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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

case, people, gay, law, listening, call, privacy, pflag, decision, lesbian, buddy, marriage, privacy rights, pledge, houston, texas, wonderful, parade, friends, read

## SPEAKERS

Bobby, Ray Hill

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00:01

With a Methodist minister that I would see them with him on once a week, once a month, and they would see him on the opposite month. And they were telling when I wasn't there, they were telling him that I can turn straight, and a whole bunch.



00:16

He was trying. He was encouraging us to become involved in the Exodus ministry as a matter of fact. And, and we did not, you have to understand this was something that was brand new to us. And we at that time, we were not educated about the issue. And we thought, well, and I kept asking, Steven, is there a possibility, you know, do you think you can change this and, and then as time went on, we realized this is not something this is an orientation. This is I believe, very strongly that Steven was born guy. Sure. And it's not something that can be easily to it's not something that can be changed, in my opinion, I don't believe



00:59

I think it's assessed that people like Exodus and pad is really with bisexual people.



01:06

Right? And such a small minority of the gay minority.



01:12

Exactly, exactly. And I just don't believe that most guys can change. I don't believe that it's feasible.



01:20

No, I've been gay all of my life all my life. I don't remember when I was four years old. I was playing doctor with a four year old boy down the street. They naturally and just that was it.



Bobby 01:37

You know, I have to interject a just a touch of smartass here. I've always I've always said about Steven that you know he's a true among gay people. He's fairly unique. He can he can bake you a cake and fix the truck so he can get to you at the wedding



01:58

Jimmy works the same way for trans



02:04

but I heard about that coffee that he made Yeah, he's not going to live that



02:12

dig a hole in the backyard for



02:15

about Chernobyl



02:20

I've never seen To me its face go like that was very unique. Yeah. That was really



02:28

should know how to fix a good cup of coffee. So we'll have to work I don't like coffee. We'll have to work on



02:33

at work a push the button.



02:38

Okay, we got a lot of people were here in the lobby. But I'm really glad that the two of you came on the air tonight and I know it's way past your bedtime.



02:48

We were delighted to be here was a wonderful opportunity for us. And we want to plug PFLAG also You bet. It's a great group of people. We love PFLAG. And we want to encourage everyone to become involved in our group. We do a lot of important work.



03:08

And our meeting is necessary work first, the first Sunday of every month. Give a phone number.



03:15

The holiday where I don't have it's at St. Paul's Methodist Church. Okay, south south. Dance Correct. Okay. Yep. Yeah, we



03:25

don't have a phone number. It's PFLAG. houston.org. Okay,



03:29

we do have a phone number. And unfortunately, I don't have it in front of me. We do have a phone number. Stephen Kim.



03:37

Oh, yes, he's running.



03:39

I'll be right back. And if it will, if it's a holiday, we meet the second Sunday of the month. As a matter of fact, we are meeting the second Sunday of the month in July, July 4, that



03:52

number the helpline is 71346 P F la G, which is 713-467-3524. Good. And that website is www dot PFLAG PFL. Ag houston.org Okay, great. Jerry, if



04:12

there's one more thing I wanted to say, please do if we can do it any? Surely because there was no thing I wanted, when we first got started was to hide and walk in on a shirt, didn't want anybody to see me going to people. And now I'm driving the float we



04:34

we have come along very fast. It's well, he just loved the gay community and we want to do anything we can to help out



04:41

well, that's why I always say you know, when you're coming out to your parents, you know, you've had all your life to deal with that. Okay. And now you're throwing this on your parents or in Stephens case it got thrown to you. And it takes a long time to get educated right and used to the idea, right. And that's your son's future is going to be very different than you imagined. Right? Yes.



05:07

And things are improving quite a bit. They're improving quite a bit and the Supreme Court ruling is really helped very



05:17

rigid and this wonderful parade we just had shows how, you know, how much more



05:24

we 25th anniversary, how appropriate. Thank you. Thank you for having us here. We enjoyed it.



