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## SPEAKERS

Bob Kunst, Ray Hill

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**R** Ray Hill 00:03  
All right, buddy engineering re running his head bob coons visiting from beautiful historical Miami, Florida, Miami. 54321. Well, Bob, it's been a while since you've been in Houston. But yours. Yes. Your history of coming to Houston. I know you came in 77 for the big Anita show

**B** Bob Kunst 00:25  
the old need to show Yes. Wonderful demonstration they will do is it was

**R** Ray Hill 00:28  
really surprising to us do, we would never saw that many people. Well,

**B** Bob Kunst 00:32  
anytime I can get in the crowd, it's wonderful. And there was a good crowd

**R** Ray Hill 00:36  
aircraft was a terrible thing to waste. But you had been carrying on quite a war with a need at that point.

**B** Bob Kunst 00:41  
Well, yeah. Having the distinct honor of co authoring the ordinance with Dr. Alan Rockway, my best and close friend who I recently lost aids Island, I had seen a need as a wonderful opportunity to get the homosexual issue right out of the closet once and for all forever for

opportunity to get the homosexual issue right out of the closet once and for all forever for everybody. Not limited to the gay community. But certainly with the gay voice way ahead of it. And there was a need to taking the bait, it was just an incredible opportunity. And Miami was where it was happening. Miami was where it was happening. It's it first, when we realized what really was going on, we kind of were scared. And then we realized that she really was going to be much more for us if we could handle it. And we decided to just run with it. And our purpose, of course was to make sure that everybody in the planet heard about what was happening in Miami. This is

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Ray Hill 01:34

Ray Hill, and I'm talking to Bob Kunst, who is a gypsy activist on his way from Mexico back to Miami, Florida this

B

Bob Kunst 01:41

week, don't forget bag lady,

R

Ray Hill 01:43

the ultimate the button pushing bag lady. But Bob, but I didn't want you to pass through Houston without us having an opportunity to go back and some of the history that is really important to the movement. And that is the role that Anita Bryant played in pulling a lot of the movement together. Bob's territory in those days was Miami, right. And that's where I needed, chose to stick in her spade and begin her dig ins.

B

Bob Kunst 02:16

There was a lot more than that, actually, it's it started off really with the anti era forces the Phyllis Schlafly gang and everybody's seeing Miami as an opportunity to stop era and Florida, which was really the pivotal state for the whole nation. And, of course, when we first pass the issue, all we did was add four words a affectional sexual preference to an existing non discrimination ordinance and housing and employment of public accommodations. It's quite ironic that we've had as a result of AIDS in the last two years this ordinance has already been passed and housing employment and public accommodation and Dade County, it's already been in effect for two years. Nobody said blue. And statewide has now been passed this year in the state legislature. Nobody has said a

R

Ray Hill 03:03

word. But initially you lost the

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Bob Kunst 03:05

referendum. Well, in round one, we were kind of stuck with the wording because it Anita

collected the petition, she got a yes vote and we had to tell everyone to vote against. And so here we're talking about being for human rights and for liberation and for sexuality. And at the same time teaching people not only to get beyond their hangups actually, but at the same time how to vote, which was kind of putting it mildly and convenient. But we got 31% of the vote. And we got world's attention to a local issue. And it just forced millions of people out of the closet. So in a sense, the victory was ours because it never ended the debate. It's still raging on every single level.

R

Ray Hill 03:44

It didn't soon after you lost all that you accomplish the same thing through some kind of administrative action city. Well, actually, we

