

- OK, Mary, what time does the music start?
- It starts now.
- No, it doesn't yet.
- Oh.
- We got to do This Way Out first.
- Oh, that's right. This is the new schedule.
- And then Frank will be here at 12:45 with the news.
- Well, not this week, I don't think.
- Sort of.
- He's in Austin.
- She's in Austin.
- But she's going to call in.
- Anyway, we're going to change things around a little bit because This Way Out will be here in just a couple of seconds with Greg Gordon and Lucia Chappelle.
- And we don't get to say--
- We can say it.
- Oh.
- We're just not going to play it--
- Oh.
- --until 1 o'clock.
- OK.
- That's when we'll start screaming.
- OK.
- And our guest this morning is--
- Is Miss Evelyn Cox.
- From Stone Soup.
- Well, actually, she's the director of AIDS Foundation Houston, but she's going to be here.

- Oh, wow.

- Yes.

- So we give the big lady [INAUDIBLE].

- We got the big guns. And she's going to be telling us all about Stone Soup.

- It'll be fun, so stay with us. *After Hours* right now on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM, where every week we say, we're here.

- And we're queer.

- Hang on.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- I am for gay rights. I am for gay candidates. I am for coming out into gay politics. I am for showing people that we're an effective political bloc.

- This conference, which is the single largest gathering of Black gay and lesbian people, focuses on vital issues impacting the African-American community. Welcome home.

- There is a significant sort of drop off in the voting turnout. But I think that when it's really critical, the American public does turn out and does vote.

- When people get angry, they go vote.

- This is Lucia Chappelle.

- And Greg Gordon. And you're listening to This Way Out, The International Lesbian and Gay Radio Magazine on *After Hours*.

- Right here on Pacifica Radio 90.1 FM KPFT Houston.

- Welcome to This Way Out, The International Lesbian and Gay Radio Magazine. I'm Greg Gordon.

- And I'm Cindy Friedman. Gay candidate wins by losing in Kansas City.

- African-American leadership comes out and comes home in Los Angeles.

- And gays and lesbians can pack a powerful political punch across the US.

- All that and more because you've discovered This Way Out.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- I'm Mark Saccomano.

- And I'm Cindy Friedman.

- With NewsWrap, a summary of some of the news in or affecting the lesbian and gay community for the week ending March 2, 1991. Homosexual Initiative Vienna, known as HOSI Wien, is challenging an anti-gay and lesbian article of the Austrian Constitution in the European Court of Human Rights. In 1988, HOSI demonstrated at a memorial service for victims of the Nazis, marching with a banner reading, thousands of homosexuals are waiting for compensation.

Police intervened violently to break up the demonstration, but it was HOSI that was fined \$2,200 by an Austrian court for interfering with the memorial event. The court found that the banner justified police action to protect the event, claiming its display was in itself an attempt to interfere with the memorial. When HOSI argued that their membership was exercising the right to free speech, the court mentioned article 220 of the Austrian Constitution.

Article 220 prohibits spreading positive information about homosexuality. It was enforced for the first time only a year ago when a court ordered the confiscation of one issue of each of the two newsletters HOSI publishes.

- In New York City, police used nightsticks and sent one man to the hospital last week in breaking up a demonstration, protesting police brutality against gays. The AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power, ACT UP, organized the demonstration in response to police action at a recent protest outside the residence of Cardinal O'Connor, where one of three arrested was reportedly severely beaten.

In the current episode, almost 200 activists gathered outside the Midtown North Precinct to speak out against police violence against gays. Police lined up outside the building and, without provocation, apparently at the order of their supervisor, advanced with nightsticks drawn. All the demonstrators responded by immediately sitting down.

Nonetheless, three protesters, including a woman who was videotaping the event, were arrested on charges of disorderly conduct, harassment, resisting arrest, and third-degree assault. One of those arrested was Chris Henley, whose third-degree assault charge resulted from biting an officer's finger, causing bleeding. After being released by police, Henley was admitted to St. Vincent's Hospital for bruises and abrasions on his leg and head. The anti-violence project is calling for a complete investigation of the incident.

- In Los Angeles, the primarily gay-owned Unity Savings has joined the long list of US financial institutions to go under. Unity was founded in 1982 and ended 1990 with five branches in the Los Angeles area and assets and liabilities each totaling \$466 million. It was found to be operating in an unsafe and unsound condition by the Office of Thrift Supervision of the Department of the Treasury because of its low ratio of capital to assets.

As a result, it was seized by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, FDIC, and put into receivership. The resolution trust group is operating a new institution called Unity Savings and Loan Association, F.A. that is assuming some of the old one's assets and liabilities. The largely gay shareholders of the original Unity do not retain any interest in the new association, but depositors' holdings are protected.

- Openly gay and lesbian political candidates are making news in the US. In Lorain, Ohio, gay activist Dan Daniels has announced his candidacy for a seat on the city council. Daniels helped to found the Ohio Human Interest Organization and was a local organizer for the 1987 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

- In Philadelphia, open gay Kenneth Crandall has withdrawn his city council candidacy. Crandall told the press that the cost of running for office was just too high.

- In Albany, New York, the state's first out lesbian assemblywoman chose not to take her oath of office swearing on a Bible as tradition dictates. Instead, Deborah Glick took her oath with her left hand on a copy of the feminist anthology, Sisterhood Is Powerful.

- Jon D. Barnett, the first openly gay city council candidate in Kansas City, Missouri, became a winner on February 26, even though he lost the primary election that day. This Way Out's Dave Buell explains.
  - Barnett was one of six candidates running for the second District-At-Large council seat, a post elected by voters citywide. 37% of registered voters cast ballots, the largest turnout for a city primary since 1979. Barnett finished fourth, garnering 11% of the vote. And in remarks to his supporters, he reflected on his candidacy.
  - I really believe that we won tonight. I had different ways of how I wanted to measure how successful we were in this race. And I had something between 10% and 20% of the vote in mind that out of this-- and I'm speaking primarily now from the aspect of being a gay candidate. We're going to have some numbers to crunch. We're going to have some things to look at on maps. So it's going to really be something that will have an impact for years to come.
  - Barnett's candidacy was sponsored by the Greater Kansas City Greens, a grassroots political organization which focuses on environmental and human rights issues. There was no sense of defeat at the Green's campaign headquarters election night, where Barnett's supporters had these comments.
  - Kansas City has a voice for the gay and lesbian community. And it's long overdue. And I'm glad to see it has finally arrived.
  - Somebody said, but do you really think that was an effective way to spend your money? My feeling is, yes, it was. It's finally having the opportunity to put my money where my mouth is. I am for gay rights. I am for gay candidates. I am for coming out into gay politics. I am for showing people that we're an effective political bloc.
  - Barnett will continue to speak out on issues of concern to the lesbian and gay community. He is currently the co-director for the Human Rights Project, a group whose top priority is the passage of a city ordinance banning discrimination based on sexual orientation and HIV antibody status. In Kansas City, I'm Dave Buell for This Way Out.
  - Briefly, in other news from around the world, in Sydney, Australia, 150,000 spectators watched more than 60 decorated floats go by in the 14th annual Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade on February 16. Sydney will also be the site of a national lesbian conference in July.
  - A gay man has received \$2,000 compensation for being called faggot by a US Air security guard at Los Angeles International Airport. Gay activist Kevin Fowler first threatened to sue and to file a discrimination complaint and then asked that substantial cash compensation be donated to two gay and lesbian rights organizations. The check was sent instead to Fowler with a letter saying, the donation will be made by you, which it was, to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation.
  - In Israel, the Society for the Protection of Personal Rights for homosexuals and lesbians is circulating a strongly worded June court decision upholding Eitan Horowitz's right to operate the gay and lesbian pub, Piccolo, in Tel Aviv, despite the landlord's fears the clientele, quote, "would be damaging to the respectability and reputation of the place."
- In regard to the continuing rental dispute, the court stated, just as it would be unthinkable before making a contractual agreement to enquire into a person's culinary tastes, so it is unthinkable in our day and age to enquire into his sexual preferences as this is a matter entirely unrelated to the matter at hand.

- Prestigious Stanford University stands firm in the face of opposition in maintaining its policy of equal housing opportunities for unmarried couples, including same gender couples. Although strong negative reaction from students and alumni led the university's board of trustees to set up a committee to review the policy, the board again endorsed it with a vote of confidence in February. They concluded equal housing was in line with a long-standing policy of non-discrimination.
- In Washington, DC, in what activists are calling the first such action in 20 years, five men were arrested on misdemeanor solicitation charges in a raid on a gay bar. Police claim the raid was part of a continuing drug investigation.
- Minneapolis, Minnesota lesbian feminist philanthropist Joan Drury is celebrating International Women's Day, March 8, by officially beginning a lesbian writer's fund of \$300,000 that will offer \$60,000 each year in grants through ASTRAEA, the National Lesbian Action Foundation.
- The city council of Worcester, Massachusetts voted unanimously to approve a human rights ordinance barring discrimination based on sexual orientation. No opposition was voiced during the public hearing preceding the vote.
- And finally, panic struck the Palo Alto California post office when an inconspicuous package in a plain brown wrapper suddenly began shaking, making strange noises, and moving around by itself. Postal officials called in the police bomb squad who made a thorough inspection only to find, you guessed it, a battery-operated vibrator. Repackaged with the batteries removed, the vibrator is said to have arrived safely at its destination on Valentine's Day.
- That's NewsWrap for the week ending March 2, 1991. Remember, an informed community is a strong community. Find out what's happening in your area by monitoring your local gay and lesbian media.
- NewsWrap is compiled from publications and broadcasts throughout the world and was written by Cindy Friedman. For This Way Out, I'm Mark Saccomano.
- And I'm Cindy Friedman.

[MUSIC - LIZZ WRIGHT, "SOON AS I GET HOME"]

- This is Joey Flyer for This Way Out. February 9 through 18 marked the fourth annual national conference of the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum, held this year in Los Angeles. Its theme was Come out! Come home! And that's just what happened, as hundreds of African-American lesbians and gay men took part in this nine-day extravaganza.

The conference included some 50 workshops on such diverse and timely topics as health, politics, culture, and spirituality. Featured speakers included such luminaries as Albany, New York City Councilman Keith St. John, the first openly gay Black elected official, and Marjorie Hill, New York City Mayor David Dinkins, liaison to the lesbian and gay community there.

Phill Wilson, the co-chair of the BGLLF, opened the conference with these words from Audre Lorde, who was unable to attend because of illness. "And when we speak, we are afraid our words will not be heard or welcomed. But when we are silent, we are still afraid. So it is better to speak, remembering that we were never meant to survive."

- Audre Lorde was correct when she wrote that in litany for survival. It is better to speak. In fact, we must speak. President Bush vetoes the 1990 civil rights bill and bombs Baghdad in the name of democracy. We must speak. Our government spends \$1,000,000,000 a day to kill people and over 100,000 Americans have died from AIDS. We must speak. Violence against Black people and gay and lesbian people is on the rise. We must speak.

America is in a new war, on all the news stations and all the newspapers. But some of us have been in a war for a long time. We have been in a war against a monster more insipid, more dangerous than Saddam Hussein will ever be. This monster lives in our bodies. It is a virus and it is called HIV. Where are the Patriot missiles that will destroy this enemy?

Where are the [? scars ?] of drugs and treatments we need to fight this enemy? Where are the weapons of health care and cures we need to save the hundreds of thousands of us who are infected with HIV? We must speak.

In a world where so many pride themselves on their power to exclude, it is better to speak about the power of inclusion. In a world where people go hungry, live in the streets, or even die simply because they are poor, female, a person of color, a gay or lesbian person, it is better to speak about support and compassion. We have struggled with change, and I celebrate that struggle. I embrace that change.

It is not 1979 any longer. And we cannot survive if we are stifled by the then worldview of the leaders and the creators of the gay and lesbian movement. It is no longer sufficient for us to fight just homophobia and racism. We must provide a safe space for lesbians and gay men of all colors to attend to our wounds caused by a racist and homophobic world. And we must do that by celebrating who we are. And we must show our love and commitment to each other as we are.

We have one fundamental responsibility-- to fight for each other, to care for each other, and to love each other. This conference, which is the single largest gathering of Black gay and lesbian people, focuses on vital issues impacting the African-American community, including AIDS and HIV disease, women's health issues, leadership development, and strategies to build stronger African-American families. Welcome home. This weekend belongs to you. Make it whatever you need it to be. But most importantly, do not be afraid to speak to each other. For when we are silent, we are still afraid.

- Phill Wilson, co-chair of the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum. Next year's conference will be held in Oakland, California, where they expect more than 1,000 people to attend. Reporting from Los Angeles, I'm Joey Flyer for This Way Out.

[MUSIC - STEPHANIE MILLS, "HOME"]

[MUSIC - RANDY NEWMAN, "IT'S MONEY THAT MATTERS"]

- You've tuned in to This Way Out, The International Lesbian and Gay Radio Magazine. With Cindy Friedman, I'm Greg Gordon.

[MUSIC - RANDY NEWMAN, "IT'S MONEY THAT MATTERS"]

Political action committees, or PACs, have played an increasingly important role in the American political process for over a decade. They were created by major corporate and trade union interests to consolidate the financial clout of businesses and individuals with specific political agendas. PAC money goes to candidates who support the political positions of the contributing PAC.

One of the most important national PACs of interest to lesbians and gays is the Human Rights Campaign Fund based in Washington, DC. Last time on This Way Out, we began a conversation with Human Rights Campaign Fund Executive Director Tim McFeeley and board co-chair Randy Klose.

They announced the board's decision to set a goal of being able to contribute \$1 million during the next federal election campaign, almost double their most recent allotment, and the importance of gay and lesbian political activism in both of the major political parties in the US. Adequate AIDS funding tops the list of current issues according to McFeeley and Klose, but there are many others. We'll conclude our conversation by picking up where we left off last time.

- I think that the idea of gay marriage or partnerships, domestic partnerships, recognition of relationships is taking an increasing prominence in people's thinking. What the fight is really about is the same kind of fight that we're talking about with respect to the military. It's that I'm just as good as any other person, and I'm not going to be put down.

- There's an education that needs to occur within the lesbian and gay communities that the decisions that the government make in Washington or in state capitals have a direct effect on our lives.

- There's certainly another trend in this country and that is less and less people are going to the polls to vote. People, I think, are being turned off tremendously by the merchandising of political candidates and issues. There is a significant sort of dropoff in voting turnout. But I think that when it's really critical and when people feel that there is an important in key race, such as Jesse Helms and Harvey Gantt, you got a phenomenal turnout of the vote in the state of North Carolina for the Senate race.

So when people feel that their democracy is threatened or when there's a very tight issue around abortion or whatever, I think the American public does turn out and does vote.

- Well, my comment about that would be-- I go back to Randy's point. If people understand that the decisions that are being made by people in Washington or Sacramento or whatever state capital we're talking about does affect their lives and is not some sort of theoretical and irrelevant decision making, that they will get involved. And I think it's a challenge of leadership to make sure that the people are educated and understand how these issues affect their lives and also how to vote.

The other curious thing about that is that it provides an opportunity for gay and lesbian Americans to have a disproportionately larger influence on elections. And I think if, in fact, most Americans are not participating or fewer and fewer are participating all the time, it's probably because-- and I don't-- I'm not saying I agree with this. But it's probably because in their own view, the government is basically doing the right thing. They don't see any particular reason to go out and vote.

I don't buy into the cynicism view. I think there's some of that. But I think, basically, when people get angry, they go vote. So I think that their needs are being met reasonably by the government and that's why they stay home. That's not true for gay and lesbian Americans. And the disproportionate effect that we can have by participating at higher rates than the population in general is a great opportunity for us to affect the outcome of elections.

We saw that happen, for instance, this past year in Massachusetts, where a Republican governor actively courted the gay and lesbian vote for the first time. It's traditionally been almost conceded by Republicans that the gay and lesbian vote goes to Democrats. In fact, this Republican candidate, Bill Weld, was elected by approximately 70,000 votes. At least 100,000 votes in the greater Boston area were cast by lesbian and gay Bostonians or Massachusetts residents.