05:31

Okay, I'm gonna go to a piece of music and see who's left out in the lobby. I hope the lawyers are still out there at least, and Unhatched, folks, so right here proud from the queers folk soundtrack by Heather small who herself is a lesbian. Heather small from the queers folk soundtrack. And that was proud. I love that thing. I got somebody online. Do I?



06:09

I don't know how to do. Oh, okay.



06:11

Yeah, it's you entered it there. They have to call back. Okay. And we have to answer it in here. Okay. Okay. Can you tell buddy that? Sure. Okay. Oh, yeah. Okay, now, I'm just all totally confused tonight. And because of the pray that's got me all crazy. So I never did say hello to my MBBS out there tonight. All my men behind bars. These are the guys who who write to after hours. And you know, we hear from you. And you have questions. And I mean, just like, you know, like smiley and the green eyed devil. That's, that's my guy, and the blue eyed devil. And we've got Randy and we've got the T man. And we've got Wilson and countless others, Paul, that listen to this program when they can when they can. And they they write a lot. And they of course they write to the prison program to raise their but first of all, before I get to Ray and I love holding up lawyers, it's just great. It's just Okay, right. Well



Ray Hill 07:26

give me a mic. Yeah. I was thinking about printing a catalog of those expect to be released recently then. And we could pass that among your friends and everybody could. Okay, wait.



07:37

I want to say thank you to a whole bunch of people. They have responded very, very generously. Paul gave him gave a nice pledge. And Paul supports us every every membership, Dr. William dropped off some cash. We're happy about that. And RC gave us a really nice, really nice pledge also. And now this is this is to top it all off. I have two pledges from people from out of state. They are listening on their computers at W cubed kpft.org. First of all, is Kevin Harrell, who is a former programmer here and friend of mine. He's been listening now for months. Once he found out he could and I've got a guy named Jordan who's in Jefferson texts across the border, okay, okay. Well, Kevin is he's he's in Memphis, but Jefferson, Texas now. That's



Ray Hill 08:47

where's that? What's up North Texas?



08:50

That's just right by the state line. And so you want us to mention, Eric is well, you got to do that in the microphone. Jordan wants to mention Eric as well.



09:01

Okay. And Eric is Oh, okay. His other half, I think. Yeah. Oh, that's nice. That's nice.

 Ray Hill 09:08

See, the whole world is watching. Yes.

 09:11

We have somebody on the line right now. And you'll be very happy especially right to here. Buddy. Are you there? Yes.

 09:23

Hey, buddy. Hey, buddy. Is that right? Absolutely. In here. Hey, buddy.

 09:30

You're listening to buddy Johnston, who is the originator of this show. Back in September 6 1987. How long ago? Was that marriage? Too many years. Anyway, yeah.

 09:44

Can you believe what happened at the Supreme Court?

 Ray Hill 09:47

Absolutely. Do you know that I have been babysitting this case. Those people called me I'm the guy that got the bondsman to get them out of jail. I mean, who do you call when you get arrested in use?

 10:00

That's right, baby. I'm calling I just wanted to find out how your parade went in Sanford in Houston. Oh

 10:05

my God more people than ever before. And last year they had they had a figure of 100,000. And it was much more than that. This year we

R

Ray Hill 10:13

went over anything we've ever done by at least a third buddy.

∅

10:18

And you said that Kevin Harrell was listening in Memphis in Memphis. Yeah. Kelly, is she trying to be Martin Luther King in Memphis?

R

Ray Hill 10:33

Well, you know the case was so successful that Strom Thurmond died.

∅

10:44

They told Trump them and what had happened, and he died afraid they were gonna be having sex in the streets and he dropped dead. Jimmy, I just wanted to call I'm calling live from the Castro tonight is what's called the pink party. There's probably 250,000 people down here screaming and yelling. I had to get five blocks away. So tomorrow's our parade and we'll have probably half a million people. I mean, you've had, I've been having great parades. But you haven't lived until you've had a parade in San Francisco. Well, Jonathan, I want to the reason I wanted to call you this year's theme of the parade is you've got to give them hope. And in 1987, in 1987, when we came in to KPFT, all by ourselves, I remember baby, my hand was shaking so hard that I couldn't cue the record. Now for you young men. We used to play record

R

Ray Hill 11:41

records, right? That's the same thing as CDs.

∅

11:50

Just I Harvey Milk would have he would have loved what he saw in the streets tonight. He would have loved what's happening. It's because of him. And and just everybody that's listened to the show. If you've ever listened to the show, you heard me on the radio with Jimmy, saying we're here work where did you know what?

R

Ray Hill 12:11

But but it we began, we began with your collage tonight. Yes. Which is one of the finest pieces of gay radio I have ever heard in my life

∅

12:21

coming out of hiding by Pamela Stanley out of Dallas.



12:26

I just wanted to call and take a second because I knew it was marathon. Yeah. I talked to I talked to Dwayne Bradley the other day. And Dwayne said he was so proud. Because this is one this is the only show that Dwayne put on the air back in 1987. That's true. Yes, he did. We've we've been there. And we've been there because of you. If you've been listening since 1987, and you haven't sent us a nickel barrel or get on a plane and fly that. If you have been listening, you know how important this is. And I just wanted to take a second to call you and let you know that this show has absolutely changed my life and the lives of many people all over this world, actually, because some of us have, unfortunately left. But I'm so proud of you. And I'm so proud of Texas. Thank you. I know that that there's a great big brick that's been disintegrated that will never come back to get us again. That's right. We're strong.



R Ray Hill 13:34

We're running short of Hannah anywhere.



13:39

We wish that someone could have taken Jesse Helms with them. But



R Ray Hill 13:44

he's in very soon.



13:46

You know, buddy, they say we're, we're supposed to speak well of the good of the dead.



13:51

He's dead.



13:55

Give me I want to know how



13:57

they give a hell he was.



14:01

One of those. I'm one of those folks like Kevin that listens to the show on the PC. Oh, thank you heard Ray on and I just couldn't believe this calling. Yes, I'm



14:10

glad you did. I'm glad to hear because I almost expect you to call every marathon because I just really want you put the word out there. And a lot of the long term listeners really respond when they hear it.



14:22

I really want to say that that this show is so very important to people. Not only not only that are listening that can't give money. I mean, believe it or not in San Francisco in 2003 There's still people in the closet. Yeah, and it makes me crazy. And they're not living in Conroe or you know all those places outside of Houston. They're they're right here and what's supposed to be the big Mecca county there's a gay bar. There are



14:47

two there are two gay



Ray Hill 14:49

bars in cornrow. Anyway, yes,



14:52

cornhole?



14:54

If you're listening to the show, and you've ever made a pledge to kpsc this is is the time to do it certainly is. Please pick up the phone and call us. It's one way what is it? 71713526738738526



Ray Hill 15:05

What



15:13

is it right damn



Ray Hill 15:14

KPFT



Bobby 15:16

I have two strange he spelled better than there's a gay bar in Conroe Hey,



15:20

anyway, and tell Kevin Harold to send me an email I work@gmail.com Hello?



15:27

Okay, he's lives in the



15:29

Castro and she works@gay.com and Kevin, if you're listening send me an email. You do?



Ray Hill 15:34

work@gmail.com Yeah, as you do, buddy, you need to you need to take advantage of Sirius his offer they're getting a gay network on satellite tele a radio coast to coast stuff. Really? Yeah. To move into that vacuum girlfriend. They need your talent. I don't know if I have the straightforward any I know it takes a lot of interviews especially to do what you do you do and gay and lesbian radio. It takes an enormous amount of energy and a great deal of skill. And I just don't have fingers that can move that fast.



16:06

Right? Please, please do me a favor and give give me your contact information. So



Ray Hill 16:10

I made it of course I'm perpetually listed. My email address is re heal. At eco net e ch o ne t.com. And I



16:22

want everybody that's listen to this show that's ever been touched by it. Please send me an email. It's bloody bu DD y How hard is that girl? Now wait a minute, it's just buddy. You did ey@gmail.com So please pick up the phone and call us that. We out. We need your help. We need your help. Yes. But okay, I love you so much. I love you. And I'm just gonna go honey, I the towels are falling off.



Ray Hill 16:49

I got an invitation to stay with friends of mine on noisy Valley. So I'll just admit.



16:54

Okay, when you come out here, I will I will give you the \$2 tour. But Ray, I have to ask you something really quick. Sure. Do you remember that time when I went to City Council? And I was passing out those bookstore tokens? And Absolutely. It said these tokens are carried in the pocket of Buddy Johnson? Well, it's related to Texas sodomy law.



Ray Hill 17:17

Absolutely. I had a t shirt that read I violate section 21.06 or the Texas Penal Code frequently, safely and well. Yes, yes. How long



17:31

have we been on the air? Oh,



17:33

I don't know about 8707. Bad. Okay. How



17:38

many years is that? Somebody added?



17:39

We're coming up. We're coming up to our 16 for 16.



17:43

Okay, so that's what I'm gonna do sweet. 16. One more year, and you'll be legal. Anybody that calls right now? Yeah. And make the pledge of at least \$75 on a credit card. Because I know that KPFT needs the money right now.



17:59

You got it. Oh, heck, let's



18:00

make it. Let's make it easy. Let's make it \$100. Okay, anybody that calls and makes a pledge of \$100 right now on a credit card. They're gonna get a copy of that coming out of hiding mix. For you myself on a CD. Thank you. I'm gonna send you 16 of those bookstore tokens that I carry



18:26

great, believe it or not, I have a bag.



Ray Hill 18:31

Well, you can't make them in few you got to make them in many or it just don't work out.



18:35

So go to the phone and call us you get you're gonna get the coming out of hiding CD mix. Oh, that's great. Was it I'll throw on the CD. I want you to call now. Give me



Ray Hill 18:47

26573



18:49

CD and you're gonna get 16 of those



18:57

the law and I've watched them all off so they're not

R

Ray Hill 19:00

still sticking out. Okay, guys have

♂

19:03

fun. I gotta go. Okay. Love you.

♂

19:05

I love you, buddy.

♂

19:07

I'll see you in San Francisco,

R

Ray Hill 19:08

hopefully soon. Bye, buddy. Bye. Well, how many of you have friends that actually counter threat bookstore?

♂

19:20

Okay, regularly we have with us right now.

R

Ray Hill 19:23

I have I have some wonderful people from the Stonewall Law Association. And they are a John Nachman. And the President that esteemed President organization himself and his president's companion Christopher's around here somewhere somewhere. But if you were to so I'm the one with the camera. The best way to do this is do your name in your own voice so people can know who you are. Well, I'm Jerry simonneau. And I'm the president of the Stonewall Law Association of Greater Houston.

♂

19:57

And I'm John Netsch. Minh and I was the last president and stuff Our last session

R

Ray Hill 20:02

was not an unwelcome coup actually. It's a sucker job. John is also a law professor at Texas, South Texas School of Law. I've lectured his classes and wanted to come along to your practice.

Well, Jerry, and you're talking to Jerry, I do wills and estates, criminal law and some civil law, Mason, mainly landlord tenant law. All right, and what kind of law do you practice?



20:31

I do almost exclusively immigration work, and mostly for the GLBT.



Ray Hill 20:34

Community, Ryan? And is there a lot of work in the immigration thing?



20:38

There's tons of it, especially now. I mean, there's, there's been so much since all the crap with Ashcroft has come down since 911. It's amazing. It's the you know, if there's a there's no good side to that, but there has been a lot of business because a lot of people are finding themselves in removal proceedings and did absolutely ridiculous detention hearings and things of that nature. There's a lot, and



Ray Hill 21:01

a lot of your clients, like, don't have the resources to adequately defend themselves against these enormous kinds of pressures. That's true.



21:11

And I'm on the board of the lesbian and gay immigration rights Task Force, which will any day now change its name to Immigration Equality. And our organization actually provides pro bono representation to a great number of people in that very same set of circumstances read



Ray Hill 21:26

the concept so that nobody's hitting exactly because a lawyer or a lawyer or a small group of lawyers can bankrupt themselves, doing necessary work or material will great good that capital punishment line in Texas, Jerry and, John, of course, if you've got a law degree, and you you know how to go on the computer and read cases, when something comes down, like the United States Supreme Court case, in the Lawrence and garner cases. You read this? I mean, you gotta have hard copy right away. Oh, absolutely sorted out. And I take it both of you have read or Oh, yes. Oh, yeah. How long is the decision? How many pages



22:12

16 for the opinion, and then 21 on the descent? Yeah.

R Ray Hill 22:17

16 on the moon. And then Thomas

∅ 22:19

has dissents about two paragraphs. Yeah.

R Ray Hill 22:23

And what's your impression of the importance of this litigation? Well, we'll start with me, I suppose. This is a very broad decision, broad and sweeping decision that gives restores privacy rights to Americans, not just gay and lesbian citizens, but everyone. Privacy was almost killed in that ridiculous. Hardwick versus Bowers case. And but in this case, they restored it. They said we were wrong. When we decided Bowers versus Hardwick, and it is still wrong today, and we're going to overrule that case. Now. Hardwick versus Bauer's case was the Georgia sodomy statute in Texas, right. It was 1987. I remember because I heard oral arguments. And when you were there when I was there, right, with Hill versus Houston. The the it was 542. It was fine for the other way. Yes. And after that decision was handed down. Powell said he should have voted the other one he was he said he was wrong. He should have gone the other way. That's right. And I was sitting in the room when O'Connor's position on that went sour. On the issue of privacy right now, now, this case, had two major issues in it. One on equal justice, right? Equal Protection. And actually we got the six votes on equal just, well, no, we got one vote only. The only one that even mentioned it. Yeah. Sandra Day O'Connor said that she would have overturned the Texas law based on equal protection because it treated homosexuals differently than it treated heterosexual and she also said that she would not have overruled Bauer's case. So when that she joined in the image in the majority back and so she's

∅ 24:18

stubbornness there at the one. Yeah. Well, I

R Ray Hill 24:20

actually had been there for the oral arguments pretty pretty obvious because Kathy fire who was representing our side in that case, was a question was put to about Congress. I believe we move privacy from the marriage bed. And those of you listening that's where it has been sent Griswold and it got Rizwan was the birth control case out of Connecticut many years ago, and they said, it said specifically that the marriage bed is a private zone for the purposes of contraceptive and if I get off some cream, right, that's right. That's right. And so there it is, and since that time, we've been laying in that bed scratching On the walls around it, trying to expand it. And all of obscenity law is is an extension of gridwall. Yes. And so the principle on that and homosexual practices, or sodomy is an attempt to move that wall from the bed itself to the door. Sure, so that when adults get behind the door, then what they do is private. And in

the Hardwick case, Justice O'Connor ask Kathy fire, if we move privacy from the bed to the door, then will that not legalize prostitution, if money is not discussed till after the door closed? And I thought Cassie fire could have handled that any number of ways. She said, We believe so, Your Honor, and we're willing to ride that horse, or we're willing to accept that as a responsibility for our decision. And you could just see O'Connor's switch go off. We lost her there, and she's still lost. Yeah, she never came back. But but you know, that, does it do that?

26:07

Does it does that well, this case,

R Ray Hill 26:09

this case, actually do that? Well, it?

26:13

I mean, I don't, I don't see that. Oh, there, there are a lot of other issues that are going to come into play in terms of that in terms of issues of, of incest, for example. I mean, there's a lot of state interests there that's going to come into play. But, you know, I mean, it's interesting that you bring that up, because when we were there, Jerry and I were both there and Machuca teens office the morning that the decision came in. And what I didn't realize was that Kennedy was reading the decision at the time. And so we were getting little bits and pieces and like going ecstatic at some news. And then, you know, for me, I remember sitting there and I was I was concerned, because I thought, well, you know, the equal protection argument was still an important one that they brought forth. And and we're, you know, Ruth Harlow had talked with us about how, you know, she saw that as a very, very important argument to, and we knew one was one was a broad focus, and the other was a narrow focus. But I was concerned about that until we got to see the hard copy. And we actually got a copy that morning. And it was, I mean, it was really clear at that point, why Kennedy and why all of the other justices that went along with him, wanted to go forward on the privacy issue, because, I mean, they were looking at in terms of the sanctity of the privacy issue as being very, very important, and being something of the bra, but what a deal with the prostitution. Now, I think that the you know, it's not

R Ray Hill 27:33

going to affect prostitution at all, you know, and the thing about it is that this is a very broad decision. Now, is that a good or bad thing? One nice, wonderful thing, a wonderful thing, because we can do so many wonderful things with it. Back in 1967, the Supreme Court had said that marriage is a fundamental right, that's protected under the liberties of the due process clause, which is where we get privacy from privacy is not mentioned in the Constitution anywhere, but we get it from that liberties clause or the due process clause of the 14th and Fifth Amendments. And because marriage is now a fundamental right, as set forth in 1967, in the Loving versus Virginia case, we may be able to take that and say, well, since marriage is a privacy, right, and you have strengthened privacy so much, well, then you need to give that same fundamental right to us. That's a liberty that we should enjoy as well as gay men and

lesbian now, just because the building block is there is because you can construct this building out of material available in the wall, doesn't mean that's going to happen. No, it doesn't. But that's how you start building the building, though. You put the bricks there and you hope they stay.



28:47

And what an amazing congruence of bricks we're getting. Right? Yes. Fascinating. Canada, Ontario Court of Justice. And right now the same sex marriages in Canada, the third country basically the case, Jersey exact when a Massachusetts case a good rich versus Department of Health case. Right. And that was gonna be decided very sad decision will come down probably in the next two or three weeks. Oh, probably



Ray Hill 29:08

shorter than that, I think. And so when Justice O'Connor says what we can expect in the near future is a lot of gay civil rights litigation. Yep. shaking up a holler. She's not



29:20

which is one reason why we really did see her vote coming down on rice. I mean, you know, I told everyone I was there for the oral argument on the Laurens case. And when I left there, I thought even with the questions that were coming for, well, I mean, everybody was leaving really ecstatic. But I saw six three, and you know, even some, some people were venturing to guest seven to saying that Clarence Thomas might shock us because he's had a lot of gay classes.



Ray Hill 29:44

Hamas is, though it's very, very short. Yeah. Is is kind of a mixed basket. I mean, it says a call to the law silly says that if he were a member of the Texas Legislature, he would vote against the law or write you a proposal to they'd be appealed. Right? But he voted the other way. Why don't some courts division of powers thing?



30:07

Exactly. But you know, but isn't it funny that we're hearing it from him now and now we're hearing it from most of the conservative talk show has to I'd never heard them talking about this being a silly law before. The only the first time I ever heard them talking about this being a silly law, John Matthews and various others was after the decision came out, and I realized how you know what this law means and what it no



Ray Hill 30:29

it definitely was not a silly law in the mind of exact talk show hosts a thing two weeks ago.



30:35

Yeah. Now,



Ray Hill 30:36

the other question is, it is legal, to be queer and practice being queer in the United States. How does that affect immigration law in other jurisdictions where it is illegal and punishable?



30:54

Where I'm sorry, I'm not getting the cause me, I'm



Ray Hill 30:56

gonna hear the immigration lawyer. How does that affect non citizens coming from jurisdictions where homosexual behavior for Egypt for instance, in seeking asylum, yeah,



31:10

well, in the Middle East right now, you know, it's it, there's so much going on in the world at this point that we need to be looking at, I just got back from Buenos itis where they actually were, they also recognize same sex marriages in the city, not yet in the country. But that'll happen. And you're gonna see all Latin America fall at some point, and we will be sandwiched between two gigantic you know, the can't the Canadian north and the Latin south, and we will be the one nation that's not recognizing same sex marriage. But in, in in because of that asylum cases and Latin America become very tough. The one region of the world where where asylum cases still have a lot, you know, we're we're, we really have a good shot our cases in the Middle East. And it's been, you know, I mean, the laws in those countries aren't just they don't just criminalize homosexuality, they kill gays and lesbians.



Ray Hill 32:06

If, if the rest of our immigration justification for asylum remains the same, the change of the law here, this is no longer criminal law here would certainly affect how those cases are perceived if application, right, but



32:21

I'll tell you what, right, it is a difficult world out there. They do not grant asylum cases to game to gay men and predominately game and we have some lesbian cases that come forth. We've

had three transgender cases approved in Houston, which is incredible, wonderful, because many people didn't think we get cases like this approved here. But it has become very, very difficult. In any case, even any Iranian case, where they will push a building over a person who's suspected of being gay, and see if they survive that after 30 minutes gigantic, you know, 500 pound blocks falling upon you. And if you survive it, then they let you live. And if you don't, then, you know, the Sharia has gone into effect in terms of No, but But um, they're not. They're not gimmies, you've got to really, really push hard to win those cases.

 Ray Hill 33:07

One of the axioms about practicing law and understanding law is objectivity. How objective can either one of you be about a law that affects your own personal life? Oh, that's

 33:16

a good question.

 33:17

It's an excellent question, Jerry.

 Ray Hill 33:20

Well, that that is a good question. And we ask that question among ourselves all the time among GLBT lawyers. One of the things that that comes up is, for instance, in a divorce between two men, which has to go to civil court, not family court, unfortunate alimony is a civil case, not a family case. Well, we're not talking alimony, we're just talking alimony, pal. Whenever we're talking, we're talking, splitting, letting splitting everything up or writing out the lemons. Or well, you know, one of the things that we could say is, well, the other guy is just gay. He's a homo, and so he shouldn't get certain things. And some lawyers would do that. But in our community, we certainly don't do that. This is especially interesting, especially important in a family law case where you have perhaps I've got gay father, who has who is the father, biological father of a son, or maybe the adopted father of a son, or daughter, and the mother is claiming that you know, well, we shouldn't give custody to that that father because he's gay. And we all know that's bad. Well, if we have a GLBT lawyer working for the mother, or the and the father, we do not bring up that kind of issue because so in so so the answer to your question is it's very hard to be objective, but what we do is we do not use our own sexuality against each other as a weapon. And that's that's probably just ethical law more than anything. So excuse me. So

 34:45

how bright is our future?

R

Ray Hill 34:47

I think our future is really looking up like John was saying the confluence of events is just extraordinary. Right now we have Belgium and the Netherlands recognizing marriage we have Canada recognizing marriage South America recognizing marriage. We've just gotten rid of our ridiculous laws that that would pretend to try to regulate us in our bedroom. Although they they never actually acted on that except for once or twice. Look at

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35:12

the editorials that are coming out. Yes. All over the country. Yes. I mean, I remember six or seven years ago, when even in the gay and lesbian community, there was not a, you know, an outpouring of support for same sex marriage. I seemed like, Well, why do we want that? Or was it was something so new? Or maybe it was something we never really thought that we should get for whatever crazy reason. And right now, I was reading papers all over the northeast, especially in along the Canadian border, who are saying, there's just no justification for not allowing and then

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Ray Hill 35:42

well, I mean, I mean, maybe it's the evolution of realization of full personhood, you know, a very significant part of gay lesbian oppression is, what ourselves images and what we think we deserve, or what we think we can handle more ethically and culturally. Back to Tyrone and John. We spent a lot of time with them. In the last few days, yes, we have and and they're a remarkable people. Yes, a remarkable and after I saw them, as they stepped out of the convertible after the parade ride down with Mitchell, which was wonderful. I mean, it was the, the, the grand marshals and we saved money on grand marshals this year. We didn't have one we just recycled those.

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36:42

That's how you being on that float was like, right, like, like going to a history class.

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Ray Hill 36:48

Absolutely. I mean, it was Rena wannstrom Wasn't it rid of one scrim. And I and there's David Paterson out there in the lobby right now. And Rita and David and I were cofounders of the Prometheus society here in Houston. And David Patterson is here. David Patterson is here is in the lobby. He's he his a teenager was a long hair that looks like he's rather weathered. The David and Reid and I fought over the gavel and David quietly run the organization as Secretary where the real power always like,

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37:25

I don't want to interrupt but I need to take five minutes out here because we've got Dean Becker on the line. All right, Dean Becker calls in every every week at this hour. Okay. And

that's to give us the latest cultural baggage. He is a member of normal. And what what we're looking at is medical marijuana use and what's going on? Yeah, that in that, and Dean Becker should be on the line. Dan, are you there?

38:00

I'm here. Good evening. Good evening. Good evening, I must say just wonderful. That is the first word that comes to mind. This a recent ruling on the Lawrence trial. Yes. And what else? Can you say? It opens the doors to privacy rights for all of us? It's a it's just a great thing.

Ray Hill 38:20

Yes, it How does privacy rights affect your

38:23

issues? Well, I think that's a leading question there. Right? We know it does. Because what people do in the privacy of their homes or their bedrooms, is their business. And the government has no right to get involved. And of course, you know, that's been the battle for normal, the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws throughout key stropped, the head of that has always stated, you know, whatever, you know, adults do in the privacy of their own homes, is no business of the government. There's a local gym, and also a professor at South Texas College of Law. And he's written some things here, I'd like to just briefly skim through it. He says that it's a note. He wrote a note saying that a new suit that would protect the Liberty or interests of those charged with possession of marijuana would give an opportunity to introduce the full range of medical, scientific and sociological evidence about marijuana to show the lack of any rational basis for laws criminalizing the possession. And, you know, they're saying that if a trial judge was carefully selected, if one can do that, there's a good chance that the Lord warrants decision would excuse me it would serve as a basis for to show judicial discrimination of possession. And, uh, you know, I look at a paper you're talking about the editorials. I'm looking at one that is in today's Washington Post, and they're talking about Antonin Scalia Leah and I are blasting him as old school, old testament and you know, Misty over an era when military Institute's didn't have to accept women, when elite schools didn't have to make special efforts for blacks, when a gay couple in their own bedroom could be clapped in irons. And, you know, the man is being shown for what he is, you know, we talked about Strom Thurmond. And those guys, you know, they're ancient, they are old school, they are school of Inquisition, if you will. And I think this is wonderful news for all of us. It should help open the door to allow medical marijuana patients to sooner have access to a medicine that keeps them well, or that maybe even keeps them alive. Yeah. And and, you know, I, I anticipate in the future that we can all combine forces and take these these measures and use them to further our own personal rights, our privacy rights in other areas.

Ray Hill 41:03

Nina have been working on the decriminalization of private consensual adult sexuality and sexual intimacy for 40.



41:13

Year, yes or no? Right. Thank you. Thank you and good. Hello, congratulations. I mean, for all your hard work.



Ray Hill 41:20

It's 40 years is a long time to wait for any it's not instant gratification. But but but let me tell you,



41:29

I don't think it's sunk in on most of us yet. This this,



Ray Hill 41:33

this this whole movement and before you realize another movement, which is well founded and among friends, I mean, I mean, there's there's Dennis Perone, who is a mutual friend, Dennis crone is the mother of the fairy camp at the rainbow gatherings. He is on his way to Idaho right now, to gather in the Great Basin and celebrate run naked and cook for the fairy gathering camp at the rainbow gathering. I wished I could join him but it's hard for peg legs to make it up those mountains. But in that battle, Dennis has gone to jail as frequently as anybody I know of in the country, and



42:19

he just beat a rap in Utah not that long ago. Yeah, yes, he did.



42:24

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