

HOST 1: So what do you want from this group? What would you like to happen with this group?

GUEST 1: I'd really like to see-- we do have a variety of people. And we have race, sex, and the variations of homosexuality or bisexuality already there. But we'd like to get a very good mixed group to get in there and have some really good discussions. And we want to do other things besides just have discussions on Thursday nights and have guest speakers and stuff.

Like, something I was thinking we should do is try to do something for the community, do a community service project for the elderly or something like that in this area to give back to them what were being given to us. And we want to do social group, social activities, just be able to mingle with other people our own age, without having that pressure--

HOST 1: Yeah.

GUEST 1: --the social pressure.

HOST 1: Well, you know what? I was thinking about that a minute ago when I was talking earlier about the pressure, what is that pressure? That pressure, I think, at the bars is that sexual thing. That is a possibility. And that's what people go there for, is for that, I think, that unique eroticism. And I find that I don't need that. I don't need that at all

But you can meet-- I'm sorry. You can meet young people doing other things at the coffeehouse and if a 20-something group of Houston if you want to get in touch with somebody from there and find out more information-- I can use your name, is that-- Connie?

HOST 2: You bet you can.

HOST 1: You can connect with Connie Gray over at Bear Memorial, 1440 Harold, Houston, Texas. 541-4217, is that the number you gave?

HOST 2: Oh, that's Quincy's number.

HOST 1: Call Quincy for more information.

HOST 2: Quincy is a good one for information, also.

HOST 1: And you might even ask to have Cindy call you. And let me tell you, you could do worse.

HOST 2: Hey?

HOST 1: Well, I thought we'd get you a date. We have a dating service here. Did you know that, girls?

GUEST: Yes.

HOST 1: We have a dating service here.

HOST 2: I think.

HOST 1: Well, Scooter found a husband. I figure it's OK. It's OK. But you can get in touch with people from-- I guess they could call you for both of them, right? Pretty much?

HOST 2: Sure.

HOST 1: Or better, you have a number. You gave a number.

HOST 2: Yeah, 521-1549.

HOST 1: Cool. What can you do next? I mean, you've just reached your peak now. What can you do next? Ignore them. Ignore them. It's like in Wizard of Oz. The man behind the curtain, ignore the man behind the curtain.

GUEST: Not the dyke by the door.

HOST 1: That's right. Not the dyke by the door. OK. Hey.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HOST 1: I've been told-- wait a second. I'm sorry. I've been told it's break time. So are we going to do something? Or you just want me to-- well, can I have one half a minute? OK, ladies, goodbye.

[LAUGHTER]

Listen.

GUEST: They can come back. We just need to talk.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HOST 1: I know we need the break. I saw you do that. They don't have to go anywhere? I know they don't have to leave. Are we having this conversation? I was only teasing. I was only teasing. Actually, I'd like you to hang out for a few minutes, maybe take a couple of phone calls if somebody's interested in getting more information.

HOST 3: And we have some people who are going to join the ladies right after the break.

HOST 1: Oh, I see.

HOST 3: Yes.

HOST 1: I see. So you didn't tell me that part.

HOST 3: Lady slash women. It's kind of an age thing.

HOST 1: I see.

GUEST: And I would have really liked "babes."

GUEST: Babes.

HOST 3: Got you.

HOST 1: I like her attitude.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HOST 1: So we have to say it's, I mean, WKRP?

[LAUGHTER]

HOST 3: No, that's what we--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HOST 3: No, we don't say that. No. We say KPFT.

HOST 1: That's right, KPFT Houston.

HOST 3: And we're going to go to a couple of messages, and we'll be right back.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

ANNOUNCER 1: Start making your plans to be in New York city, the weekend of June 26, 1994. People from all over the world will be celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Stonewall riots and participating in the largest human rights demonstration the world has ever seen, demanding human rights for all gays and lesbians worldwide. For more information, you may contact your local Stonewall 25 Houston chapter by calling Jim Ewing at 528-6835. See you in New York.