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Bob Kunst 03:51

came back for round two a year later. We this time we collected the signatures. And we went out there and by this time, the politicians were all hysterical, because they said what again, you know, you just gave us this last number. And we said, well, you know, you should pardon the expression. We could do this every year like Christmas and Hanukkah, you know until you get it right. It's perfectly okay with us. I mean, we have nothing else to do. So we went out and collected, actually at this time was 18,000 signatures in order to get 10,000 good ones, because they started taking off all sorts of things. But once the issue was on the ballot, it just really freaked everyone out. In fact, it freaked him out so much that we actually made the headlines that even though Pope John Paul, the first had already passed away and congresses had extended era that day, but here we were the banner headlines and at that time, all of a sudden the liberals were freaking out. Roush Shaq decided to exploit us and say well, okay, we're not going to allow all these opportunities to get back on the ballot. This time. We're going to triple the number of signatures it takes to get on a third time if you guys don't do it this time. We have very little support from the gay organizations. But we do First of the public and we did our thing and this time we jumped from 31 to 42% of the vote, and we only had \$6,000 to work with. It was six grand for an entire campaign. But the Brian forces were so freaked out. And Jerry Falwell came back for his second time, and everybody was screaming and yelling, going crazy, as usual. But this time, we had a very affirm position. And we said, Well, okay, we did it without you guys, this time in the gay community. I think he could join us the next time. You know, now he had gone from being on up the pole, we had inched up the pole. But the thing is that we were in striking distance. And it was really very frustrating because it had we had the gay community support really to come back, we could have pulled it off then. But we came back for round three. Not to be outdone, we had at that time, Alan and I had put together a growth counseling center called transparent center. And we were the second group in the United States history to get federal money behind our counseling program. And when Anita heard about this, it just got everybody completely hysterical. So they tried to do everything possible to cancel the grant, it was only 55,000. Yes, and a lot it was it was that it was symbolic, right, that we of all people had pulled off this other scene. And so we just came out and put the whole issue back on the ballot. But we didn't do it this time, in terms of affection and sexual preference, we just threw in the entire kitchen sink, anything you can imagine, that would protect people in non discrimination. We just went out and went crazy. And we this time collected, this was for the presidential primary, which was in March of 1980. Right. And unfortunately, Jimmy Carter didn't have a really clean record on gay rights, among other issues,

or, you know, he was so into his Bible, Ben needed mentality, and we were out there screaming and yelling, and we go out and we collect all the signatures. And this time we collected close to I think it was 34,000 signatures in the exact same issue. Okay. And we brought it to the local politicians, we said, okay, here, the public is with us, we're ready, are you? You know, three is the magic number, right? And we give them the petitions, and all of a sudden, they come back and say, Oh, we're terribly sorry, you didn't make it this time. We just did a random sampling. And you didn't qualify. We said, Oh, sounds to us, like real dirty pool. Well, if you guys are so into playing this little game, we're going to turn the entire presidential primary game into the whole Anita thing again, don't think you're going to keep us off the valorize. Because of this, I mean, we'll turn every election into a gay rights election doesn't matter you can run for dogcatcher will make it gay rights. So we did we formed the dump card of truth squad. And I remember how wonderful the whole experience was, there was Alan Rockway and Melody Moorhead was and by the way that we had done this wonderful grassroots thing goes we got Secret Service passes all three of us as writers for the game media. So we were allowed to all the all of the all of the stuff where your lawyers Elaine Blair ratted wearing Lois Lane and looking like Lois Lane. But there was, I remember one day, here's Carter, in Dade County, with Allen and melody, both clinical psychologists screaming in the middle of this auditorium of 5000 people, Mr. President, what are you going to do about gay rights, and then Jimmy takes off after that total shock and comes up to Orlando. And that's where I'm meeting him out there. And I'm in the middle of the whole press corps, and I'm doing the same number and an outdoor picnic. So the poor man just really never had a chance. But our position with him was if you're going to play the game with moral majority, you're going to pay the price. Yeah. And the irony of the thing is that Jimmy Carter, lost Dade County, we had done an entire campaign to beat him. And he came out with only 49% of the vote for an incumbent president. At the same time. We won Jack Campbell as the first open gay man for the Democratic executive committee. And then at the same time, we defeated the Metro commission on a pay increase because they were also nasty with us on the procedure.

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Ray Hill 08:47

And Jack and the other people are beginning to learn get into the role of good cop bad cop. Oh,

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Bob Kunst 08:52

absolutely. Well, where's

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Ray Hill 08:53

the land cover? We had

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Bob Kunst 08:54

pulled it all together. And well, you see, the irony of the thing is that we kept on coming back over and over. As long as we told the public we weren't going to give up the public was already prepared to deal with it. And then the opposition was wearing itself then. Right. Okay. So as long as we had the energy, they were losing it. Well, we came back round four. And then they

said no, we're not going to put it off for the November election doesn't matter. You can collect 10 million signatures. So then we said okay, here's a little interesting gimmick. The state legislature had passed a privacy rights constitutional amendment that they had put on the ballot, it was a one liner, it said all natural persons have the right to be let alone and free from government intrusion into their private lives. So we said oh, that means us, right, of course. And the opposition said Oh, it doesn't mean just you guys it means in says prostitution, marijuana, the whole nine yards and we said yes, absolutely no problem. It's perfectly okay. By us. I mean, it's all or nothing as far as we're concerned. It's either the Constitution or it isn't. And by the way, we'd like our police stop sitting in toilets and busting gays and you know, stop dealing with marijuana smokers. And all that nonsense. You know, we only had 600 murders in Dade County. Be nice to have somebody do some real crime for June, I mean, criminal activity in terms of going after the real investigation. So this was our campaign, we took it around the state. And this was the very same election for Ronald Reagan. And everyone says, oh, no, not these guys. Again, it's impossible. Please get him out of here. We can look at this thing anymore. You can't possibly win. Nobody's going to buy this. And we didn't argue we just went out and did our thing all over the state. Once again, we only had a \$6,000 budget. And there come the returns. And 10 o'clock in the evening, Associated Press called us and said, well, we don't know how you guys did it. But you won. And we went from 42% of the vote to 62% of the vote in Dade County, it was almost a quarter of a million votes. And statewide we had beaten the Moral Majority 1,724,000 to 1,140,000. And we won in 63 out of 67 counties and the very county that we had done the whole orange juice boycott and Lakeland Polk County Correct. out of 33,000 votes. We had won by something like ridiculous 30 votes. But if the debate had taken place across the state, we had thrown the whole Anita Bryant gang out of there, we had won a statewide privacy rights constitutional amendment. We never capitulated, we just told the public the truth. And it happened the very day that Reagan won, Florida made a flip flop.

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Ray Hill 11:18

And during all this time, you're under heavy barrage from other gay people, and certainly gay leadership nationally.

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Bob Kunst 11:24

Yeah. And the tragedy was, they never wanted to see what our experience was. Because we had always trusted the public with the truth. We never compromise on lifestyle. The issue to us was not cloaking everything under human rights, and then not talking about what our personal experience was. We told the public everything we talked about oral sex and anal sex and any other kinds of sex anyone could talk about. But we did it legitimately. And we did it from the heart. And we told the truth, and the public was on our side. And when they started seeing really what the opposition was all about, based on our approach to them that we were we weren't doing it just for gays. We were doing it for everybody. It was everybody who was gay and bisexual and heterosexual anybody who was sexual. Our issue was, you know, keep government out of your bedroom.

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Ray Hill 12:04

How did you get from sex in the Constitution, or at least privacy in the Constitution protecting sex to Meals on Wheels?

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## Bob Kunst 12:12

Well, it went from that victory into doing oral majority, which is actually the last time that I was in Houston because I went to New Orleans Mardi Gras and, and all of a sudden here we had this tremendous victory. And all the press was there to cover us when the Anita was going crazy in 1977, and takes us three years to go full circle and we defeat the whole number. And the media wasn't there to tell the rest of the country the truth of what had happened because Florida had gone through this process. So we decided to take our show on the road, take it all the way across the nation and share with everybody what our experience was. At the same time here all of a sudden, being a sexual activist as I am and a raving person than I am in that direction. Starting to see a starting to see the politics surrounding the issue of getting very frustrated with watching the same games that I felt very upfront affronted by living some of the same characters, and including the exact same characters, selling us out, compromising every which direction never really seen the issue in terms of how we had approached it. Because I find a real problem with the gay movement a lot is always looking at the sex issue as a liberal conservative thing. And that was one of the things that I had discovered. And we had discovered with Anita was that when you talk about sex, it has nothing to do with liberal conservative politics. There were small town cracker papers that were giving us support. And the Miami Herald was dumping on us and the Miami news was dumping on us. So we said, oh, wait a minute, we can't take anything for granted. We got to reach out one on one to everybody. Okay, and you trust Him, they take it or leave it. But the point is, you don't ignore people because you presume they're going to have an attitude when you don't know who's carrying on with whom out there. And one of the things that we discovered through the whole process is that some of the best support we had was some of the most conservative people who wouldn't talk about it. And some of the worst support we had were the liberals who couldn't handle it after the five second, you know, liberal hug, and I started to feel good, they were freaking out. Yeah. And then we just had to reevaluate the entire position because we were aligning ourselves in with very strange alliances, but it had nothing to do with compromising our position. The point is, we were just saying real constitutional issues and talking sex. And here we were getting a lot of conservatives on our side, and liberals freaking out. So we're just heresy and a lot of people's books, total heresy, but that was our experience upon is that it worked. Right. You know, we went from 31 to 42 to 62% of the vote, and ironically, and I think everyone has to understand this. When we did gay rights in Miami, and sexual issues. We had 70 to 75% of the public show up to vote. Everybody was so hysterical. It's not 40 You know, 54% for Ronald Reagan. Yeah. Okay, everybody showed up for this because they were all you know, everything under the sun. You dug into their guts and pulled it out. So they showed up to deal with the issue and that was the thing we've been trying to tell to caucus and everyone else if you want people to show up, you have to get controversial otherwise. So anyway, as you know, we took the issue around the country with a rural majority and defeated the whole moral majority Gang on a national scale to and just in terms of changing public attitudes and sharing our experience, but then it got into the question of AIDS. And what I was seeing happening from the needs perspective, obviously, being a sexual activist, and somebody who has been promoting sexual liberation, all of a sudden here, we're dealing with this other crisis and the crisis not being addressed in terms of so called leadership out there, that we were very frustrated with. Again, it's like people who are anti sex in our own movement, were the first ones willing to commit to Absolutely. The people who were not at all threatened or even understood the experience of what it is to have the freedom of being gay. There

R**Ray Hill 15:48**

are circles in which Kinsey and Macquarie and some of the great names in sexual behavior research are

B**Bob Kunst 15:53**

still bad words. Oh, absolutely. Absolutely. And so again, our approach on the whole thing was like, Okay, guys, and nothing ready. And then I had gone through the usual aids groups, and I, you know, again, it was the same dreadful scene, the closet cases, were only willing to, you know, take the money from the government to keep on promoting the government's point of view. Right, our position was okay, is it oral or anal? Well, if it's not oral, why aren't you telling the public? Why are you doing this moral majority bashing? Why are you trying to scare everybody from having sex? Why are you into regulating public behavior? Why don't you finally go out and deal with the viruses is as if we're not dealing with six to 15 viruses right now. And 1000 Plus mutations and an eight to 15 year incubation period and horrible statistics. And what happened was everywhere I started turning and dealing with the traditional crowd, I got so frustrated, because I couldn't stand it anymore. And then all of a sudden, Alan got sick. Alan Rockway. And this was like in November of 85, because Allah and I were in Key West together, and we were raising funds. And I was gonna go and take the AIDS issue to the first summit of Reagan and Gorbachev in Geneva, under the slogan of commit 10 missiles each to cure AIDS now, which I did. And I worked out an arrangement with the Swiss police. And I had an exclusive with 3500 Media from around the world. And I stood in freezing cold weather for six days, and did so much media that I thought I was gonna die from it. But what was really fascinating was here, I was going to make it their issue wasn't my issue, I was going to make it Reagan's issue and Gorbachev's issue and the entire street communities issue wasn't going to be just my issue. I was not going to be, that's fine. So I went to who and I went to the conference, and I and what was really fascinating is that the media got so tuned into where I was coming from, that they were sharing with me the stories of what was happening in their own countries that I would never hear about from any of the forums. It was like an entire the different ballgame. So it really started off with us being focused on an international scale about three years ago. And just looking at this thing from Okay, every country is going to have to go through it. How in the world are we going to deal with changing 1000s of languages and cultures? Everybody's already partying, because of the incubation period, there's so many things going on, where's the cure, where's the direction. And what I was dealing with, with the so called liberal organizations was, they didn't want people with AIDS, even addressing them, they didn't want to deal with the real issues around the clock research, they weren't interested in keeping anybody alive. And everything we were bringing forth, it was like we were getting shut down with so we decided, well, we're not participating any longer, we're going to form our own thing. You should pardon the expression, you know, from an EDA days, right? It's the same issue. You know, you you reach a blind alley, where it just doesn't matter. You're just spinning your wheels. So we formed a completely separate energy. And we decided, let's do this thing on an international scale. So Geneva was an opening volley for us. But I had already gone to deal with World Health Organization and start pushing buttons there. And then the world assembly and then the global impact on AIDS conference. And actually, I've been now to about nearly 10 different forums, but everywhere I'm going our agenda has been put out on a level of round the clock research, the same commitment to put discovery back into space. The technology exists but the will doesn't, especially when this administration's into you know,



regulating public behavior first. Yeah, you know, say no to sex, say no to drugs, I know that the rock and roll is the same crap. And unfortunately, we're wasting a lot of time and a lot of lives. So as a result of Alan getting sick, that really was a devastating emotional thing for me, because previously, I'd always been there in terms of being a community activist. And there were people I knew who were sick and dying, but they were distant, but all of a sudden, Alan was family. I mean, here's a 20 year love relationship and all of a sudden I'm just completely devastated by the whole scene and watching his struggle and go through this whole thing and then and he that this time is in San Francisco and he's all of a sudden involved with getting food and a food program there. So I said, Gee, that sounds like a great idea. I'm going to start it here in Miami. And the irony of the thing is that we started with getting three gay restaurants who would donate food to us every day. And we only had 10 clients. This is now 22 months ago. Yeah. And we started doing daily delivery service, but all of a sudden, we started to catch on. And we made ourselves highly visible and known. And we just decided, well, we're not going to do it just for the good community, we're going to do it for everybody that has AIDS, right? So we let every agency know about it. What's happened now in last 22 months is that we have now fit over 300 patients. They've ran from ages two to 73. We presently have 151 patients alive, including seven children and 25 women and our oldest patient is I think, at this point, he's 69 years of age 40% are heterosexual. We also have right now the highest percentage of black and Hispanic cases in the United States. And we have 10 times the national average on heterosexual sex bread as anywhere in the United States. That's not IV drug related. And even though Miami's the DOE capital of the planet, we have only 13% IV drug use to us 18%. These statistics, by the way, I was seeing way back in 1986. And that's when I ran for the United States Senate in the state of Florida, against then Governor Bob Graham, who also was in a neat O'Brien support. And my position was I'm looking at all these statistics, and I'm saying well, okay, how come Miami is different from San Francisco? How can Miami is different from New York? I mean, are we carrying on as much if not more? Why is this thing already spread into a different area? And why is the focus politically only on the gay approach from New York and California and Washington, in Washington? It's not looking at this thing. As a global emergency. It's not dealing with the whole other rest of the planet, right. And I was feeling so angry and frustrated. And I, again, I only had \$6,000, but I got 15% of the vote statewide or 150,000. Democrats, and even in the Florida Panhandle is an open gay man. Okay, talking about that, talking about this, but I made it everyone's issue. I beat every one of the Republican candidates running for governor and they had spent millions. In fact, I had beat the incumbent US Senate person, Paula Hawkins and 33 counties and the president Governor Bob Graham, I mean, above Martinez, I'd been in 45 counties. But what was interesting is, again, I didn't have the support of the gay community. And I kept saying, why don't you guys stop already? Why don't you just use me and vote for yourself or change? I don't care if you liked me,

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Ray Hill 22:37

or slipped by something rather rapidly. The statistics in Miami are significantly different from the ER and the rest of the Exactly. And you ask the question, why do you have an answer for that question?

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Bob Kunst 22:47

Well, no, I kept on asking everybody, I went to everybody. I went to the Centers for Disease Control and to the state of Florida and to the federal government. And I'm still doing it, and to



the international forums. And I kept on telling everybody, this is what's going on a second, Florida. Oh, I know, you want to keep on blaming it on the Haitians. But every every island in the Caribbean has a an epidemic completely out of control. And it's all heterosexual. We're seeing it. So the bottom line is, we kept on pushing and pushing what's going on here. Belle Glade, Florida was a total disaster. Obviously, that was the worst percentage in the United States. But it wasn't just a question of AIDS, it was also on the very same blocks, multiple sclerosis epidemic out of control and tuberculosis epidemic out of control. In fact, what nobody is discussing really out of AIDS is all the secondary aspects to this issue. Right now we have 10 million infections of tuberculosis around the world, and 3 million deaths this year, in the United States. 42% of all the AIDS cases are TB related in New York, it's 50% of Miami's 36% I had to go to London to find this out, because nobody in Florida wants to talk about this. We're a tourist economy. In fact, it took forever for us to get a media going down there on even dealing with statistics because everyone was totally freaked out. I mean, you're gonna have a fight Mickey Mouse over this stuff. It's you better believe it. They are they are in a state of living this because if anyone started to really start figuring out what was going on in each community, and so I was schlepping around the state running as a Senate candidate. But I'd go to Fort Myers and I say, Wow, gee, how come you guys have 59% of your cases are all black and IV drug use, but in Miami, we don't have that. Okay, and then I would go up. You know, I'm out in Stockholm when we got a complimentary booth this year. And I meet a guy from Daytona Beach in Brevard County. He says, you know, we went from six to 107 cases in one year. I said six to 107 cases. I said, either everybody's not reporting Nothing. What's going on? Are you people are in a state of total hysteria. But I have to go to a foreign country to pick up the data because the health department gonna admit anything. So one of the advantages to going around and schlepping to all these different places that I meet the people who were also real The interested in wanting to help and really wanting to do things. And at the same time putting out the visibility of cure AIDS now and making the demands. And what's really fascinating is the people who really give a damn. They're all in a state of total, either burnout or massive frustration ready to break away, or they're dealing with health problems. There'll be dealing with politics everywhere. So if they're scientists, they had the politics of NIH, if they're the delivery, direct delivery services, they have the politics of a government that only wants to sell more condoms, and you know, more testing and more testing and more condoms, nothing to keep anybody alive, which means all of us have to keep on funding each other in the senses to stay afloat with us. Well, we got the city of Miami and Dade County and the city of Miami Beach now involved with the food program. We started it off. First with the three restaurants, then it got completely crazy. And then we decided, let's go before the city of Miami commission and get a commitment. And it took a 70 year old man with AIDS who came before the commission. And he said are you going to make me choose between food and housing. He says if you make me go through this, I will go out and reinfect so many people, you will have to deal with the issue. This was out of his heart. That's how the food program began. The moment the city of Miami came across it was only at that time \$12,500 worth of food. And Dade County came in and matched it. But we had two communities now linking ourselves this was last year. They gave us an additional \$15,000 in hard cash. This January, we got another \$50,700 from Dade County. And we just got a commitment from Dade County of \$80,000 for administration and 100,000. And food only two weeks ago, only for six months. This is a six month six month commitment. Now the city of Miami has joined in with another 44,000 in food and city Miami Beach has now come in for 30,000 foods. So we have three governments helping us. We don't get a dime from the State Department, state health department. They don't even want to talk to us. They give us now we've gotten from them. 250 clients, not a penny to do any of it. But we have now 14 agencies that are giving us referrals. And now we're putting pressure on the federal government on what do you guys doing about all of this? So we have everybody screaming at each other. And of course, we're in the middle of fighting everybody Food and

Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and everything else. I mean, while we're schlepping around the planet showing everybody this role model program. So Jewish Family Services has given us nearly \$10,000 worth of food and we've gotten 50 cases of food from Hari Krishna and Budweiser has just given us two refrigerated vans. And we're getting a computer donated from a corporation up in Boca Raton, and someone else gave us another van. It's just the community is participating becoming and we did it on behalf of the gay community on behalf of everybody.

