

HOST: The court is comprised of emperor and empress and all of the ladies in waiting and the men in waiting and all of that. And all these people rule, so to speak, for a year. The sole purpose of the court is to raise money for charity. All the money that is brought in from their shows goes to charity. There's no overhead at all.

And you've got all these people who really, when you think of it, especially with drag, with dresses and makeup and wigs, this all comes out of their pockets and--

CHRIS: Pretty expensive.

HOST: Yes, it is. Yes, it is.

FRANCISCO: And so if you get a chance, I think it's right across the street from here, KPFT, at the resource group on Lovett, I think--

HOST: Yes, it is.

FRANCISCO: You can vote on this Saturday and next Saturday.

HOST: Mm-hmm, in the old Dewitt Building.

FRANCISCO: Right.

BOBBY: Do you know what suddenly struck me as you were saying, and talking about the Black Cat, and all of that.

HOST: Yes.

BOBBY: How old are you?

FRANCISCO: 28.

BOBBY: Oh.

HOST: Yeah, the court is older than you.

[LAUGHTER]

BOBBY: I was just thinking, I wonder how many people my age-- and your age-- actually have--

FRANCISCO: OK, I had to answer the question, Bobby.

BOBBY: --of all. Huh?

FRANCISCO: I had to answer the question. You could include your number as well.

HOST: Yeah, how old are you?

BOBBY: I'm 32.

FRANCISCO: Oh, OK.

[LAUGHTER]

BOBBY: OK. And the point is, I wonder how many people in our age range know anything about the history of places like the Black Cat and how far back all of this goes and how much people went through then, to come to the point where we can all sit here and debate things about the Republicans, the Democrats, and Congress and gay this, that, and AIDS, and all of it? It's just a question that struck my mind as if I was sitting-- when you mentioned [INAUDIBLE].

HOST: That is why groups like the Gulf Coast Archives and Museum have come into being, to preserve our history so that it won't be lost and that it will be a place where people can come and find out their history. Because if you don't have a history, it's easy for your opponents to make you disappear.

And you don't have to recreate yourself every generation. You have a basis. You are a viable group. And it may not even be important that someone your age knows about the Black Cat or Jose [? Suria. ?] It is enough that you carry the torch.

FRANCISCO: And that's very important.

HOST: Yes, it is. Because I'm tired. [LAUGHS]

CHRIS: Oh, I could say something.

HOST: I know. [LAUGHS]

FRANCISCO: It's appropriate that the flaming queen should carry the torch after all.

HOST: I know. I know. But I am so happy to look around me and see so many people picking up the torch.

FRANCISCO: Oh, It's exciting, isn't it?

HOST: Yes, it is. Yes, it is. Because 20, 30 years ago, there was only a handful. And now not any one person can ever speak for the community. We are so large and so diverse. And I am just so happy with it.

Now, if we can just, like I said, keep from going backwards in the next four years--

FRANCISCO: And on that note--

HOST: --we'll be doing good.

FRANCISCO: --let's take a little music break. And then we'll come back and talk about, I guess, with all this moving forward, there are some things that are coming up to look like step backs for us, including the nomination of John Ashcroft, the senator that lost to a dead man, nominated for attorney general.

HOST: Yes. And I do have a piece of music from [? Devon. ?] And it is-- well, I can't say that I have a favorite on this EP, because I like all of them. "I Could Not Ask for More." And you're hearing it on *After Hours*, queer radio with attitude, on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

MARK ALAN It's fine. Whatever, mm-hmm. Is that it? Oh, is that it?

SMITH:

[LAUGHTER]

FRANCISCO: I love that.

HOST: That's it, honey.

CHRIS: Where did you dig that old thing?

HOST: That is a CD called, *Who Does He Think She Is?* It's from Mark Alan Smith, who evidently is an entertainer from Dallas. And I really like that song, because it talks about Donna Day, who was a-- who still is. I mean, she's in Dallas now, but she was a headliner here in Houston.

CHRIS: For a long time.