And he has acknowledged that in his first month and a half of having taken office. He has appointed a lot of gay and lesbian residents to important state jobs. And he has publicly said that he will defend any attacks on the rights of gay people to be foster parents and on their job discrimination rights and so forth. So there's no question that the involvement of the gay community there really had a major impact on that election and should have a major impact on their lives.

- I think what's really important to stress, though, is the Human Rights Campaign Fund is not just a political action committee. In the political process, there are three ways in which you influence an elected official. One is money, two is lobbying, and three is constituent mobilization. The Human Rights Campaign Fund has a program for each of those areas.

Last year, we contributed-- our last cycle, we contributed \$525,000 in political contributions with three full-time lobbyists in Washington, DC representing the lobbying needs of the organization. And then we have a staff of [INAUDIBLE] working on constituent mobilization, which is essentially two phases of that, which is our national speak out program, which is that an individual gives the Human Rights Campaign Fund a written proxy to say that we can mail a mailgram to their Congressman or Senator for \$3.25. And we have to date given out over 200,000 messages since the program started two years ago.

And the other side of that is the actually getting involved in working in the campaigns. And in this last November election, we mobilized over 500 volunteers in campaigns across the country. We have two regional directors who do nothing but mobilize volunteers and get them involved working in the campaigns on phone lines and putting up posters and voter registration and all of that other stuff.

So those three programs make the Human Rights Campaign Fund a national political organization, not just PAC, not just grassroots mobilization, but a whole extent of money lobbying, and then getting the pressure from back home saying, send your Congressman. I'm here. And I'm gay and I'm lesbian and these are the issues that I'm concerned about. And that's how you affect change on a federal level.

- People do want more information about the Human Rights Campaign Fund. Please write us at 1012 14th Street Northwest, Washington, DC 20005. And our telephone number, for those of you who'd like to call, is 202-628-4160. And we'd be happy to send people materials, answer their questions, and find out how they can become involved because there's a way for everyone to be involved. There's a way to give money. There's a way to be volunteers. There's a way to help us help the community wherever it's located around the country.

As Americans respond to the needs of gay and lesbian soldiers and respond to the needs of gay and lesbian Americans in the workforce next to them, I think that they will come to understand that gay and lesbian Americans want to be productive members of society. They want to pay their taxes. They want to raise their families. They want to take care of each other in a dignified way. And that the junk that's put out by the [? Dan Myerson ?] and Helms of the world will be laughable. And I think we will see that within only a few more years. It's a matter of education.

- I've been talking with Randy Klose, the co-chair of the board of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, and Tim McFeeley, the executive director. Thank you, gentlemen. It's been an interesting conversation. Thank you for your time and your information.

[MUSIC - GRAHAM NASH, "CHICAGO"]

- Thanks for choosing This Way Out, The International Gay and Lesbian Radio Magazine. This week, Mark Saccomano, Dave Buell, Joey Flyer, Lisa Ann Colton, Michael Gattuso, and Christopher David Trenton contributed program material. Thanks, also, to Gary Taylor.

- Stephanie Mills from the original Broadway cast album of The Wiz, Randy Newman, and Graham Nash performed some of the music you heard. And Kim Wilson composed and performed our theme music.

- This Way Out is brought to you by a staff of community volunteers and is sustained by financial support from the community. Audio cassettes of our programs are available by mail individually or by subscription. Write to us for more information.



- We'd also like to hear from you with any comments, suggestions, or questions you might have or just to let us know you're listening. Write to This Way Out, Post Office box 38327, Los Angeles, California 90038.

- This Way Out was produced this week by Greg Gordon.

- And Cindy Friedman. And we thank you for listening on WYSO Yellow Springs.

- KBOO Portland.

- And 3CR Melbourne.

- Among others.

- And for supporting your local community radio station.

- Stay tuned.

