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gay, group, parents, justin, hatch, lesbian, child, music, surrogate mother, call, adoption, guess, houston, heard, freddie, years, tara, dad, resale shop, kids

SPEAKERS

Jimmy Carper



Jimmy Carper 00:04

The following program contains language or images of the flavor or sensitive nature which may be considered objectionable by some. Listener discretion is advised. Oh yes, you've tuned into after hours queer radio with attitude right here on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of after hours is ready to bring you news interviews, dialogue and music geared for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people and their friends. Hear it after hours, we may be diverse, but we have one thing in common. We are all out of the closet and urge everyone to come out of their closets. That means standing up for yourself taking responsibility for your own life and being proud of who you are. Realistically, we know not everyone can do that because of age job or frame of mind. That's okay, we're here for you too. So sit back, relax, and enjoy this week's edition of after hours. Hello, Houston and college station and Huntsville, and welcome to after hours queer radio with attitude. I'm Jimmy Carper. And this is a special night because it is the first night that hatch is on the first half of the show. Tommy's here and whole bunch of the folks before but before I hand, hand the station over to Tommy. Yeah. Who I want to tell you about a couple of things. music that you heard, we started out with new music by Tori fix from his brand new CD called MK Maka sutra, mocha sutra, mocha sutra, okay, and it's got 15 Ripping cuts, it's really, really good. I've got about a half a dozen here that I'm gonna play on the air. Sometime that one was called dude. And the second song you heard was by request from last week. It's a new group that we've played once before called duality. And that was stand up. And I'm telling you people were dancing here in the studio. But the first thing I want to say first thing before I say anything else is comments. Yes. Yes. We are a winning team. Yeah. And it takes the women to do it. I love it. I love that. I love that. I love that. I guess everybody has heard by now I just wanted to get my two cents in. papers, papers, papers, papers, papers. And two more little things here. On Monday night and lesbian and gay voices, there's going to be a very, very special music program put on by JD Doyle, lesbian, gay voices is heard right here Monday night, every Monday night from eight until 10pm As you heard on that court before, but JD is does the queer music heritage every fourth Monday at 9pm. And this Monday, he is doing music about and by transgenders. And it was really tough for him. He did a lot of research and found out that he could probably do about 10 shows about transgendered music. So it's gonna be really good. He's got special things going and one quick note Tommy, I'm gonna give it to you just, I'm okay. The community resale shop that's a wonderful place on Richmond. Over buy off of Jack, Richmond and Jack That's right there by the freeway. About the

400 block after block from Counseling Center. Yep. What's wonderful about them is that not only is it just a resale shop but ah patients are given like chips they can get like 30 bucks to stuff every couple of months every, every three months. Okay? And that 30 is kind of negotiable. I've



05:14

heard it's, it's 35 right now,



Jimmy Carper 05:17

okay, as Bobby is telling me, okay, but what they're looking for right now they need. They need stuff, folks. Anytime you've got stuff to give, give away that's the place to do it. And what they're looking for right now is white socks, underwear and tennis shoes. So go over there and see Sam and Richard and now it's really time. If you want to play the music first Yeah.



05:44

Oh, Garth, Garth, Garth,



Jimmy Carper 05:47

and what is he? What is he doing? This is to make you feel my love. Oh, and you're hearing it on after hours career radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station. All right. That was Garth Brooks here on hatch radio. You got my outline? Okay. Okay, this is hatch radio. That was Garth Brooks to make you feel my love. We got new time. New week. Better schedule. All right. We're at midnight and step two who's excited? Okay. Hatch stands for Houston area teen coalition of homosexuals. We meet every Friday night and every Sunday night. Fridays from seven o'clock to 10 o'clock Sundays from six o'clock to nine o'clock. The Ages 13 to 20. To get a hold of hatch, call 713-942-7002. You'll get a message then. From there, you'll know what to do. We are accepting calls here today. We have lovely guests today. We've got the Houston gay and lesbian parents here. We're excited to have him here. Yeah. All right. I have a bunch of questions. I'm excited about the topic. If y'all have any questions, you can call the radio station at 713. Jam. KPFT 713-526-5738. Right. Yes, I got the number right for the first time. That's great. Okay. With us today. It's me Tommy, David's our facilitator for the night Todd, how's it going? We've got Freddie in the back somewhere. Okay. I'm gonna let y'all introduce yourself. This is the Houston gay and lesbian parents. I don't know your names very well yet. So. Go ahead.



07:38

Hi, I'm Courtney. I'm -- my dad's gay. So I'm here to talk about my dad.



07:44

07:44

And I'm her dad. I'm Charlie St. John and vice president of HGLP.



07:50

My name is Jared Quinoas. And I'm a parent - want to be



Jimmy Carper 07:55

alright, that's great. Okay, for a quick interlude thing I just wanted. What are you pointing at? Okay, sorry. I just wanted to say school started. Not too excited about that, but okay. It's school. I'm a senior finally. Yay. Graduating May. I'm excited. Okay, okay. Now we're gonna go into the question answer segment of our show. Yay. or missing. Justin. He makes the show more likely. I wish he I don't know where he is. As far as I know. Okay. Sparkles. He knows he's supposed to be here. Oh, I don't know where he is. Okay. My first question for you all. Okay. What is the purpose of this group, Houston, gay and lesbian parents.



08:58

The purpose is to provide support for gay families of children with gay parents provide information to adults who want to adopt or or other, you know, bring children into their lives. We meet the second Tuesday of every month and have a general session. Sometimes we have speakers. And we break off into various subgroups, depending on what we want to talk about and just provide support for each other. There's various types of families and we have single parents we have a lot of CO parents, men and women. There are a lot of people here that in our group that are want to be parents and they come to us to find out information from others who have adopted or have gotten children through artificial On insemination.



Jimmy Carper 10:02

Okay, so how many members are in this group?



10:05

Right now we have about 120 member families, that roster.



Jimmy Carper 10:09

That's very cool. How often do you meet



10:13

our support group meets every once a month, every Tuesday, second Tuesday. And we have a

family activity once a month. We also have a youth group associated with the parents group called just for us. That's what I was about to ask. And Courtney, my daughter is a member of that group. She's a historian at this time.

 Jimmy Carper 10:35

That's very cool. What do you do in your group? Um, well,

 10:39

we meet with the support group with HGLP. And we have our own little support group. And sometimes we've kind of gotten off track of having our monthly activities, but I want to get that you know, more organized, but we have a monthly activity where just the teenagers, me and we'll have like a, you know, one of the parents or something. What am I looking at Sherborne. And other in we have, we tried to send out a newsletter every month, and that's about it.

 Jimmy Carper 11:09

Okay, that sounds very cool. I know, Carol wants to get involved with the just for us program to like, kind of integrate with hatch every once in a while. I don't know if y'all have heard about that. But she's talked to me about. Okay. Director for Hatch. I think you spoke

 11:29

with Carol coordinate. Oh, I

 11:31

did. I don't remember her name. But yeah, she I guess she did come to our support group once or twice. Okay.

 Jimmy Carper 11:40

So how many members go to the kids group?

 11:43

Um, well. Let me think, I don't know. Usually, like, What do you mean, like, during the activities? Sure. Um, during the activities, it ranges, it depends on what we're doing and what night it is. But we try to get around maybe 20 kids. And there's about, I don't know, 30 kids,

 11:43



12:03

about 30 total that are members. And what happens is, especially with the gay men in the group, that are non custodial parents, if an event falls, perhaps on a weekend that they don't have the visitation with their children, they may not attend the event. So we run into that little problem, we try to alternate the events so that we can circumvent that somewhat.



Jimmy Carper 12:28

I lost my place. Okay, so what are the ages of the kids that you have in this group?



12:34

Um, I guess it's from like, sixth graders, which is around 11, or 12 to seniors is like 18. And once you're 18, or usually, you know, move on to college until you're out of the grip, but



Jimmy Carper 12:45

she goes okay. This is just for me to know, because I got careers. How many? What's the percent of the kids that attend the kids group that are gay or lesbian?



13:06

Or right now, all I know of is maybe one that's really that is, you know, kind of openly gay, I guess. Other than that, most kids don't talk about it. Talk about it. So I really wouldn't know. You know, it's kind of a confidential thing.