ANNOUNCER 2: Melissa Etheridge, one of many lesbian and gay voices. *Lesbian and Gay Voices* is a program that brings the lesbian and gay community as close as your radio. We feature local, state, national, and international news, music and community events, interviews, book reviews, and commentary. So tune in Fridays from 6:00 to 8:00 PM to *Lesbian and Gay Voices* on KPFT World Radio 90.1 FM.

HOST 1: Are we back? Oh, my god. We're back. We're back. Oh, we're talking about the Christian right, Pat Robinson. I figure he talks about us often enough. We need to talk about him, that dirty dog [INAUDIBLE].

GUEST: I think he's just as ugly as he's been.

HOST 1: That's right. That's right. Well, we've been joined by some friends of Betty and Cindy.

GUEST: Ooh.

HOST 1: Sorry. I have Cynthia out there.

GUEST: Never mind.

HOST 1: Some of Cindy's friends and Connie's friends and Betty's friends. And you guys are hanging out at the coffeehouse? What they have at the coffeehouse?

GUEST: Yeah.

HOST 1: Do?

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HOST 1: Well, tell me what goes on there? Really tell me what's going on. Just don't pay attention.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HOST 1: We want the real dirt, real proof. Yeah.

GUEST 2: Well, I have some friends that play in a band there occasionally. And we just sit around and talk and drink coffee.

HOST 1: What kind of band?

GUEST 2: Well, occasionally, they play covers of Pet Shop Boys music. Occasionally, they play classical music. They just play everything.

HOST 1: Wow. And you were talking earlier about getting somebody else with you, some other band.

GUEST 2: Oh, yeah. We're--

HOST 1: You're here soon?

GUEST 2: Yeah. We're--

HOST 1: Four weeks. That's what you said.

HOST 2: That was their band.

GUEST: Oh, great. And then they're inviting more people to come in and play.

HOST 1: Well, that'll draw young people real quick to get some up-and-coming bands. I think that's the new future of rock and roll as a street band who've just been together about six months.

GUEST: Well, you know we also had--

GUEST: We had one of our first poetry readings-- oh, what-- two three weeks ago.

HOST 1: How'd they go, poetry?

GUEST: It's great.

HOST 1: Poetry for the young.

GUEST: Yeah.

HOST 1: Who do you read?

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

GUEST: Wow.

HOST 1: Our own?

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

GUEST: Yeah. I read some of mine and because one of the people that was there was a little too shy to read her own. I read some of hers. It was very good.

HOST 1: Well, Connie, I've read some of your poetry. I know it's good. I was especially moved by a piece that I read, especially moved. I still carry pieces of it inside me that you showed me a couple of years ago, almost two years ago.

GUEST: Well.

HOST 1: So I know. It was good. Excuse me, I get-- I digress. I'm sorry. So what else goes on? Somebody said something about games. I mean, you guys play dominoes?

GUEST: Yeah, I played UNO a couple of weeks ago. We had a real large game, and it never ended.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

GUEST: Yeah.

GUEST: I remember now.

HOST 1: I can see you guys sitting around coffee in hand, cappuccino, playing dominoes for money.

HOST 2: For money.

HOST 1: For money. No play for any other reason.

HOST 2: I think there was something about *Trivial Pursuits* one night when I wasn't there, too.

GUEST: Oh, that was ghastly.

GUEST: Ghastly, like an idiot?

GUEST: We're playing trivial pursuit with people a third our age, and they're just beating the crap out us. It's pretty embarrassing.

HOST 1: Well, you were really there. They just know from history. So it's embarrassing.

GUEST: I was there.

HOST 1: Oh. Is it the Nixon version?

GUEST: No, I wouldn't play that.

HOST 1: The Nixon way of version. No. It was probably-- what's his name? No, never mind. So you guys have a good time there really? I mean, what we're doing is we're talking to people out there about your age?

GUEST: It's just an alternative to the clubs where when you go in a club, you can't even hear anybody talk. You can't really-- it's not a good place to meet people really.

HOST 1: So you really can find out if somebody has a brain--

GUEST: Actually, yeah.