HOST: For a long time, playing at the Copa with the Fabulous Four. This CD, I got at Lobo just recently. It's, like I said, Mark Alan Smith. And he does interpretations of different entertainers, I mean, from, let's see, da-da-da-da-da, "Good Morning, Heartache," OK, "Rainbow Connection," "I Got You, Babe," "Half Breed," "Hello Dolly," "What a Wonderful World," just all these different entertainers.

And it ends up with the song that I played at the very beginning of the show. It's him, in his own voice, singing "The Eye Is On the Sparrow," which is just my favorite gospel. So I just wanted to throw that in there because it was a fun thing. And it was a big surprise to me to find this CD. Because it doesn't say anything on the outside.

FRANCISCO: Where did you get it?

HOST: Lobo. And then playing it, and I hear about Donna Day. I said, what's going on here? And that made me read through the notes, to find out that he's an entertainer in Dallas. Now, you'll be hearing more of this.

FRANCISCO: Good.

CHRIS: Talking about fun CDs, I wanted to mention this on the News and Views segment. We just ran out of time. But guess who came out of the closet this week, as if we didn't already know her story.

HOST: Oh, yes.

CHRIS: Lily Tomlin.

FRANCISCO: Oh, she officially came out of--

CHRIS: She officially--

HOST: Finally really did.

CHRIS: Yes. And she admitted that she has been with the same woman for well over 30 years. And who says gay people, gay, lesbian people cannot have meaningful, long-term relationship? 30 years, isn't that longer than a lot of straight folks that I know?

[LAUGHTER]

HOST: Oh, yeah.

CHRIS: Especially the entertainment industry folks.

FRANCISCO: Oh, exactly. They're lucky to last 30 days.

CHRIS: OK.

BOBBY: I have seen a few-- I do have a few friends who have been in long-term, over-30-years relationships in this community, despite our-- well, let's just call it as it is-- penchant for being in relationships that last, oh, about half an hour. And it's nice that, every so often, we can actually prove that our relationships do work, that people do find love and stay together, and some of us actually do believe in till death do us part.

And mind you, I'm a single man, but I still believe in-- but should I be in a relationship, I do believe in until death do us part. It's nice to know that that does actually happen. And in Hollywood, with Lily [INAUDIBLE]

CHRIS: Yes, but-

BOBBY: Go figure that.

CHRIS: --but Bobby, we don't have to go out trying to find a lover to help bring us to the death do us part.

HOST: Chris is walking in here, chewing--

FRANCISCO: Chris has got that look on his face--

HOST: --chewing on his finger,

FRANCISCO: --like he's about to chew on something.

CHRIS: But you've talked, too, frequently about your last partner, who was till death do you part, and he was aiming for your death.

BOBBY: Yeah, this is true--

[? HOST: ?] No kidding.

BOBBY: But that's a whole other conversation.

HOST: We got a request for music from Mike to Don. And we'll be playing that at the end of the show.

FRANCISCO: OK.

HOST: Unless we do a break in between.

FRANCISCO: OK.

HOST: We'll be doing that--

FRANCISCO: Mike to Don as in D-O-N or Mike to Dawn as in D-A-W-N?

HOST: Oh, D-O-N--

FRANCISCO: OK.

HOST: Yes. [LAUGHS]

FRANCISCO: I-- just making sure.

HOST: Yeah, you never know. You never know.

FRANCISCO: From Jay to Terry, I mean--

HOST: Yeah, what does that mean?

BOBBY: Oh, and by the way, since Chris brought it up, all I'm going to say about that last part of what he said is, yes, till death do us part does not mean till one of you kills the other.

HOST: That's right. Something else I failed to mention about [? Devon's ?] music, it's not easy to come by.

FRANCISCO: Right.

HOST: But if you want, it's a five-song EP and it's wonderful music. You can get it by calling a number, which is 713-850-9111? Or is that-- yeah, 9111. He'll call if it's different.

FRANCISCO: OK, yeah. [LAUGHS] Yeah, I think that's the company that produced it, so you get them from there, I think.

HOST: Ah, OK, OK.