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Ray Hill 27:49

Bob, we've known each other for a few years. Is there a gay or lesbian movement left? Or is it an AIDS movement?

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Bob Kunst 28:00

God? It's an interesting question. I personally feel that the issue has got to be age, this is my personal feeling. I feel we have one the lifestyle issue already. Everybody's talking sex from A to Z on every single level. I think the issue is life itself now. And I'm very frustrated to see the focus more on gay rights and lifestyle and marriages and all these other things which are important, but the issue is not as important as other issue. Because I think if we stay into the gay rights aspect, the eight years of struggle and suffering and knowledge that we have, that's eight years ahead of the rest of the population. When the general population starts to come down with this issue, because of their own homophobia, they're going to exclude us again. It's either we take a hold of the AIDS issue on an international scale, and move the process or we're going to lose on that level as well.

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Ray Hill 28:53

Do you find it ironic that two people most frequently forgotten by the populations of the political populations of the world are the ones most actively involved in saving them from their own ignorance?

B

Bob Kunst 29:06

Well, absolutely, absolutely. There's no question about it. But I also feel that sometimes we're our own worst enemy in terms of how this thing is being approached. Okay. It was a delight to be together at the Food and Drug Administration. What a wonderful, exciting experience having spent 13 years in the anti war movement way before Anita. It was like deja vu only this was a very loving intensity of people really demanding once again, let's save lives. And let's stop the bowl and let's get through this thing already. And lots of tension and lots of everything, but it wasn't violent, but every other emotion was present. And you could see that this was like the opening volley of what is coming down the pike. The question is why did we wait another year? had this happened when we had 600,000 people in Washington the previous year, instead of talking about sodomy rights, had to be gone to the Food and Drug Administration and the National Institute of Health and FDA, and CDC in Atlanta and started attacking the institutions way back when we may have also moved the process much more dramatically. But here the

media saw Well, our major focus was that the Supreme Court didn't, you know, endorse our right to have oral sex is if that's a key issue. And as if that stopped anybody from enjoying themselves in this whole issue. The Supreme Court said the same thing against heterosexuals having oral sex also, nobody was out defending their rights either in the process, but I didn't see that as the major issue. I saw the people who came to Washington not they're talking about gay marriages and all this other stuff, what they were there was talking about their lives, and how to get through this. And I didn't see that the movement who formed the protest, taking advantage of 600,000 people, what do you do with all these people? Once you have them there? What do you do with this mass of energy that's ready to tear the system apart. If you give them direction, and it didn't happen,

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Ray Hill 31:08

and that brings us back to a crowd is a terrible thing to waste. Yes. And the energy you have heard on this interview is Bob coast. He is an activist, a sexual rights activist, a life activist from southern Florida, and he is all over the place. And this week, he's in Houston. Thank you for your visit. And thank you for this interview. Thank

B

Bob Kunst 31:27

you for having me. And if anyone would like to touch base, it's curates now in Miami were listed as you can reduce the post office boxes, box 1976, Miami Beach, and if anyone would like to send a check, we'd be delighted to send a thank you. And if you'd like any of our fabulous buttons, that's part of what we're doing to various languages covering a broad range of topics we do. Multilingual Yes. And at the same time, we're also taking a are we running out of time here? Okay, just let me say thanks, Houston again, and thanks to you for showing me a lovely and wonderful energy again, it's always good to be back.

R

Ray Hill 32:01

It's good to work with your bomb. Thanks. And thanks to Betty for doing our engineering. Sounds good? Pretty good time. Yep.