HOST 1: --and really decide whether you could like that person in real life, not just bar life.

GUEST: Right.

HOST 1: Well, that's cool. You guys look too young to be at a bar anyway. Have you experienced that before?

GUEST: Yeah.

[LAUGHTER]

HOST 1: Yeah? I won't tell anybody. I promise. We won't tell anybody, will we?

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HOST 1: So--

GUEST: Do we really look that young?

HOST 1: No. No. I'm just teasing.

[LAUGHTER]

Hey, look, you guys, let me tell you. I just turned 39. My big year is coming up, and I am terrified. So I'm--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HOST 1: --only dealing with my ageism here. Let me tell you.

GUEST: We'll walk you through it.

HOST 1: So I've had Diane shook her finger at me more than once about my ageism because I'm beginning to turn into the middle years. I tell people comfortable years. But when I was their age, that was old-old. And I remember when I was your all's age, and 39 was, oh, my god. Yeah.

GUEST: That was Jack Benny.

HOST 1: And I'm wondering how it's changed. I mean, how do you feel about these old people--

GUEST: Watch it.

HOST 1: --running this thing.

GUEST: Hey, I'm not old.

HOST 1: --running this stuff?

GUEST: I think-- actually, I don't think she's talking about Cindy. I think--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

GUEST: --about Betty and me.

[? [INTERPOSING VOICES] ?]

HOST 1: Well, I'm thinking about the people we were talking about earlier, talking about role models, the people who are helping with this--

GUEST: Oh, I mean--

HOST 1: --people you meet there.

GUEST: Yeah, I think that's really good because a lot of young gay people don't really have older role models. And it's really good to have them because it's hard to find.

GUEST: So that you can call them at 11:15 in the evening.

GUEST: And bother them about your problems. I didn't--

HOST 1: You don't bother.

GUEST: I didn't say anything.

HOST 1: Well, so it sounds like you guys have a good time there. And you said it was a small group. I can't imagine why you guys don't-- can't imagine being a small group with you guys there. I mean, I can see where you guys--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

GUEST: It's just so-- yeah, we've brought people, different people there from week to week. It's just--

GUEST: We ever get them all there all--

GUEST: All at once it would--

GUEST: --staying the same night, it's going to be dynamite.

GUEST: --be a large group.

GUEST: It's going to be great.

HOST 1: That's good to hear.

GUEST: Yeah.

HOST 1: That's good to hear. Well, not everybody can make it. It's a very particular time period a lot of people.

GUEST: Well, as Connie said, we got some that come from an awfully long ways away too. And transportation is--

GUEST: 40 minutes away.

GUEST: --sort of a problem.

HOST 1: So this is really-- for those who live in town, this is really pretty neat. It's right here. It's right in the heart of Montrose for those who live real close. And it's on Saturday night?

GUEST: Right.

HOST 1: Saturday night from 8 o'clock to 1 o'clock.

GUEST: Right.

HOST 1: 1 o'clock? Wow.

GUEST: Yeah.

HOST 1: How old are you?

GUEST: 16.

HOST 1: At 1 o'clock, if I were your parent, you'd be home.

[LAUGHTER]

GUEST: So they don't come out until 10 o'clock. I was telling them. This is the weirdest thing to me. They're going out the time I used to have to be home when I was their age.

HOST 1: See, when I was a kid--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HOST 1: I was 17, and I was home at 10 o'clock at night.

GUEST: It's right. Exactly.

HOST 1: So it was a lot different. So there's some place out there for after midnight, huh?

GUEST: Yeah.

HOST 1: Cool.

GUEST: That's certainly one of the things, one of our objectives because what's the point in closing 11 o'clock.

HOST 1: Right, exactly.

GUEST: If we want to provide a safe place, well, that'd be nuts for us to close at 11 o'clock.

HOST 1: That's right. That's right because that's where it starts rolling.

GUEST: Yeah, that's when it starts going.

HOST 1: Yeah, they don't change. It don't change. When you get old, that's still time. They still get time to--

GUEST: That's exactly right.