FRANCISCO: I'm not sure exactly how that works, now that you mention it, because it's--

HOST: Yeah, it is a little odd.

FRANCISCO: Yeah, but I think that's the number for the studio that he [INAUDIBLE].

HOST: Oh, OK, yeah. So it is 9111. Yes.

FRANCISCO: Yeah.

HOST: OK.

FRANCISCO: So good. So you can call there, and then get a copy. Yeah, it's really good.

HOST: It is. It really honestly is good music. I'm happy to have my own copy, personal copy.

FRANCISCO: Good

HOST: It doesn't leave my hands. I don't loan it out.

FRANCISCO: [LAUGHS]

HOST: Where were we? And what are we going to talk about now?

FRANCISCO: Well, speaking of people that don't talk too kindly about our community, we were on the topic of John Ashcroft, the former senator from Missouri.

CHRIS: Oh, we were having such a nice time together.

FRANCISCO: [LAUGHS]

BOBBY: We were having such a nice time right up until that.

FRANCISCO: Who was appointed-- who was nominated by President-elect Bush to be the attorney general--

CHRIS: President-select.

FRANCISCO: President-select Bush. And yesterday, Friday, *Newsweek* came out with a poll. By 41% to 37% margin, Americans say US Senate should reject President-elect Bush's choice of John Ashcroft for attorney general, according to a *Newsweek* poll.

HOST: Wow. Wow.

FRANCISCO: Which will be interesting. So I think people had been saying earlier, that he was going to get confirmed, one way or the other. But I think public pressure is mounting, based on--

HOST: And I think this president is going to have to watch himself. Because we're not talking about-- isn't Congress pretty much even as far as Democrats and Republicans go?

FRANCISCO: Well, the people who confirm are the Senate, and they're 50-50. So it'll really be interesting because, I mean, the issues that the people in the poll cited are his positions on abortion rights, drugs, and gun control, is views that he's too extreme on.

So it'll be interesting how that plays out. Because there are some Republican senators that are up in two years, that are in very swing states, that have moderate electorates. They're going to have to be held accountable if they vote for this kind of guy.

I mean, we're asking the governors, basically, asking the Senate to appoint someone to enforce the laws and laws that he doesn't believe in.

I mean, someone who has taken positions on civil rights legislation that's really backwards, someone that has opposed the appointment of very qualified and competent and well-respected African-American judges to federal courts, that he's opposed--

HOST: I don't think he's voted for any African-American judge.

FRANCISCO: I'm not sure that he has.

CHRIS: No.

FRANCISCO: This is the same senator that also fought the Hormel appointment, for Mr. Hormel to be the ambassador to Luxembourg, simply based on his sexual orientation.

HOST: Yes, and nothing else, yeah.

FRANCISCO: And just a couple of things that he said--

HOST: And funny, Luxembourg didn't have a problem with James Hormel being gay--

FRANCISCO: Right.

HOST: --or having his lover with him.

FRANCISCO: Right, right. This is actually--

BOBBY: Of course, Luxembourg makes Rhode Island look big, so--

[LAUGHTER]

FRANCISCO: This is what he actually said about Jim Hormel. "People who are nominated to represent this country have to be evaluated for whether they represent the country well and fairly. His conduct and the way in which he would represent the United States is probably not up to the standard that I would expect.

He has been a leader in promoting a lifestyle, and the kind of leadership he's exhibited there is likely to be offensive to individuals in the setting to which he will be assigned," which obviously contradicts what Luxembourg's reactions were to--

HOST: Yes, and for the last time-- well, for-- it's not a lifestyle, folks, it's a life.

FRANCISCO: Right.

CHRIS: And for some of us, there's some people in the community who others within the community wish that they would get some kind of style.

[LAUGHTER]

FRANCISCO: Ooh.

CHRIS: I have to admit--

BOBBY: Look who that's coming out of.

CHRIS: --when it comes to gay styles, lifestyle, my style--

[LAUGHTER]

--mine is more like the day after. Whenever that gay gene was getting passed around--

BOBBY: The day after what?

CHRIS: --it was gone before it got to me.

[LAUGHTER]

BOBBY: The day after what, the nuclear holocaust?

FRANCISCO: Hey, hey, hey, hey, hey.

CHRIS: Or something like that.

[LAUGHTER]

BOBBY: There's a thing they were talking about. I was also listening-- I unfortunately listen to a lot of CNN. And they were talking about-- you know how a president, when they get elected, is supposed to have a certain grace period? And well, Shrub shot that one right in the foot from the get-go.

[? HOST: ?] Yeah, I think so.

BOBBY: He doesn't have a prayer of having a grace period because of everything that happened to get him into that office.

CHRIS: Because he was not elected. He was selected, for starters.

FRANCISCO: I think they reserve the honeymoon periods for presidents, I think.

[LAUGHTER]

[? CHRIS: ?] Woo.

FRANCISCO: But for those people that don't remember the Hormel thing, it was people like Ashcroft that upheld, that kept his nomination from going forward for over a year. And finally, the president appointed him under a very special rule where he could appoint or make emergency appointments while Congress was not in session. So he went ahead and did that.

But you have to commend-- this is a president who it looks like, till the very last day, is really going to enjoy being president of the United States.

HOST: Yes, oh yes.

FRANCISCO: Bill Clinton has not slowed down. He's moving at the same pace that he's moved, one of the most furious paces that he's ever moved in.

HOST: We're not talking lame duck here. I mean, he's going with--

CHRIS: He's not missing an opportunity to tweak--

BOBBY: And he's mouthing off.

[LAUGHTER]

FRANCISCO: He's putting in executive orders. He's protecting national forests. He's protecting his friends and eliminating [INAUDIBLE], putting in others, pardoning left and right. He should pardon himself, I think, before he goes.

[LAUGHTER]

BOBBY: Not to mention the fact that he is mouthing off when he-- I mean, he went off at some little gathering about the election thing.

HOST: Yes, he did.

BOBBY: Everybody thought that he wasn't going to say much about the whole thing, once it all-- Shrub actually got the thing. But uh-uh, he went off about that on something.

CHRIS: I missed it. What did he say?

BOBBY: I saw him-- I mean, he as much as said, OK, you guys just picked-- that the Supreme Court had just picked a president, and yadda-yah. I mean, he just went off about it.

HOST: Yeah, he did, he did.

BOBBY: He told everybody that this president was picked. He was not chosen by the people. He was picked by nine guys in--

HOST: Well, Chris?

BOBBY: Well, five of nine guys.

CHRIS: That was during one of his farewell tour stops in New Hampshire. And part of it was that the fact that saying that George Bush became president because the Republicans stopped the voting in Florida--

FRANCISCO: That's right.

CHRIS: --which he immediately backpedaled about two days later on, saying that it wasn't meant as seriously as it was taken. He was talking to a lot of Democrats and supporters in New Hampshire. And he did backpedal a little bit on that a few days later. And Bush did respond with saying, he can say what he wants.

[LAUGHTER]

HOST: And boy, did he.

BOBBY: Oh, brother.

FRANCISCO: But just another item of the *Newsweek* poll, because as he prepares to leave office, 49% of the respondents said that Bush should pardon him if a special prosecutor brings charges against him, and only 38% saying that pardoning Clinton would be wrong. However, 75% of Americans believe that history will regard him as a better than average president. And just 23% think that he would be disregarded as a president of poor performance.

HOST: Wow, that's pretty amazing.

FRANCISCO: And 54% think that it would be a good idea for him to stay in Washington and continue to be involved. That's kind of interesting.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HOST: They're looking at this big house. And he's just going to stay there and hang out and be cool. And he ain't leaving. No. No. He likes it.

CHRIS: I have a question for Francisco.

FRANCISCO: OK.

CHRIS: And Francisco, you are kind of like a big, serious politico, in the sense that you really do keep close watch on who's doing what and all this. What can we expect here in Texas from Rick Perry?

FRANCISCO: Rick Perry is actually a lot more conservative than George Bush. Well--

CHRIS: Well, I hate to say it, but George Bush is a wuss. He will go whichever way anybody fattens his pocket.

HOST: Well, that was for the campaign. We have yet to see what he will do.

FRANCISCO: I think, as you see some of these Ashcroft appointments, you see how conservative George Bush really is.

And Rick Perry wants to be governor. He's been wanting this position, and he's going to be up in two years.

He doesn't have presidential aspirations that I'm aware of. So in terms of issues like hate crimes-- we're going to be talking a little bit later because we've got a hate crimes bill that's up-- he's not going to be as active as opposing those kinds of things.

And he's stuck in a situation where there's only a one-vote margin also in the Texas Senate, that he has to deal with. And so in that regard, I mean, he's one of these people that-- well, he's very fiscally conservative Republican that's also very socially conservative. And it'll be interesting what it means.

HOST: Yes, but he's leaving a position of more power than he's going to.

CHRIS: Right. And my next question is, now, the Lieutenant Governor, who really is the power in Texas. What can we expect? And what's his name again?

FRANCISCO: Bill Ratliff.

CHRIS: OK.

FRANCISCO: So yeah, we have a governor and a lieutenant governor that haven't been elected. They've sort of moved up the food chain.

HOST: So to speak. And what can we expect from him?

CHRIS: What can we expect from our new lieutenant governor, the real power?

FRANCISCO: Bill Ratliff is someone who chaired the Finance Committee. And he's actually one of the people that was more favored among Democrats. Actually, he won by one vote after six ballots.

And the two people that were favorable to the Democrats to take the position were either Senator Buster Brown or Ratliff. And the reason Buster Brown was favored as a man, obviously, he has no political future. This is a man that was fondling and groping his aides and is going to have to run-- he's not going to run again in two years. So ideally, I would love for him to be lieutenant governor.

[LAUGHTER]

But there was enough Republicans for the next wave to--

HOST: That's funny.

FRANCISCO: So he didn't make it, but it would have been nice if he had.

CHRIS: So you're saying that he doesn't use bookmarks? He just bends over the pages.

[LAUGHTER]

BOBBY: Oh, how did I know somebody was going to go there?

HOST: Yeah, the thing that I'm thinking of--

CHRIS: Thank you, [INAUDIBLE].

HOST: --is that Bush has never really held a position of real power.

FRANCISCO: Right.

HOST: And how is he going to perform as the power?

FRANCISCO: Well, it'll be interesting. Look at his appointments, and they're very interesting. Christine Todd Whitman, governor of New Jersey, a very anti-abortion, but she was put in to head up the Environmental Protection Agency. She's pro-life, but her policies aren't going to be impacting.

HOST: That's true. Yes, that's true.

FRANCISCO: You look at Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice, the two African-Americans that were appointed. They have absolutely no influence over affirmative action. They're both working strictly on the position of secretary of state and national security advisors, issues that don't affect, in large part, the African-American [? constituency ?] back home.

We have real concerns, like, for example, John Ashcroft, who's actually going to have an impact. I mean, he's someone being put in charge of enforcing laws that doesn't believe in. And for the gay and lesbian community, I mean, there's some very alarming things.

And he's one of those people that believes being gay and lesbian is a choice. I think he told the Congressional-- on the House floor-- or the Senate floor, he said, it's clear that it's an activity of choice, in other respects, and that it's a choice that can be made and unmade, is [INAUDIBLE].

HOST: When did he choose? Yeah, hello.

[LAUGHTER]

FRANCISCO: I don't know if he's chosen to have sex yet. But I'm sure when he does, he'll let his wife know.

[LAUGHTER]

BOBBY: I'm amazed how [INAUDIBLE].

[LAUGHTER]

HOST: You know? Yeah. With these people who scream choice, you know,

BOBBY: It's amazing to me--

HOST: Don't they get it?

BOBBY: --that being gay can be a choice, supposedly a choice, but they were all born straight.

HOST: Oh, well. I mean, that goes off on to another tangent.

BOBBY: That's a whole other--

HOST: Yes.

BOBBY: But you see my point.

HOST: And yes, and we want to get into some of this other stuff that you--

FRANCISCO: Yeah, just he was actually-- Bob Jones University, which is a university that George Bush spoke at, is a school that is not only racially discriminatory. Until recently, it disallowed interracial dating on campus.

HOST: Wow.

FRANCISCO: And this is what-- he accepted an honorary degree here from Bob Jones University, spoken there. He supported their positions against gay alumni being on campus. And this is the kind of policy that he supports.

Bob Jones University wrote this to its alumni in a letter back in 1998. With grief, we must tell you, that as long as you are living as a homosexual, you, of course, would not be welcome on campus and would be arrested for trespassing if you did visit.

And this is also the university that bans the Abercrombie and Fitch catalog on campus, because they think it's one of these--

HOST: Well it is homoerotic. Let's face it. [LAUGHS]

BOBBY: But really, people.

FRANCISCO: But he's just one of these Jerry Falwell people--

HOST: Wow.

FRANCISCO: --that's just so bent on-- thinks there's a big gay and lesbian conspiracy going across the country. If you ask him why the chicken crossed the road, and he'll just go up in arms, saying, it's because he's gay. Don't you get it? He's going to the other side.

[LAUGHTER]

HOST: Yes, yes.

FRANCISCO: These are people that are very narrow-focused and narrow-minded and can't quite seem to get beyond some of these prejudices and these biases.

CHRIS: Sometimes I wonder if these people are just not plain old charlatans and using gay and lesbian as a hot-button money-raiser, that they really could care less who sleeps with who. And it's just a way of milking money--

HOST: Of course, of course.

CHRIS: --out of others. I mean, let's face it. There are people that are that stupid-- pardon me, but there are people out there that are that stupid, that they will let somebody get on television, say that 100-foot Jesus appeared to them and is going to take his life in 30 days unless I get mailed \$3 million.

HOST: Oh, well.

CHRIS: I'm saying, oh, God, destroy the post office.

HOST: Did you want to get into ENDA and all of that stuff?

FRANCISCO: Yeah, we can do that. Let's talk to ENDA, and then I'll just-- obviously came armed today with [INAUDIBLE].

HOST: Yeah, I see that. I want you to cover everything that you've brought.

FRANCISCO: So let me read what he said about ENDA. "It contains seeds of real instability and inappropriate activity, seeds of litigation which could grow way out of hand and send the wrong signal to young people and provide a special standing in class not based upon existence and construction, but conduct, not based upon sex, but upon sexual activity.

I think it sends a signal that it's an elevated status. And I do not think it's the right signal to send to the next generation," is his position, basically, on ENDA.

And this is one of these people-- I can't remember who made the statement that compared homosexuality to kleptomania, but this is a man who's compared the AIDS crisis to bank robbery.

In terms of needle exchange programs, this is what he had to say. "I just don't believe it's true that there is a consensus among scientists that tell you that all these reductions in AIDS deaths by providing clean needles. We could make bank robbery a safer profession if we would just provide bulletproof vests to the bank robbers, but we're not going to do it. We shouldn't make drug use safe just by providing clean needles.

HOST: [SIGHS] Well, that gives you an idea of how he stands on human rights.

FRANCISCO: Oh, right. I mean, this would be a scary-- you thought Janet Reno was scary. I mean, this is like--

HOST: Yeah, yeah.

BOBBY: Gee, all Janet Reno did was shook a lot.

HOST: Do you think that there's a big chance of him being confirmed?

FRANCISCO: They're diminishing. I mean, they're actually diminishing. It's going to be tough. It just takes 51 senators to say no. I can assure you, at this point, it'll be at least 50 saying no. I mean, I think there's enough of an outcry. And at least most of the Democratic senators will be voting no, if not all of them. So [INAUDIBLE].

HOST: What's going to happen to the Republicans who vote no?

FRANCISCO: Well, we'll see. I thought this was a president that could look beyond partisanship.

[LAUGHTER]

CHRIS: I'm a uniter, not a divider.