- Hi, this is Craig Washington reminding you that none of us are free until all of us are free. So keep listening to *After Hours* KPFT Houston 90.1 FM.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- The following program contains language or images of a frank or sensitive nature that may be considered objectionable by some. Listener discretion is advised.

- It certainly is.

- Yes, indeed because it's *After Hours*.

- Well, it's after words.

- Yes, however--

- We don't have any words.

- Yeah. Frank's off in Austin.

- He's at the march or what will be the march, what will be the rally tomorrow today.

- Yeah, we expect him to be calling in.

- It's the second annual, I guess. God only knows what these queers are doing, girl, because they didn't tell us until a month ago that they--

- I know.

- --were having a goddamn--

- I know

- --march in Austin.

- I know.
- I couldn't get off work to go because, as you know, I'm that faggot that works for the Houston Police Department.
- And I'm that faggot who doesn't work at all.
- And for those of us who do work, it was like almost impossible to take off and run to Austin in the last minute.
- Well--
- You just can't do that.
- I've kind of got the same problem because I have to kind of adjust my schedule according to Stanley's.
- Anyway, it just really hacks me that these queens do this kind of crap. They do it all the time. So I mean, you never know. But anyway, that's why we're here, to bitch and complain.
- Well, did you know that--
- Can they get those hateful queens in line, Mary?
- --that the March on Austin Committee consisted of one person this year.
- Should I be surprised?
- Mhm.
- Anyway, that's sort of how we do things, and we're glad you're listening to this bitch about it. Actually--
- What would *After Hours* be without some bitching and complaining?
- Actually, we bitched about a lot more than that. But anyway--
- Yeah.
- I had a great night at the police department tonight. It was a wonderful quiet and relaxing night.
- Oh.
- Yeah, right.
- Even with-- I wouldn't think so. It was raining.
- Oh god.
- It's always bad when it's raining.
- Oh, girl, it was awful. I'm so tense my head's about to pop off.
- Oh.
- My shoulders are tense.
- Oh. Oh, your shoulders.

- I need a back rub, Mary.
- Uh-huh.
- Anyway, what else? Oh, This Way Out is now on at 12:15.
- Yeah.
- Right after the BBC News.
- And normally-- I guess, really starting next week because--
- Because he's not here.
- Because he's not here. Frank will be--
- Frank will be doing--
- --here talking. And at 1:00, then we'll get on and start screaming and carrying.
- Yeah, we will. Anyway, so until 1:00, since we don't have any news, we're just going to listen to this song--
- Oh.
- --over and over again.
- Oh, great.
- Just kidding [INAUDIBLE].
- We do have a very special guest tonight. I'm very excited.
- That's right. Who's going to be here? Is she here?
- Not yet.
- Oh, OK.
- Miss Evelyn Cox, director of the AIDS Foundation Houston, who's going to be talking to us tonight about Stone Soup.
- Which is something that's very, very important. And a-tisket, a-tasket, come fill our little basket is getting--
- It's coming up.
- --ready to ready to happen.
- That's right.
- It happens every year.
- Yeah.
- I even have a story to tell you about that.

- Oh.
- One year when the Stone Soup pantry got cleaned out--
- Yes, I remember that.
- And I was very angry because we as a community didn't rush down there and fill it back up again, but I'll tell you about that later.
- It's always a problem. They do well around the holidays like Christmas and Easter and Thanksgiving, but we need to remind everybody that they're there all year round.
- Yep. And there are people in our community right here who are hungry and you can certainly help. And Evelyn will be here in just a little bit to tell you about that.
- You bet.
- So until then, stay with us because this is *After Hours Radio* celebrating live from the heart of Montrose on 90.1 FM KPFT Houston. We're here.
- And we're queer.
- We certainly are. And we're going to be talking about the March on Austin, even though we're a little hacked about it.
- Yeah. Ooh.
- A lot of other things.
- Well, we have to be here. I mean--
- We do?
- We really can't get away.
- I like rallies, though. Do you remember the rally in 1988 down on the steps of City Hall?
- Oh, yeah.
- Yeah.
- That's it?
- The song's over, girl.
- Oh. Oh.
- The song is over.
- Yeah.
- I mean, what did you expect to happen?
- I thought it would just keep-- you said it was going to play and play.

- No, I was just kidding. We're not going to do that because see, now the news, the BBC News comes on at midnight.
- Yeah.
- And then after the BBC, we have This Way Out with Greg Gordon and Lucia Chappelle. And then after that, we have Frank with the news.
- Normally.
- Normally, which-- she's in Austin now.
- Right.
- Roger just called from Austin, and he'll call back in a minute.
- Oh.
- He said, you couldn't swing your purse without hitting a queen. Girls.
- Well, I hope there are a few lesbians there, too.
- If there are any Houston police officers who are homosexual and would like to know how to be gay,
- Ooh.
- --I'm going to be giving lessons tomorrow at the Holiday Inn on the loop at the freeway in room 706 through 777.
- Well--
- Girl, I'm just kidding. I just-- one of these cops has got to come out of the closet. I know they're down there and they're just scared, you know, of what?
- Uh-huh.
- Less. They are. But they're down there. And one of these days, sooner or later, one of them is going to come out of the closet.
- Did you watch that tape I lent you?
- Yes, I did. As a matter of fact, we need to talk about that later.
- OK.
- But that queen from LA-- what's her name, Mary?
- I don't know. You take offense with her?
- Not really offense. She just don't want to talk to anybody unless they're a police officer.
- It's like you.
- It's like I'm a civilian, and I don't really count because I'm not a policeman even though I'm openly gay.
- Oh, OK. I got you.

- You know what I mean?

- I see.

- He worked for the Los Angeles Police Department and was harassed until he quit. And he sued them now and is winning and all kinds of wonderful things are happening. He's probably a nice guy, but he's got this macho, I'm better than you are mentality. It's the same kind of mentality that those cops had when they stood around in LA and watched those other cops beat up that Black man the other night.

- Yes.

- Did you see that on television?

- Yes, I did.

- It's scary stuff, girl.

- It was scary.

- I mean, we're talking about-- somebody should have stopped and said, wait a minute, guys. I don't think this is a good idea. But we talked about that when [INAUDIBLE] was shot.

- Yes.

- And I was angry because three men were involved in that and one went down and the other two were like, you know, pat them on the hand and sent them on their way. When they were guilty, they could have said, wait a minute. This isn't a good idea and this doesn't need to happen. But they didn't. And I work for the police department, and I love my job. And for 4 and 1/2 years, they've been probably waiting to hear me say something nasty and negative about the department, but they're not going to hear it because that's our only hope.

- Yes.

- But when the bad apple comes out and the rest of us sit by and let it happen without saying anything, it's just like gay police officers laughing the loudest at fag jokes. It has to stop.

- It does. That has to stop.

- And I read--

- There are a lot of very good policemen.

- I read an article in the post-- I wish I had it to share with you-- on Tuesday, Monday or Tuesday, talking about the war. And he said, I don't know how or why so many people are cheering and waving and celebrating the victory of the war. What are they celebrating? Hundreds of thousands of Iraqis were murdered-- were killed, not murdered. They were killed in war.

Millions and millions of dollars of destruction were bought on not just Kuwait but Iraq as well. Hundreds of millions of dollars of equipment was destroyed from both the United States and Britain and all of the allies involved in that thing. I cannot wave the flag and celebrate death and destruction and all that crap.

There are hundreds of wells burning right now in Kuwait. It's so funny. CNN said in the beginning of the war they held-- Kuwait held some of the largest oil reserves in the history of the world. Some of the biggest reserves were there now. And now all those wells are burning. And it said by the time they finished burning and by the time they were able to put them all out, they might have 10%.

- Ooh.

- Isn't that scary? Plus, not to mention the fact that all that smoke going up because of all those wells is getting real dark in the sky. And they're afraid now that that smoke is going to get into the jet stream and blow over China, which would darken the atmosphere and cause the sun not to be able to get through--

- Oh, really?

- --to the rice fields in China. And they're thinking that maybe tens of thousands, if not millions, of people could die from starvation because they can't feed themselves.

- China has always had that problem with feeding its population.