HOST 1: --start going. Yeah.

GUEST: They may have to come to the kitchen to wake us up and tell us to go home. But we're going to be there, so they can be there.

HOST 1: I understand this coffeehouse and the 20-something group aside, that you guys are also part of HATCH, one or two of you.

GUEST: Yeah.

HOST 1: Cool. I like that. We've done a lot of stuff here for HATCH in the past.

GUEST: Yeah, we have our prom coming up.

HOST 1: Oh, great. You want to tell me about it?

GUEST: Well, it's Saturday, next Saturday, June 11th, at the Majestic Metro and 8 o'clock. And we're doing it with LIB, Lesbians in Business.

HOST 1: Oh, great.

GUEST: It's going to be pretty big. It's going to be introduction--

HOST 1: How do you get an invite?

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HOST 1: How do you get an invite?

GUEST: You can buy tickets all over the place. I think they're on sale at--

HOST 1: Is this a gay pride?

GUEST: Yeah, it's with gay pride--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HOST 1: Oh, yeah. I heard about that, the prom.

GUEST: Yeah.

HOST 1: You said something about that. And you guys, HATCH, and who else?

GUEST: LIB

HOST 1: LIB? Well, that ought to be a great thing.

HOST 2: Forget about the invite, how do you get a date?

GUEST: So it's going to be all--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

GUEST: We'll find you a date, honey.

HOST 1: Cindy is looking for a date.

GUEST: Yes. Cindy is looking for a date.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HOST 2: I know.

HOST 1: Well, tell me a little bit-- how did you find out about this group from HATCH? I mean, were you part of HATCH first, or did you connect with HATCH after that?

GUEST: We'd heard about-- the coffeehouse, you're--

HOST 1: Mm-hmm.

GUEST: --talking about? Yeah, we heard about the coffeehouse at HATCH. Some people announced it. And we just thought it sounded like a good idea because I like to hang out at coffeehouses. I like coffee.

HOST 1: I like poetry.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HOST 1: I like going anywhere where they let somebody off the street come in and perform. I like that. I've always liked kind of-- I hate to call an amateur night because I don't see it that way. I see it like working-out-the-kinks night. You know what I mean?

GUEST: Yeah.

HOST 1: That's the way I see it. It's a place where you can have people that you can rehearse in front of and find out where you're really not doing well and get better. Isn't that the beauty of coffeehouses? Yeah. Work out the kinks in your poetry. Are you working out the kinks in your poetry?

GUEST: Oh, yeah.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

GUEST: She won't show anybody.

HOST 1: Well, you know, I want to connect with you guys for show-- totally separate, when you're ready, I would really like you guys come down and talk to me about HATCH.

GUEST: Yeah, I've been on the *Lesbian and Gay Voices* once when we're talking about three or four months ago.

HOST 1: Don't say that. Don't say that.

GUEST: Oh, the competing show.

HOST 1: Yeah, the competing show. Yeah. It's OK. That's OK. We really like them. We really do.

[LAUGHTER]

I'm going to hear about it. They tape our show. No, no.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HOST 1: They're going to come down here and draw on my window or something.

GUEST: You know it was actually HATCH that got us started on 20-something because--

GUEST: One of the people in HATCH just thought, well, what happens when you're--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

GUEST: --22 is like-- after 21, what do you do then? We like HATCH, so let's start something else. And that's how it started.

HOST 1: Well, I've always liked this. When Connie first told me she was thinking about this stuff, I really supported that then. And I would really like to see some more young people come down and talk with us on the radio. We do have a large group of young people who listen to us out in the Woodlands and various places. We get calls--

GUEST: Suburbia.

HOST 1: --all the time-- yeah, way up. We get calls all the time whispering, telling us that they're on this phone down the kitchen. My mom and dad are in bed.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HOST 1: And they're listening to our show and they want us to play Pet Shop Boys or somebody's [INAUDIBLE] or somebody-- so we get a lot of calls like that. So I would really be interested for a couple of you come down any time you--

GUEST: Sure, thank you.