BOBBY: It's called the unemployment line.

HOST: Yeah, boy.

FRANCISCO: Exactly.

HOST: Wow, wow.

FRANCISCO: And there are Republicans that had some very-- there are a few out there. I mean, Jeff [INAUDIBLE] is a Republican from New Hampshire that is somewhat progressive, or at least moderate, and has supported hate crimes legislation and things like ENDA, Employment Non-Discrimination Act. And some of those we'll be facing here in Texas, including a renewed effort to pass the hate crimes bill.

And speaking of Governor Perry, he may actually get a hate crimes bill go across his desk this time, something that didn't happen with Governor Bush. So whether he signs it or lets it go into law will be interesting.

HOST: Wow.

FRANCISCO: So we'll see. Because there's actually 64 sponsors now for the bill in Texas, 30 members that are actively in the house alone that are actively working to pass the bill. So unlike past sessions, where we've had to wait near-- towards the end of the session to find out if it's going to make it to the governor's desk, we might actually get that in the early part of the session.

CHRIS: Debra Danburg was reporting to the *Houston Voice* that she really believes that it's going to make it this time around.

FRANCISCO: We're hoping so. But I think we've got a good chance.

CHRIS: And Rick Perry, on Tuesday, in the *Houston Chronicle*, Rick Perry told the *Chronicle*, in an interview he did there, that he was not really opposed to the legislation.

FRANCISCO: Yeah, he's given the traditional, well, we'll see what comes across my desk. It's the legislature's job to come up with this, that standard line.

But we'll see. Because the *Chronicle* actually supported the hate crimes bill last time around. It actually ran an editorial supporting the measure.

So that'll be interesting. Last session, they were actually full of a couple of surprises. They not only supported the hate crimes bill, but they opposed the anti-gay adoption measure, which the publisher must have been out on vacation or something.

[LAUGHTER]

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

BOBBY: Well, if pro being the opposite of con, we're all going to sit back and wait and see if Congress is the opposite of progress.

[LAUGHTER]

HOST: Ooh, ouch. In the background, you're hearing a requested piece of music-- "The Texas City Dike," by Mean Jean Kelton. And that is from Mike to Don. So [HUMS].

[LAUGHTER]

Anything else you want to bring up?

FRANCISCO: [INAUDIBLE], while we are on the subject of hate crimes. I think you can go to the-- one of the important things in making the argument for hate crimes is getting hate crimes reported. You can go to the HRC website, which is easy to remember, HRC.org.

And there's a forum on there. And it's actually available on several websites. There's a National Coalition of Anti-violence Programs. And I don't know their website. But there's a forum that you can use to submit to them so that they can track hate crimes and report that to federal agencies and point out some real things.

And it's all confidential, but asks for your name, your last name, just some contact information. And it asks you for the date of the offense and exactly a little checklist of what may have happened. And that's always a good way to just report that and just to have those statistics. Because if you look at the statistics they've been keeping since the Clinton administration required the Justice Department to track this kind of information, we were getting to see the real effects of hate crimes and how prevalent they really are.

HOST: That's right. That's right.

FRANCISCO: And I think you all mentioned, earlier, an MTV special that was going on.

HOST: Yes.

CHRIS: Chris didn't like it.

[LAUGHTER]

HOST: Well, Francisco, thank you again.

FRANCISCO: Thank you for having us. Next month, we'll have Sandy. Hopefully, he'll be feeling better and be able to join us and give us his--

HOST: Cool.

FRANCISCO: --interesting insights.

HOST: Yes. Yeah, he's always a lot of fun. You've been listening to *After Hours*, queer radio with attitude, on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station. Coming up at the top of the hour is the *Early Morning Groove*. And the Love Doctor, Rob Love, is here already, waiting to take you on that ride until 6:00 in the morning.

ROB LOVE: Oh, thank you for your input.

HOST: And so we'll hear a little bit more of that "Texas City Dyke." And see you next week. Thanks for listening.

[MUSIC - GENE KELTON, "THE TEXAS CITY DYKE"]