Jimmy Carper 13:22

That's cool. That's very cool. Okay. Okay, so what at what point? Did y'all realize that you wanted to have kids? When did you were you married before? Did you adopt? How did you go about getting?



13:42

Okay, well, for me, I was in denial about my sexuality for a number of years, in fact, up until just about five or six years ago, and I just always thought it was one of these things that would was a phase and would go away, I got married and had a family very early. When I was still in college. That marriage lasted about four and a half years and right, you know, right after recording was born. And I also have a son, who's who will be 18 in October. And my ex wife and I divorced. And, you know, we went our separate ways. She passed away in 1995. And after that, no, my kids came to live with me. And so it was time to get honest with myself and with him, since they were going to be living here with me and we found this group and it's been tremendously helpful for all of us to adjust and I get the support I need in dealing with teenage issues and, and things like that the other parents encounter and my kids have had a very safe

place to go and discuss issues that come up with them. You know, because their group is is what they say in their stays in there. It's, you know, they've got to meet other kids that have gay parents, so they don't feel like they're all alone in the world. It's just been very helpful. Did you ever come out to your ex wife? No, no, she never knew.

 Jimmy Carper 15:16

Okay. Okay, for someone that is looking to have a child and they are gay, lesbian, whether they have a partner or not, what are the options that they have to have children?

 15:30

Well, there there is adoption. There's private adoption, there's public adoption. There's also artificial insemination. There is also an I guess, with that, you also go by saying surrogate mother.

 Jimmy Carper 15:48

Right. Okay. I keep losing my place. I don't like this. You said you wanted to know that you're a want to be parents. What do you mean by that?

 15:58

Well, by that I mean that. At this point in my life, I feel that I'm missing something. And I didn't know what it was that biological. It's that. Yeah, you could say that. And I realized that a few years ago, my partner and I talked about it. He wasn't too. At that point. He wasn't too thrilled about having a child. But I can't blame him. But recently, I would say within the past, maybe a year or so he's warmed up to it. And since we we participate in taking care of our little God child, whose parents are also lesbian. He's He's gotten really, really close to the idea of becoming a father. And he has mentioned to me that he would mind having a child and that's great for me.

 Jimmy Carper 16:56

All right. We have who on the phone. Just Oh, we've got Justin on line one. Where is Justin? Let's go with the phone. Justin, Justin, are you here?

 17:16

Hey,

 Jimmy Carper 17:17

okay, you're here.



17:17

Yes. Where are you? I'm only house.



Jimmy Carper 17:21

I went over to your house and



17:22

I wasn't here. I've totally forgot. I was hanging out with Taylor. Come over here. I can't I'll put on my face. And I'll be down there. What's What are y'all doing?



Jimmy Carper 17:31

We're talking. We're talking with the Houston gay and lesbian parents.



17:35

Who all else is there?



Jimmy Carper 17:37

Freddie is right now. Hello, pretty. Oh. Are you gonna skate down here?



17:42

Yes. I'm still gonna skate on there. Hey,



Jimmy Carper 17:45

Freddy. Yes. Do you want to go pick up Justin? Thank you because I don't want Justin to skate down here.



17:52

I'm butterfly



17:53

wings. To you know,



Jimmy Carper 17:57

and I'll take you home.



17:59

Okay, well, I guess I can stay on the phone until he gets here. That's cool. No, I can't I can't I gotta call somebody before I go down. Okay, okay.



Jimmy Carper 18:07

Well, that's cool. Come over as go Freddie. Okay, Ryan. Okay,



18:13

so Justin will be here. Great. Yeah, I'll be



18:15

there. And lots of stuff like that are probably have much to contribute to this subject and stuff. I don't have. Alright,



Jimmy Carper 18:22

hold on. You're there.



18:25

So by skater by car, just we'll be here.



18:27

I will be here. That's great. I will be there and that general direction while being on the radio and stuff like that. Okay. That's good. Okay. And this is good.



18:28



18:38

Yes. It was like, was just a night here.



18:41

I know. I totally I am so sorry. Everybody totally forgot. Blew my mind. And Tara. Thank you, Tara, for calling me and telling me what the deal was. She called me she's like, how come you're on the radio show? I'm like, Honey, I just got home and she's like, Oh, you need to go. I'm like, Okay, I'm I will be there.



19:01

We have a listener. It's Tara. I know. That's very great. I



19:04

know. She turned on the radio. She's like, because you know, she's like, like, my number one fan. And like, Marcus is supposed to be on the radio tonight. And, and she was very disappointed. So I must not disappointed this Hora and I will be going.



19:20

Helpfully Tara will call us later because, yeah,



19:23

that the number is 713 Jam. KPFT.



19:28

I actually have the numbers too. It's 7135 to 65738.



19:35

Right. So I have to go right now because I have to make a call before I can go. Okay. All that all that good stuff that's going on and stuff. Okay. I will I will be hanging up right now. All right. Okay. Um, Goodbye, everybody. I will speak to shortly. Okay.



19:52

That was just in our other radio personality. He's also on the steering committee. He his job is to hospitality. He greets people when they first come to hatch and makes them feel at home.

My job is to do the radio show and public speaking. Patch is a wonderful support group we it gives us opportunities that we wouldn't have. Otherwise. It's very great. I enjoy it. Does anybody else have any questions for them? To coordinate?



20:22

Your father had mentioned something about you being an historian? What does it exactly entail in your group?



20:29

Well, the historian I guess, well, um, what do I do? I haven't done in a while. So well, I guess I would just like, I get everybody's birthday. And I would like, I planned on sending them birthday cards, and I take notes at events and like, we'd have a scrapbook and stuff like that. And anything had to do with history as a group, I guess. I don't know. I just the group's might not as organized as you used to be. So I don't really



21:03

Oh, don't worry how much went through that phase?



21:06

I really I want to get back on track. But you know, I have a lot of other commitments, you know, school and stuff. So, but hopefully I'll get



21:14

there. school. School is such a commitment. We love school. Until better was senior. I have a quick School Story. I'm a senior finally. Yay. But we get to do economics Fair this year. Yay. This is like the senior thing. And so I was like, we need to have the tackiest idea possible. So what we did we dyed one sock purple one side gold or school colors and we put seniors on one plus 2001 on the other. I cannot wait. These are the tackiest things in the world. Like the purple didn't come out all the way. Great on the bottom. So we're just like all right, we've got another call. Is it? Who is it? Does anybody know? Tara? It's Tara. Right. Speak of the devil. No. Well, okay, well, they're trying Tara Tara



22:13

alota. Hi, Tara.



22:17

Hello, Tara,



22:19

Speak to us. Tara, are you there?



22:24

Oh, we lost Tara. Jimmy, speak to us. Okay, okay. Well, while we find Tara, or she needs to call back or whatever, we'll continue talking. But I'm excited about Sr. Miss. And I haven't missed school in the morning. And that's good. So I guess I don't have seen it. Right. It's that bad. And that's what my biggest fear was last year when I was able to drive to school was that for the second semester? Oh, my God, I missed first period show. Well, my.



22:58

So so how did your kids take it when you did tell them that you were gay?



23:05

In different ways, I told them each separately. Of course, my son always likes to, to have the belief that, you know, he's in the know, on everything. And he's like, Well, you know, Dad already knew. And my daughter had some concerns, you know, that just lost their mother. And I think her primary concern was she associated being gay with contracting HIV and developing AIDS and, and losing her father too. And so that was a concern. And we went through, you know, some counseling and I'm a member of bearing church. The pastor there at the time was just wonderful in helping us get through it. And, and also speaking to my parents, you know, because I told them all at once Well, the whole family, and it went, went really well. Surprisingly well. Very supportive.



24:00

That's very cool. Very cool.



24:03

Do you remember that all that time, Courtney? Yeah.



24:05

And we didn't know that. I mean, I asked you like, three or four times. And you were you always told me? No, but we didn't know. I mean, come on. That's



24:21

what were some of the giveaways?



24:23

Well, for one, he had this really queeny friend. I mean, he was just out there. For another I don't know. I mean, we just like my dad. I mean, my brother found his like, found a twit. Twit anytime on the phone but we found the phone but to



24:41

I would like to make an announcement. Justin and Freddie have just pulled up. Say we'll be in here in just a couple seconds. Although Justin sitting in my car Oh, Justin will not be happy you said that. I'm so Kelly Tim.



24:59

I want See, he's more sparkle like,



25:01

yeah, Justin's just Justin, we love Justin, we loved him. Okay, so when your dad came out to you? How did like, what was the process for you? I mean, did did you go through denial or so? Did? Did you? Have you told any of your friends you know, do at school? Do your teachers know that your dad's gay or anything? And my voice keeps cracking?



25:30

Well, pretty much all of my friends know. I mean, I'm really open about is no big deal to me. And I mean, if they have a problem with it, I just kind of drop them. I mean, because, you know, I just, you know, I don't like any of that. So, um, my teachers, um, I think one of them knows I told one of them. I think she's a lesbian herself. So, you know, I felt really comfortable telling her and I mean, with the process like, I, you know, after I asked him, he told me, No, I kind of went through, I was just like, Okay, well, he told me no, so he's not. And then, you know, I kind of was like, hoping that it wasn't true, because I had been brought up to think that was bad. And but, I mean, once he told me, the main thing I thought was like, you know, he had AIDS because he's just gay. So all gay people have AIDS until he's gonna die. But you know, I found out that's not true. And so, other than that, I'm just, you know, it didn't bother me. I mean, he's my dad. I still love him. We have a caller to comment on that. Hello. Is the caller there. Hello,



26:38

and sumo caller, we have Justin here now. Hello, everybody out there and stuff. I'm the one who lives on the street in which I forgot to come today. So I'm here late, and you're talking to me as we speak. And lots of stuff like that.



26:52

So have you been listening to the show at all?



26:55

I have not on the way here. And as I was on the phone trying to get connected, I was trying to like, dial in and stuff. And here. We're saying? Like if you're saying like bad stuff about me? Asked her.



27:10

We have a friend here that thinks you're kind of cleaning. Oh, absolutely.



27:16

Right. A little tiny bit of an understatement.



27:22

Okay, well, I like your do rag. That's kind of funny. Like what? I like your do rag. It's odd. Colored. Thank you. Okay, sorry. Okay, back with the adoption process. What's the difference in time? Okay, between a gay couple trying to adopt a kid and a straight couple of like, how is there much of a difference? Is there a difference?



27:47

There really isn't any difference. I will say, though, that it depends. There's there there is a difference in where you choose to adopt if it's domestic, or if it's international, um, the agency that both my partner and I have contacted, they do adoptions in Russia, as well as China. And they're, they're just about getting ready to do adoptions here in the United States. And, you know, also there are several things that you need to be aware of such as a person if you expect to get a child who a newborn child, don't don't expect that because it may not happen. But it can happen. It just depends on what your circumstances are and what the adoption agency circumstances are as well. Oh, I think we



28:43

have a caller on line two. Hello. Hello. We're having a rough time with the calls tonight. Bear

with us callers. We'll get to you shortly. I'm sure. We have a new phone system. So we've been trying to learn the tricks to it. Hello. Hi. And still no luck. Goodbye.



29:09

Is everything on this thing? Okay. Hello, we didn't have the phone button push. Yes. Okay. So have you started taking processes and to adoption or anything like that?



29:32

No, for the simple reason that we're not exactly sure that that's the route that my partner and I want to take, right? We would rather I think we we would really rather have a surrogate mother right for that. I want the child to be a part of one of



29:49

us. Right? That makes very much sense. That's how I would feel too.



29:55

I would I would mind adopting don't get me wrong. I have nothing Exactly. But If we feel that this is what we really want, how we really want to go about it, so, any surrogate mothers out there, please contact me.



30:10

Okay, So Justin, do you have any questions so far?



Jimmy Carper 30:14

Tell Tara to call back. No, I



30:15

was Tara callback. Hmm. I have a surrogate mother. Her name is Taylor. Okay. I'm gonna be her baby's daddy. Hey, so why didn't Taylor come? She



30:26

didn't know. I didn't know. Therefore she did not know. So. Let's just be home by 12 Because some sort of stuff. I guess.



30:34

That would make it tough to be at a 12 o'clock radio show. Yeah, no. Okay, well, we're gonna take a bit of a music break real quick. Just a bit. Just a bit. A tiny, number one. This is Tory emos. Hey, Jupiter. Picked out by Freddie. Of course. Good listening.



Jimmy Carper 30:55

But, and you're listening to KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station.