- Plus, the only question I would like to ask George Bush is like, George, if broccoli was the chief export from Kuwait, would we have really rushed over there with all those troops and fought? Or maybe it had something to do with oil. No, no, no, just wave your flag, buddy, and be a good American.

Well, I am being a good American, George. We the people remember the Constitution. Oh, God, child. Phillip and I went down to the Convention Center or-- yeah, the Convention Center last week to look at The Bill of Rights.

- Yeah.

- Oh, girl. What a hokey display.

- No kidding.

- I mean, the Bill of Rights-- I love the Bill of Rights.

- Yeah, I see it in Washington.

- Philip Morris, those tobacco-loving heathens. Jesse Helms, I love you. They sponsored it. And it was like in a little bitty cased in thing and it came in through on tracks and rose up to the thing where you could view it and the music was playing. And then it came up and it did a little spin and then it went down and away it went.

- That was it?

- You got to see it for about 30 seconds.

- You're kidding me.

- No, girl.

- I'm hokey.

- It's over 200 years old, Mary.

- You go to Washington. There are several copies, and you get to look at it for as long as you want.

- No, girl. There were-- it's over 200 years old, and you couldn't get a good look at it because she was doing a little spin [INAUDIBLE].

- Well, girl, if I was 200 years old, I don't think I could do a spin.

- Well, you could if Phillip Morris sponsored you because they'd prop you up and put you on a shoot just like they did that one.

- Well--

- But anyway, let's see. Well, we've just about talked our way through this, girl.

- Well, good. Oh, I meant to bring up on that tape that we were kind of not talking about yet.

- What tape?

- That I lent you, that kind of inside man--

- Oh, we're talking about it.

- --tape. Yeah.

- I just can't think of that police officer's name.

- Well, I was thinking about the other police officer in San Diego who is openly gay.

- Yes. Now that's why I wanted to talk about it. But see, I didn't watch it enough to really talk about that. But there was a police officer in San Diego who called a press conference and came out of the closet.

- Yeah. And he's formed a group called the Gay Peace Officers Association, GPA, Gay Police Officers Association. And I'm going to try to contact him about getting an interview with him probably on the phone or whatever.

- Yeah.

- But I thought that was great.

- Yeah, I did, too. I really liked that.

- I can't-- I just wish I could think of this policeman's name because you've heard it. Mark Timmers talked about it when he was here.

- Yeah. How is Mark doing?

- Oh, I don't know. We'll have to invite him down here to talk about it.

- Yeah, yeah. See what's been going on in his life.

- Anyway, so some changes are in the air. This Way Out will begin right after the BBC News update at midnight. This Way Out with Greg Gordon and Lucia Chappelle at 12:15. And at 12:45, Frank will be here with the local news. And then right about 1:00, which is right about now, Jimmy and I will start screaming.



- Ta-da.

- So let's start screaming, girl.

- Well--

- Girl.

- I've been working on getting guests to this show.

- And I want to say-- I want to say before I forget it, a very special thank you to Mike Leone, who filled in for me last week at the very last minute.

- Yeah.

- Girl, I had to do the show. Actually, I had to lay in bed naked with Phillip.

- What?

- And roll around for like all night. Well, that's what I was doing, Mary. First things first, honey.

- I see. Well, no wonder it took you all week to get this new schedule worked out. Yeah, it was fun. I know I don't do as well on monologues as you do. But I've noticed-- I was listening to the tape of the show that when Mike and Frank and I get together and talk about a subject, it sounds pretty good. There's three entirely different types of opinions. I'm kind of interested in--

- Yes, you are.

- --in gay-- well, the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard and stuff like that. And Frank is into politics and Mike is into the arts. So between the three of us, we do have differing views on almost any subject.

- Yeah. And if you did get a chance to go to Austin, well, then you're not hearing us.

- Well--

- What the hell am I talking to those queens for? They're out there having a good time. And here we are doing this. But this is what we do every Saturday night at midnight.

- Yeah.

- Oh, holy, moly.

- Oh, it's called *After Hours* and we're here live.

- How are we ever?

- We're here and we're queer.

- Ta-da.

- Da da dun dun dun dun.