HOST 1: --want, any time, and talk to us about what's going on there. And we can also touch upon your involvement with 20-something and the coffeehouse, and we'll just promote them a little bit more while you're down here. I really appreciate y'all coming down. I'm going to let Jimmy play some music. And I'm going to let you guys go, look at him, look at him. See, how I make you all nervous?

GUEST: Gave us a seizure right there in the booth.

HOST 1: And I'm going to let you guys go simply because I promised the older ladies if they could go home, go to bed.

HOST 2: Hey, hey, hey, hey.

HOST 1: I did. I promised Connie we'd cut this short so we could let her go home and go to bed. Are we ready?

HOST 3: We're ready.

HOST 1: Pink.

HOST 3: No, we did Pink already. But I heard somebody say something about Pet Shop Boys.

HOST 1: Yep.

HOST 3: And we get something--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HOST 3: We get one song requested every week.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HOST 3: --and I haven't played it in a month. Yeah, that's it.

HOST 1: That's it.

HOST 3: Here we go.

GUEST: Good guess.

[WAVES CRASHING]

HOST 1: Are we back?

- We're back.

- We're back.

HOST 1: Well, that was for our HATCH girls and Cindy. Cindy!

- Yes, yes. That was Melissa doing "Bring Me Some Water" and "You Can Sleep While I Drive."

- All right.

HOST 1: Hey, that was a real pleasure.

HOST 2: Those are two--

HOST 1: I don't get to spend time with that many great women in a room at one time. And it was a real thrill to be with the younger crowd. There's something invigorating about them. I'm sitting here-- quit, quit. You're not in that crowd. You don't count. You're too old.

HOST 3: Whoa!

HOST 1: Quin, she's pinching me back here. Oh oh.

- To read her like a cheap novel? Yes, I will.

HOST 1: Cheap novel. Like a thermometer. Oh, no I have a good time when we get the younger people down here because I know that out there is a lot of young people listening. And I have a social conscience. And what they were talking about role-modeling, is something that I believe very firmly in. Gay people just don't get a lot of role-modeling because the role models we have are those on TV and media.

And usually, those are either the way outspoken or sadly--

HOST 3: Yes, yes.

HOST 1: --sad characters that you see who have terrible lives and awful things happen to them.

HOST 3: Well, yes. But when you think about now versus 20 years ago--

HOST 1: Oh, yes, much better.

HOST 3: 20 years ago, we had to recreate ourselves--

HOST 1: Now, we have Sandra Bernhard.

HOST 3: --every generation. And now, I mean, you're talking about, kind of from one side to the other, from the sublime to the ridiculous, but we do have things like IKEA commercials.

HOST 1: That's right. IKEA. And you know who else? Walmart did commercials with two gay men.

HOST 3: That's right. That's right. And it's like no big deal, two guys, kind of--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HOST 1: I don't know about no big deal, but--

HOST 3: Well, some--

HOST 1: It really went over quite--

HOST 3: --excited.

HOST 1: --easily. I was impressed.

HOST 3: Yeah. But it's just a very-- there it is--

HOST 1: So bad, so may of our--

HOST 3: --it is. Two guys, just going out and buying stuff.

HOST 1: So many of our--

HOST 3: And you see that all the time. And you see women together buying stuff. So what's the big deal?

HOST 1: So many of our entertainment figures these days are coming out. We were just talking a few moments about Lily Tomlin, and her and Jane Wagner, the comedian Leah DeLaria.

HOST 3: Oh, yeah.

HOST 1: Who's the other blonde woman comedian, who bills herself as the Lesbian Comedian?

HOST 3: Yes, yes. And she's really--

HOST 1: I saw her on *The Half Hour* comedy spot on Comedy Central today.

HOST 3: Yeah, she did part of the emceeing at the March on Washington.

HOST 1: And she also was a big part of that hour-long special that they had all gay comics, which is really a laugh. I wish I had gotten that. I'd be playing pieces of it on the air. Believe me, I wish I'd taped it. But not only that, Melissa Etheridge, Singers, k.d. Lang-- and not only are those people coming out and good role models, hey, they're rich.

