

NARRATOR: KPFT? Pacifica-- I've heard of it. FM 90, FM 90. Houston is in Texas. KPFT-- it's the only place to be.

ANNOUNCER: The disorders began with a routine police raid on a homosexual bar, The Stonewall on Christopher Street.

CROWD: (CHANTING) Say it loud, gay and proud.

MAN: We take great pride in what's happened in the gay community and what's going to happen.

WOMAN: The people of Dade County have said enough, enough, enough.

CROWD: (CHANTING) Human rights are here to stay! Anita Bryant, go away!

MAN: There's no question in my mind that the people of California don't want homosexuals teaching in the classroom.

ORGANIZER: State Senator John Briggs has just conceded the election.

[CHEERING]

WOMAN: Both Mayor Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk have been shot and killed.

ANNOUNCER: Dan White has been found guilty of one count each of voluntary manslaughter.

CROWD: (CHANTING) Fight now! Fight back!

ANNOUNCER: It has now broken loose. Cops are now bashing heads.

PERSON: And here comes the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

ANNOUNCER: Gay power, gay politics-- that's what this report is about.

REPORTER: There are gay and lesbian people singing out here. What's your reaction to that?

MAN: Well, I think it's terrible. If I had a rock, I'd thrown it at them.

WOMAN: The real message of these gay games is that every one of us is a winner.

MAN: Tonight, we are marching, as are others across America. And we shouldn't have to be.

WOMAN: (SHOUTING) Come on and say it so they can hear you hear you in the Capitol! For love and for life, we're not going back! For love and for life, we're not going back! For love and for life, we're not going back! For love and for life, we're not going back!

ANNOUNCER: I think that's Robin Tyler on the stage leading the chant, for love of for life, we're not going back.

TWO PEOPLE: (SHOUTING) Good afternoon, and welcome to the National March on Washington DC for Gay and Lesbian Rights and choral reciting!

[CHEERING]

Let's hear it out there!

[CHEERING]

LEA DELARIA: I'm Lea Delaria.

BRUCE I'm Bruce Hopkins.

HOPKINS:

LEA DELARIA: I'm a dyke!

BRUCE I'm a faggot!

HOPKINS:

BOTH: And we're best friends!

[CHEERING]

WOMAN: I want you to savor this next moment. I have the proud task of telling you that the official count of the Lesbian and Gay Rights March-- the official count is over 500,000 strong!

[CHEERING]

500,000 strong! Look at you!

[MUSIC PLAYING]

500,000 strong! 500,000 strong! One of the largest marches in United States history!

[CHEERING]

One of the largest marches in United States history! 500,000 strong.

BUDDY 500,000 strong. Yes, yes, yes, yes. So we've got to get ready. *After Hours*, radio celebrating life from the heart of

JOHNSTON: the Montrose, just about ready to go.

HARVEY MILK: We must destroy the myths once and for all-- shatter them. We must continue to speak out. And most importantly, most importantly, every gay person must come out.

[CHEERING]

Difficult as it is. You must tell your immediate family. You must tell your relatives. You must tell your friends-- if indeed they are your friends. You must tell your neighbors.

You must tell the people that you work with. You must tell the people in the stores you shop in.

[CHEERING]

BUDDY And you must get excited about it, yeah? Right, right.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: But of course.

HARVEY MILK: Once they realize that we are indeed their children, that we are indeed everywhere-- everywhere-- every myth, every lie, every innuendo will be destroyed once and for all. And once you do, you will feel so much better.

[CHEERING]

BUDDY Every time I hear that, I just get excited, right?

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Yep, we've noticed. You start drooling and slobbering and jumping up and down.

BUDDY Matt, do you get excited?

JOHNSTON:

MATT: No, just nostalgic.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

ALAN: You're too young to be nostalgic.

MATT: No, I'm not.

BUDDY You're too to be nostalgic. And what's that you're wearing this morning?

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Leather pants.

BUDDY Leather pants, ladies and gentlemen. Yes, live from KPFT Houston, 90.1 FM.

JOHNSTON:

MATT: It's leather pants at 2:00 in the morning.

BUDDY So that means this is *After Hours*, radio celebrating life from the heart of the Montrose. We're queer.

JOHNSTON:

MATT: We certainly are. And we're cold queers. God, it's cold. I hate this cold weather.

ALAN: It's invigorating and refreshing.

MATT: You know what I hate about this cold weather, guys?

ALAN: Sort of like breathing sprite.

BUDDY You have to wear clothes, man. You can't walk around in shorts and tank less.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Or less.

BUDDY Or less. And I like the less. Terry's not here. She's got a call this morning. Shew! That was probably her in the

JOHNSTON: back.

MATT: Roger's coming down with a cold, too.

BUDDY Roger's in the lobby waiting for your phone call at 526-4000. Someone said, will you talk to me? I said, yeah, we'll

JOHNSTON: talk to anybody. Just give us a call at 526-4000. We don't have much planned for you this morning except a lot of brand new music, some old music, and what?

ALAN: Various stuff.

BUDDY Various stuff.

JOHNSTON:

MATT: Lying around and be casual.

BUDDY Yeah, we're all naked this morning and we're going to give you the full 12 inch-- mix, that is the, 12-inch dance mix that you're not going to get anywhere else. And it's only available on *After Hours*-- that's radio celebrating life from the heart of Montrose on your Pacifica station, 90.1 FM. And when you let a bunch of queers in your radio station at 2:00 in the morning, baby, that's dangerous.

BUDDY What have I done to deserve this? The Pet Shop Boys from the album *Actually*. And actually, this is *After Hours*,

JOHNSTON: radio celebrating live from the heart of the Montrose, the only place you're going to get a bunch of homosexuals on your radio at 2:00 in the morning.

CALLER: Hi, this is Scotty. It's a beautiful morning in Montrose, out walking around seeing all the nice people. And you're listening to *After Hours* on KPFT Houston, 90.1 FM.

on.

BUDDY You can also dance a lot better if you're out of the closet, baby. But unless you're doing those things in the closet-- sometimes I like to get in a closet with a nice-looking man.

BUDDY And Alan just said he would watch my life story but he ran out of quarters. Been trying to get out of it, to come in

JOHNSTON: here and tell you guys some jokes, ladies and gentlemen, but he's busy. And Scott-- I don't know what he's doing. Making a phone call.

Give us a call at 526-4000. Let's talk about gay pride, and I'll tell you how to get proud. There's a lot going on for the gay community this year. The parade's going to be one of the best you've ever seen. The first ever congress of national importance-- gay and lesbian people from all over the United States going to be gathering in-- are you ready for this, kids-- Houston, Texas for the first National Gay Rights Congress.

Also the Names Project's bringing the quilt here on Mother's Day in May. So I'll tell you all about that in a minute. Let's listen to some music and dance our pride right out into the streets.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Are you with me, Matt?

MATT: Oh, I can't get these headphones on yet. Oh, wait a minute.

BUDDY Keep grabbing onto those leather pants you're wearing. What, dear?

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Well, the fellow on line one has an anti-gay view to present.

BUDDY Oh, really? Somebody has an anti-gay view to present? I don't want to talk to him.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Talk to him! [INAUDIBLE]

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

MATT: As long as he doesn't use the seven dirty words.

ALAN: That's what I'm saying.

BUDDY Well, hang on just a second. Hi, are you there? Hello, hello, hello, hello, hello, hello, hello, hello?

JOHNSTON: Are you there, Michael?

CALLER: Yes, I am.

BUDDY What's cooking?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Not much.

BUDDY Hey, you're calling from way out north somewhere?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Yes, I'm calling from Spring.

BUDDY What can I do for you?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: I wanted some tapes about Harvey Milk.

BUDDY Harvey Milk? Who's Harvey Milk?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Who's Harvey Milk?

BUDDY Yeah.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: He was a gay politician for San Francisco, 1979. And [INAUDIBLE].

BUDDY Harvey was the first openly gay person ever elected to public office. I'm just kidding you, right?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Yeah.

BUDDY What do you want to do with the tapes?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: I want to do an essay for school.

BUDDY For school, like university?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: High school.

BUDDY High school?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Yeah.

BUDDY Do they talk about such things in high school now?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Well, they talk about politics and history.

BUDDY Oh, really?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Yes.

BUDDY Well, if you hang on just a second, I'll get an address from you and we'll get you those tapes. And I'm real

JOHNSTON: interested. And I'm glad to hear that you're interested in Harvey Milk.

CALLER: Yes, I am.

BUDDY Harvey was very important to the movement, and it's nice to know that people are interested. And we're going to

JOHNSTON: sponsor, along with a lot of other gay groups here in Houston, a memorial service to Harvey Milk down in front of the Reflection Pond on November the 27th of this year. It'll mark the 10th anniversary of Harvey's death. So that's something we'll also tell you about.

Hang on just a second, and I want to pick up the phone and get that address from you, OK?

CALLER: OK.

BUDDY Thanks for calling.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Uh-huh.

BUDDY Tell him I need to turn the mic off.

JOHNSTON:

[MUSIC PLAYING]

MATT: Hi, this is Monty from the Club Body Center. We're all working out to the beat of *After Hours* on KPFT Houston, 90.1 FM.

BUDDY It is so cold. How cold is it? Give us a call at 526-4000. We'll tell you how cold it is. I've got a couple of calls
JOHNSTON: waiting on the line. This is *After Hours*, radio celebrating life from the heart of the Montrose.

I am gay and I'm proud and I'm going to tell you all about it. But I may have to wait until summertime maybe because I just can't handle this cold. This is the kind of weather when you just want to cuddle up with a nice, hairy man and-- mm, yeah.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

[CROWD CHANTING INDISTINCTLY]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

ADRIAN: Hi, this is Adrian at the National Bar of Texas at Mary's Naturally, and you're listening to *After Hours* on KPFT Houston, 90.1 FM.

BUDDY 90.1 FM.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: And no question about it.

BUDDY Adrian at Mary's I've heard of Mary's. Never been there but I've heard of it. It's a place full of faggots. I'm going to
JOHNSTON: go--

ALAN: What do you mean you've never been there?

BUDDY I want to go by on my way home. It's just about two blocks.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Radio.

BUDDY You can throw a used-- well, I was going to say you could throw a used condom, but I shouldn't say that.
JOHNSTON:

ALAN: You can if you want to, though. Actually throw one.

BUDDY What were you talking about my life story? You said you saw the movie or something?
JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Oh, well, I was going to say I've seen nearly every movie you've made, but I ran out of quarters.

[RECORD SCRATCH]

BUDDY Oh, Alan, Alan, Alan, Alan, Alan.
JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Yes, I know I'm wretched. No, we've been getting some wonderful phone calls. I had a fellow called, said his two straight friends told him about the show, and he's listening and he thinks it's wonderful. We love him.

BUDDY Oh!

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: I had a guy calling saying he was sitting on his couch-- I wonder if I can say this on the air. Shall I give it a shot?

BUDDY Was he naked? No, you can't say that.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: No, no, I can say that. He was naked on the couch. That's not the part I can't say.

BUDDY I want him to call me back. My name is Buddy. Give me a call. 526-4000. We're at KPFT, Houston Pacifica radio,

JOHNSTON: guys.

ALAN: I lost the guy with the opposing view to gay rights.

BUDDY Ah well, there are plenty of those out there. There's a hot note from the press. What does that say?

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: It's a call for me.

BUDDY Oh, please. He's getting calls already.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Yes.

BUDDY What does that mean?

JOHNSTON:

MATT: Is the mic in this?

ALAN: Is the mic in there on?

BUDDY No, it's not.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: You can say the seven deadly words you can't say on television or radio in there.

BUDDY He's got these leather pants on, ladies and gentlemen, and they're so tight, his little stuff is--

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Blood vessels.

BUDDY Yeah, everything is just incredible.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Say blood vessels, buddy.

BUDDY Can you say that?

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: You can say leukocytes on the air, yes.

BUDDY Now tell me about the movie again. What were you going to say?

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: No, I said, I've seen nearly every movie you've made, but I ran out of quarters first.

[FANFARE PLAYING]

ANNOUNCER: And now a preview of our-- ladies and gentlemen, that is our song for the evening. Thank you all for coming. Please leave by the exits, and don't forget the speakers. Thank you.

BUDDY Can you say thank you for coming?

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Thank you for coming. I always do-- when people visit.

BUDDY Oh well, I don't know. I don't know what's going on. Hello, hello, hello, hello, hello. Hi there. Who's this?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: I didn't even know I was on the air.

ALAN: Surprise.

BUDDY Yeah, man, this is radio--

JOHNSTON:

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

BUDDY --yeah.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: I was going to talk about-- I'm against gay rights.

BUDDY You're against gay rights? So obviously, you're not gay, right? You're not homosexual?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: No, not hardly.

BUDDY OK.

JOHNSTON:

[LAUGHS]

CALLER: Are both of you guys homosexual?

BUDDY Queer as a \$3 bill.

JOHNSTON:

MATT: Yeah. That's [INAUDIBLE].

BUDDY There are only between 20 and 30 million of us in the United States.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Yeah, but the rest of us are normal.

[CACKLES]

ALAN: Yeah, I agree with the guy laughing in the background.

BUDDY Yeah, he sounds pretty normal to me. So what's so bad about human rights? You don't think that gay people should have rights?

CALLER: Well, do you know if you have AIDS or not?

BUDDY Do I know if I have AIDS or not?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Right. Who's this, Buddy?

BUDDY Yeah.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Yeah, I'm talking to you.

BUDDY Well, I certainly hope not. I run about three miles a day and I crawl the other two miles. But--

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: What do you do-- I mean-- never mind.

BUDDY People die from things other than AIDS. Let's be real.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Right, but would you want to die of AIDS?

BUDDY No! Would you want to get hit by a bus? People die-- people--

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: --getting hit by buses.

BUDDY Yeah, but more people die in this country from cancer and automobile accidents--

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Well, AIDS is a type of cancer, ain't it?

BUDDY Well, yeah, but let's be real.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: You get purple and whatever those spots are--

BUDDY But people-- cigarette smoke and all that kind of garbage-- and people are still doing it, so--

JOHNSTON:

MATT: People have car wrecks every day.

BUDDY Yeah.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: I've been hearing a bunch of stuff of how AIDS started. Do you guys know how it really got around?

BUDDY No, but I'll tell you what. If you call the Gay and Lesbian switchboard at 529-3211, they can tell you all about that.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Oh, don't even give me that number.

BUDDY Yeah, well, listen, we've got to play some music, OK?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Huh?

BUDDY We've got to play some music.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: OK, well fuck off.

BUDDY Uh-oh. You can't say stuff like--

JOHNSTON:

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

BUDDY I've got to write a letter to the manager and all kinds of stuff. But that's the way it is.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: You'll have to send some burnt offerings to the FCC.

BUDDY He lied, but straight people have been lying to us all our-- oh, I can't say that either. People have been lying to us all of our lives, baby, and I'm sick of it. I'm sick of being lied to. Because gay is good, did you hear me?

20 to 40 million gay and lesbian people in the United States, and they're good people. And if you don't believe me, just stick around because gay pride's getting ready to bust out like you've never seen it before.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

We had a big leadership conference at U of H last weekend. There were gay people from everywhere, all over Texas. It was great, man. We had a great time. And we just lost--

ALAN: Yes, we just lost Greg.

BUDDY But he'll call back.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Hopefully that's [INAUDIBLE].

BUDDY We were talking about the National Congress coming to Houston in the fall, and then Gay Pride Week's going to be a blast this year. We're going to have an *After Hours* dance from that club over there on Pacific Street, I think, Heaven?

ALAN: Heaven-- that club, Heaven.

BUDDY That club. Charles is talking about--

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: The Pope's favorite place to play.

BUDDY Charles is talking about flying some big DJ in from New York.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Ooh, la, la.

BUDDY Man, it's going to be a blast.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: It would be wonderful.

BUDDY And also the names project is bringing the quilt to Houston on Mother's Day, May the 10th. Is Greg on the phone, somebody? No? Well Greg, if you're listening, you can call me please and I'll put you on the air. I accidentally lost you, so anyway-- Alan, what were you saying?

ALAN: What was I saying?

BUDDY Say something. Say anything.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Something.

BUDDY How do you like this guy that promises to say nice things and then he says a nasty word, and makes me have to write a letter to Duane?

ALAN: Did he say a nasty word?

BUDDY Yeah, I don't know. Well, straight people have lied to us all of our lives. So what's one more lie, man? I'm used to it. But they don't faze me. When the going gets tough--

ALAN: He's writing. He writes so slow.

BUDDY --tough--

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Go shopping. Yes. When the going gets tough, the tough go shopping. Just look at the Galleria.

BUDDY We've got some great stuff for you coming up.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: We've got that interview with Mrs. [? McCreary ?] coming up later when she was at the AIDS Ministry Conference.

BUDDY And then we've got some Ray Bourbon that we're going to play for you. Ray Bourbon was a famous drag queen

JOHNSTON: back in the '20s or '30s. Every time poor Ray put on a dress, he was arrested.

ALAN: Yeah, well we can see this.

BUDDY And he died in a Texas jail. Did you know that?

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: I didn't know that.

BUDDY Also, we're going to talk about an article that was in the *Montrose Voice* today, where a group of gay Catholics

JOHNSTON: are--

ALAN: You mean Dignity?

BUDDY Yeah, Dignity.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Dignity. They're having a membership drive.

BUDDY Well, they're standing up in New York and St. Patrick's Cathedral in protest. And the Bishop there is having them

JOHNSTON: arrested. Isn't that wonderful?

ALAN: Arrested in the church sanctuary?

BUDDY Yeah, man, you go to church and they get drug out. It's just wonderful. What a-- drug? Dragged?

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Dragged.

BUDDY Well, I don't know if they go in drag. They go-- anyway.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: But no, I had not heard that. I am incensed.

BUDDY Really? Oh it's just incredible.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Well, when the Pope comes over for lunch, I'm definitely going to hit him in the face with this.

BUDDY It's just that you could go to church and get arrested. How nice.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Isn't that wonderful?

BUDDY I work for the police department. I guess I could go to work. That's real convenient, man. I could just go right to work and get arrested out there.

ALAN: So there's too many churches that'll have you. You don't have to go to one that'll have you arrested, that's for sure.

BUDDY Matt, are you in there?

JOHNSTON:

MATT: Am I alive?

ALAN: Oh, I hear him in my ear. You must be. