party you're attending tonight, we've got some surprises in store later. We're going to give away some tickets. I think we have what you say three Senate tickets to give away to see Morrissey later. And we've got some interesting surprises going on later. In a few minutes. We'll talk with Ray Hill, Randy fields and Tom Richards about various things, one of which was a challenge that they issued to who wasn't Randy

R

Randy Fields 05:36

Doug stringer of turning point managers International.

J

Jewel Gray 05:39

Doug stringer and Mr. stringer at at first I thought this was a good idea has since changed his mind so he won't be here this evening. And I think Randy wants to issue a challenge to Mr. stringer while we talk this evening.

R

Randy Fields 05:53

Yeah, Doug, you know, you know, instead of a, we've decided to set up chicken George now it's chicken duck. So this is what I have to say to you, Doug. So if you're not too scared, Doug, call us at 5265738

J

Jewel Gray 06:08

Okay, you heard that now, dad. Okay. This being Halloween, we're going to try to play the appropriate music this evening. So we're gonna go to Rocky har and sweet transvestite. Oh, how's that? How about that for Halloween evening. One of my favorite movies and Ray was in here doing his rendition.

R

Ray Hill 06:33

First time I saw that wonderful movie. I think it was on one of those old kinetic scopes that you turn the crank. And Vincent Price thanks to Frankfort for wonderful Eileen Eldridge. And nobody remembers Eileen Eldridge was was playing the handsome man that he built.

J

Jewel Gray 06:57

I wish I had seen that one. Let's see. So Dennis is out there listening. I want to say hi to Dennis. I want to tell you all like I always tell you all. This, my participation in this show in any show that I participate is dedicated to the men and women the bearing Care Center. And I want to send out my love and thoughts to everybody there. Tonight, I was expecting a Donnybrook in here.

We were going to have a religious discussion. What is it? What are the three things that really kill conversations at a party? It's religion, politics, sex conversation on the wrong parties? I don't see any No, I don't think you are just

R

Ray Hill 07:38

now. Hey, I got a microphone. All right, actually, Doug stringer. And I have done this before we did it on radio station que se v some time ago. And it was a stack deck. It was me by myself and about five fundies in there, including the host of the show. And so we started discussing it. But to think about this right heel, discussing religion with fundamentalist as relates to their beliefs about gay and lesbian people is that I was an evangelist when I was a teenager. I mean, it's not as if you couldn't tell if you listened to my speeches. I sound like I'm faking the past collection plate. So I mean, some things just don't quite go away. But I used to when I was 14 and 15 years old, do the Margeaux thing. I would work the small Baptist churches, very fundamentalist Baptist churches in East Texas and dressed in a white suit, go snapping my fingers and waving my hands what else was a queen to do? And preaching hellfire and brimstone. And so I was coping with my gay identity. At the same time, I was doing what evangelists do. And so I have been all of the things that Doug stringer ever hoped to become, and was a successful evangelist. That not only did a good job of getting collection plot for, but I'd make the headlines in the newspapers of the town that I visited. And kids would call it a youth revival because they had a teenager preaching, and I suckered so many wonderful children, and to a life of misery and hail. And, you know, I guess the reason I am poor and did not grew up to be as handsome and his rich as I wanted to be as punishment for what I did to those people. I know I was I was in Coleman L, Texas, and a little town out of Woodville one night. And a thunderstorm came up was a Thursday night, and we had a packed church. I mean, even the vestibule was full of people. And I was preaching and lightning struck the transformer outside. And it fell into total darkness. And I had a candle on either side of the pulpit. And so I changed my sermon was on grace that night, I was preaching the Lutheran story, cheap grace as other fundamentalist like to think of it. And so when the lights went out, I went from the lightness to the darkness and the importance of struggling back into the lightness. And as I preached little ladies who had been crippled About with arthritis, their fingers straightened out. One of them played the piano for me the following Sunday. And all of this stuff scared the life out of me. Because I religion is an extremely powerful mode. And I was going to faith healing services myself, I didn't go to Pentecostal faith healing services, in the hopes that this homosexual this thorn in my flesh that Paul writes about would be taken from me. Of course, it never happened is manufactured and be sitting there praying next to some handsome young Assistant Minister and the thorn would really get prickly. And so I just kind of gave up on having this taken away from me and started using the churches as how to get tricks. You look a little vulnerable. And the next thing you know, the youth ministers over here, the choir director, certainly the guy with the prematurely orange hair that plays the organ every Sunday. And so, when I, when my mother finally stopped going to church and said she wasn't gonna go into I was hypocritical hell hold as long as she lived. I kept going back because I didn't know how to get tricks in the real world. But I knew how to get him in church, and I spent several years in the church. And then the hypocrisy got to me. But whenever we get into these debates, I know the Scriptures that they use to beat up gay people far better than they do, because I lived there for a long, long time. And so it's no surprise to me that the bless his heart and and Doug's a handsome man, he's he's inordinately pretty for a straight man. And he's got this real thing about homosexuality, I think that he's probably going through the struggle that I went through, and I got out when I was 16, or 17 years old. And Doug's getting on up into his 30s. And he hasn't escaped that. So he carries that guilt around. So other

people's sexuality is inordinately personal and important to him. And I know what that's like. And so I have a lot of feelings. Maybe that's not what the story is. Maybe Doug is just inherently a hater. I don't know. Or maybe he's inherently ambitious. And he thinks he can make money trying to convert homosexuals into heterosexual. I mean, there's a lot of money business in there with money. And so So I miss Doug, I wish to hear he's pleasant to look at. He and I are polite to one another. We would have been polite to one another in any case. But it would not have really been fair, because unless he's done an enormous amount of reading and exegetical work. Since the last time we were on the air. It's an uneven fight.

 Jewel Gray 12:40

Well, then maybe it's best he didn't show up tonight.

 12:44

Well, you know, it seems though, Jewel , for years, we have put up our hand in in hopes of establishing communication with these people. And consistently. And tonight is a prime example. Consistently, they have slapped that hand of friendship way. But they expect us to continue to respect them, when they in turn could give a damn less about us, except the only thing they want to do in Montrose is to preach to try to convert the queer in into donating to their church because the queer makes the money. And that's the only reason that they come into Montrose is for harassment and money

 Jewel Gray 13:32

or that all recruitment? Yeah,

 13:35

that is all they could care less about saving anything, let alone so other than their own inadequacy of trying to deal with their own sexuality. And that is the fact of the whole thing, because I see and Randy sees homosexuality that is quite apparent in the fundies that stand on the corner of Hyde Park no on Pacific and Crocker. I mean, it is so apparent us and let them deny it all they want. I don't really care. Because that is their problem. And if they can't face it, then I'm sorry, you know, but we have extended our hand to friendship, and we have bent over backwards for them. But they in turn, refuse to accept that hand of friendship, that that we offer them to simply come and learn. And maybe we can learn. Maybe they can learn. You know, it was it was not it was not going to be a program to try to insult or intimidate or anything. It was to be a program of discussion. And they refused now. I like I told them saving. I don't know what else we can do. We have gone to the limit.

 Jewel Gray 14:51

You think we've been at a limit Randy?

R

Randy Fields 14:53

Well, you know, the only thing I can say to all lesbians and gay men out there is you know, you're out there. These people really do He or she had to be careful of them, you know, they, they come to our neighborhoods and pretend to be nice and, and pretend to really like you what they're really trying to do is seduce you or their perverted lifestyle. You know, I mean, it's, you know, they,

R

Ray Hill 15:12

I love these kids I've known I've known Tom for a long time. And I love Randy, Randy and I have more fun with one another than any 70 Since the seven is that Randy and I have more fun together than than most folks. And he's so ideologically pure, he's wonderful. And there's just there's a healthy sense of rage that I'm willing to take these people at their face value, I think, I think that's okay. It's alright for them to be who they aren't. I was there once. So I have a little bit of understanding about that, however, distributed at hundreds of churches last Sunday, and again, this Sunday, is a pamphlet put out by the citizens for American restoration, political action committee, Bs tangley treasure, and it lists all of the people who were endorsed by Houston gay and lesbian Political Caucus. And it says 34 Democrats, zero Republicans gain gay lesbian endorsements for support of hiring quotas for homosexuals, and complete agenda. And then it lists the goals of the homosexual movement. Now, I trust there intelligent gay and lesbian people out there listening. And I want you to listen to what are the gold of our movement, as perceived by those people, hiring quotas, which would force schools, police and fire departments and other public agencies, as well as private businesses to adopt affirmative action for homosexuals. Sounds like that might be a goal of the gay and lesbian movement. However, the problem with that is that affirmative action doesn't work for gay people. Because in order for gay men and lesbians to have affirmative action, everyone would have to declare their sexuality. I mean, when you go into get a job, this little boxes are you homosexual, heterosexual, bisexual trisexual nonsexual celibate, and then within we're going to check this off, and then sometime in the future, the personnel department is going to sort it out and say, well, the factory floor is homosexual, but it's not homosexual enough. And the advertising department is not celibate enough. And no, that does not work. What gay and lesbians want our issue in employment, is we want to be able to, to merchandise, our skills, our education and our experience, without fear of negative discrimination. No one is going to say I deserve this job because I'm homosexual. You don't have enough homosexuals working here. But everyone has the right to say I am doing a good job and you are firing me because of the gender of the person with whom I live. That is an unreasonable discrimination. And that's what the gay and lesbian platform. So these good Christians, at least on item number one are liars to the passage of the great gay rights bill by the United States Congress, which would make homosexuals a minority class of citizens equivalent to quote legitimate in quote their word, minorities such as handicapped aged and black. The gay rights bill does no such thing. The gay rights bill says that the government shall not discriminate against gay people doesn't create a minority class doesn't create benefits under the affirmative action program. It only deals it only deals with the end of negative discrimination in government doesn't have anything to do with private citizens. Three, the elimination of all anti sodomy law. Well, now, we think that our sexual response is a natural response. And at the present time, 26 out of 50 states in the United States, every European nation, and most indeed, nations democratic nations on the planet have decriminalized private, consensual acts between consenting adults of the same gender, and we think that should be uniform. So item number three has some germ of truth. Of

course, it is stated in most negative terms for the removal of Age of sexual consent laws. I have never and I have been in this movement for 26 years heard any argument for the removal of age of consent law. In the legitimate gay and lesbian there is one group out there. The group called a Man Boy love Association. Now Man Boy love Association is a front by the New York City vice squad where they publish a magazine and put out other information so that they can track pedicurist by claiming to be an organization of preterist. That group of people is generally not welcome in seated among the political organizations in the gay and lesbian rights movement. I remember way back in 79, whenever they tried to become a plank in the March on Washington for lesbian gay rights, and was Harvey Milk March, and I wound up being executive, the chair of the executive committee and chair of the Coordinating Committee, those folks came in. And that's how I found out who they were, is because one of them bought me a very lavish dinner and a little graft and corruption to the guy that was obviously destined to be the general manager, CEO of the march, and I saved the receipt from the credit card that he used. That bill went to New York City Police Department. And as soon as I found that out with the help of Fred pies, I pulled him aside and said, I know who you are. And I know where you're coming from. And you're racking this conference, you will pack your stuff and leave, or I will blow your cover. And he was out of that hotel in 30 minutes. So I know what the Man Boy love association is. And it's not a legitimate part of the gay and lesbian rights movement. But according to these people, the removal of age of consent laws is one of the priorities of our movement. And none of us in the legitimate movement have ever heard that. the legalization of homosexual marriages and the adoption of children by homosexual, I happen to be an adoptive parent. My sister was killed in an automobile wreck and I adopted and raised her two sons. Neither one of them are gay, my feelings are not hurt. That worked out quite well, quite legitimate. It was in in the family arrangement all duly legalized and stamped by the courts in Harris County. One of them did have it turned out to be a Republican and my mother may never forgive me for that. So my parenting was not 100% but close enough. He is however, not registered to vote, so he can't do with any damage. So the situation is that and as far as legalizing homosexual marriages, you know, the only problem that I see, I certainly think that that I know gay and lesbian relationships that deserve the respect and dignity of any relationships on the planet. Some of those are extremely quality. I've gotten a call recently from a black lesbian couple in Baytown and those women are literally back to back against the world. And if you want to have a great relationship, get yourself in a situation where you're back to back against everybody in the world you really have and that can make it mean those relationships are wonderful, and they certainly have a wonderful relationship. But along with legalized marriage comes legalized divorce court. And if you've ever been down there and see what happens in those courtrooms, you'll think twice before you want the government involved in credentialing your relationship. Six, teaching homosexuality as an alternative lifestyle in public schools. They have a parenthesis here, parentheses presently in schools through AIDS education classes, what they are saying what these people are actually saying is that we should give no information to young people who are sexually at risk of exposure to aid. Their objective here is not as it is written teaching homosexual lifestyles in public schools. I mean, there was a time in American history. When the schoolmarm in the frontier schools all over the Midwest, taught our children, we turned all of our children over to basically a lesbian Christ, if those women married they'd get fired. Basically, a lesbian guys are people to raise how many good sisters in Catholic schools are not as celibate as the bishop would like to claim they are we and how many gay teachers did you know in elementary school and in schools? The gay teachers the secret is kept by the kids against the other teachers, the administrators and the parents. I mean, are these people did these people have some kind of retarded educational experience that they don't understand how important I mean my god. Socrates created the first school and he was gay. The whole development of modern education comes from gay people. From the very beginning, you can't extricate gay people from education. We have been there and for God's sake, for

God's sake, as long as I live, I will be ever thankful for Mr. Wagner, my junior high school librarian who took this big ol football player type and figured it out and gave me a copy of Walt Whitman's Leaves of Grass of my very own, saved my sanity, my life and my dignity. And that's why Ray Hill is not a shining weathering queen to Easter egg because Miss Agnew knew what I needed and gave it to me in poetry. A people are in education as students and teachers, and to ignore that fact is ignorance and shamefully harmful to some wonderful children who have a right to grow up whole. Seven the public recognition and funding of homosexual organizations on campus, they're going to try to tell me that there is something wrong with the rice student organization and the University of Houston gay and lesbian student organization, and the Texas a&m gay and lesbian organization. I mean, look, we got a little club that meets once a week, they've got buildings, the center of the Baptist students Center, where they can bring them in and seduce them. And actually there's probably more sex going on in the Baptist student center then there is in the Gay Activist Alliance and always has been more gay sags and a hell of a lot more heterosexual sexual harassment going on over there. Come Monday, let's pray about this only runs his finger under a dress, give me a break.

R

Randy Fields 26:10

If it wasn't if it wasn't from from people from Baptist schools or bookstores are probably all closed down.

R

Ray Hill 26:16

All right. And and while you're right, it's a good bit of that business. And I know about that business. Everybody knows I know about it. Item number eight in the last item is election of judges, who will legislate these goals through judicial decisions. Wait a minute. I hear that a lot. Judges who legislate. We have a new judge on the bench on the United States Supreme Court, who is a legislative activist wants to change Precedent Law to match his opinion. His name is Thomas, the most recent appointment, read his decision, you talk about an activist judge. You talk about a judge, he wants to unwind what legislators do and make his own laws and rules. You talk about a judge who wants one monolithic Uniform Law for the whole country. It's just as Tom. As a matter of fact, for the last 12 years, judges being appointed to the Supreme Court bench have been appointed to be legislative judges activist. And for a large part they have been there now I have fared well, the Supreme Court the United States, because the First Amendment is hard to legislate around. But if they ever get around to silencing people, the people they're going to silence is you. And hey, I know who you are. This is Halloween night, in your home, or in your car. And you didn't have a costume you thought you should have had. So you didn't go to that party, or you didn't have enough money. So you didn't go to the other party. Or you're young and they wanted to buy a house because Halloween is one of those dangerous days, though it may be a national holiday for you. And I understand that. That's Halloween to national holiday for me too. And it might have been an opportunity to go blend in the crowd. And nobody would know that you live the rest of your life in the closet. But this was the night you wanted to go out. So you couldn't go. We're glad to be here for you. Tonight, we'll all understand one another and the family together. And I know that some of the religious issues are confusing to you. And the political issues just kind of bewildering. They use those things as a weapon on you. I got knots on my head where they use them as a weapon on me. You are a good and whole and wonderful person. And the young gay men and lesbians out there who are just you know, and that was a little tingly wasn't it when I called you a gay man

or when I call you a lesbian? made you a little bit uncomfortable cuz you're not sure you're ready for that. But you know what your feelings are? And I do too. And we're here to bring you some music. Some things to think about. And most of all, the assurance that you're not alone. We're gonna be here for you. You'd be there for yourself.

J Jewel Gray 29:23

Okay, we're gonna go to a song done by Jesse with Colton Josie cop Josie cotton. Larry, Samus. Johnny Are you queer? Well, that was for you. Janie. I know you're out there listening, leaping lesbians that was done by Sue Thank you can find that on the lesbian concentration album. concentrated.

R Ray Hill 29:50

You can find that album by an extra copy because I've lost my LP. I had on tape but I lost my LP

J Jewel Gray 29:57

that goes back. So those albums You cannot find those anymore. Listen, Randy and Tom have left

R Ray Hill 30:06

over the funding. Yeah, they

J Jewel Gray 30:07

will. They went out to target somebody somewhere. And I've got right here. He agreed to stay on for a while and talk with this. A couple of questions I want to ask you, right? Sure. Do you think there's a place in between, that gay people can have and still have a religion and belief and without being?

R Ray Hill 30:29

Oh, I have I'm very close friend and working companion for many, many years with Reverend Troy Perry and the MCC churches, and they're all kinds of of denominational groups. Within church, I'm, I find, I spent five years of my life living with a reverend Kenton as a good fine Lutheran man that my mother wished I was still married to. I mean, I can't, can't and certainly one of the better looking people that I've ever had the blessing of spending time with and gentle loving, so no, I am not going to tell anyone how they should react to their religious beliefs. As matter of fact, I, I regularly refer people to environments where the belief system with which they were born and raised, can be nurtured in a positive way. And there's just other even organizations for gay Mormons and other people you can find a community of fellow believers that are gay and lesbian positive. And that is some of the most wonderful work in the


world. My experience is a little different. My experience was I was so deeply involved and so deeply disappointed that 30 years ago, I couldn't find a fellowship of Christians. That understood the things I believed, and the thing is that I felt were compatible. And that left a very bitter taste in my mouth. And so I went through a good many years where I was hostile to religion. Now, I am just now not religious. But certainly I, I have many friends whose beliefs are genuine. And they're in communities of believers where they're nurtured. And you know, you take bearing church over here is a fine Methodist Church. I've I've watched it develop I remember when Reverend Pope got the assignment and started building a church that was responsive to the community in which it's set. And the history of the churches fasten used to be the old German Methodist church, they spoke German from the pulpit, in the early days, and, and the evolution of all of that is fascinating. And if John Wesley could come back and visit Houston, he would be very proud of what goes on at bearing Methodist Church, by the same token, I was in Charlie's yesterday, and, and the Reverend from Grace Lutheran Church was over. And some of her parishioners were stopping by and paying their respects. And that is another church that is responsive. If you want to be Baptist, go to South Main Baptist Church, you'll feel welcomed and loved and nurtured. They're good, solid Baptist, but they managed to find energy within their congregation to help it bearing and to do all kinds of the best care teams out there. Oh, absolutely. And so you can have all of the religious beliefs that anyone else can have. And you can deal with those issues internally. And if that is important to you, then my word to you is, there are flocks out there where you will be loved and nurtured. Now, if you want to go to Second Baptist Church, where they preached last Sunday, I think, Reverend Young's text was that it is a mortal sin against God to vote for Bill, Bill Clinton. That kind of madness is going on. This flyer is being distributed at churches. You don't have to practice your religion where hate is taught as matter of fact, let's, let's have a whole look at this idea of what is is supposed to be Christian. I mean, when the gentle shepherds, gentle Carpenter, from Nazareth, walk the world. What we know of him is very carefully recorded and remember, he hung around with publicans and prostitutes and preached forgiveness and non judgment. I mean, those principles are overlooked by the people who later would do witch hunts and What is competitive voc that


J Jewel Gray 35:01


name right? And that they do these things in.


R Ray Hill 35:05

So, of course, excuse me, I'm going back to my old Baptist beliefs, your relationship with God. In my belief system is direct, I don't go through some high priest or low priest or some other system, I don't have to get anybody's permission. My communication, as I understand and I was raised understanding is direct. I proach with humility and understanding that I'm a sinner and forgiveness is genuine, it's free, I'm going to do is ask for it. And so there I didn't see anything in the text that said, well, because you're homosexual, you can't come or because you're homosexual. Forgiveness is not yours. I think that there's some encouragement there, to the prostitute to go and sin no more. I presumed that means give up prostitution. Didn't say that any homosexual, didn't say go and deny your nature. So I say those people have to hang on to the myth that homosexuality is chosen.

 Jewel Gray 36:11
They're very selective about what they want to condemn. Sure.

 Ray Hill 36:18
I've always been that way and

 Jewel Gray 36:25
are usually very convenient things,

 Ray Hill 36:28
very masculine things very male chauvinist things accurately.