But the people that they associate with, the friends that they run with, the people that you hear them connected with-- and then you see that these people are also putting money into the human rights fund and the gay and lesbian-- Lily Tomlin just donated something here, a pair of pumps for the Pride--

HOST 3: Sure did.

HOST 1: --Auction. She doesn't have to do this. This lady doesn't have to do anything. But she wanted to be part of gay pride for people, so she donated a pair of pumps. And it's nice to-- if you just think a minute, they're out there. But it's so easy to forget them because when you think of role model, you think of the guy next door--

HOST 3: No, no, no.

HOST 1: --or the teacher at school.

HOST 3: No, you can't.

HOST 1: But you can pick your role model.

HOST 3: That's exactly right.

HOST 1: You can find them and pick them, and you don't have to worry about what's immediately next to you. You don't have to be like that.

HOST 3: And you've got, like, Melissa. Just look at Melissa. She's had a relationship with a woman for a very long time. They've been supportive of each other's careers. They-- I forgot. Help me. I forgot the other woman's name.

HOST 1: I don't know.

HOST 3: Has kind of put her career on hold while Melissa was getting established. And now Melissa's kind of supporting the other woman, who's a filmmaker. And they have a child.

HOST 1: Great

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HOST 1: Real lives.

HOST 3: Yeah.

HOST 1: Happy to have--

HOST 3: Happy house--

HOST 1: --real lives.

HOST 3: --the kid. And all of this, and you know, just making a living.

HOST 1: It's those kind of things that I want to take time, especially when I'm surrounded by young people to remember and to draw upon because there are so few-- there's no book--

HOST 3: Hey, hey, hey!

HOST 1: --about Dick and Jane--

HOST 3: That's right.

HOST 1: --on--

HOST 3: How about Jane and Jane?

HOST 1: Yeah, right.

HOST 3: Betty and Jane?

HOST 1: So you don't get that from a young age. In this way, you know they're out there. You can pick your role model. So I say pick your role model. I want to be just like k.d. lang--

HOST 3: There you go

HOST 1: --when I grow up.

[LAUGHTER]

HOST 3: Hey, I'd like to be like k.d. lang. I mean, this is good in person.

HOST 1: You're going to do QMZ, aren't you?

HOST 3: I'm going to do that in a little bit. But look, who just walked in?

HOST 1: Yes, I saw Michael.

HOST 3: Michael Crawford.

HOST 4: Well, before you do QMZ--

HOST 3: Yeah.

HOST 4: --I'm supposed to say hello to all the leather crowd out there?

HOST 3: Hey.

HOST 4: And it's from Michael, but not me.

HOST 1: But not me?

HOST 4: OK.

HOST 1: But you send your salutations?

HOST 4: Well, yeah, I mean, I believe you can find happiness in slavery too.

HOST 1: Woo, Oh-oh! Somebody heard it outside. They're giggling.

HOST 3: OK. And the fist women will be calling.

HOST 1: Yes, they will.

HOST 3: Yes.

HOST 1: And they will give us a lesson in the proper way to do slavery.

HOST 3: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

HOST 1: I would enjoy that. Have you talk to those women, Michael? The Females--

HOST 4: No.

HOST 1: --In Search of Trouble, the new S&M lesbian group?

HOST 4: Last week when I stopped by, I learned the new term from Diane Williams.

HOST 3: Yes.

HOST 4: And the term is "parking." I can't explain what that means, but all the FIST women would know.

HOST 1: Oh, yes.

HOST 3: That's an old term--

HOST 1: We were just talking about that.

HOST 3: --Michael.

HOST 1: We were just talking about that.

HOST 3: And it has changed meanings over the years.

HOST 1: Sure, it has. Sure, it has. Sure, it has.

HOST 3: Well, OK.

HOST 1: But do you have some-- I was going to ask you. Do you have some special thing you're going to be doing on--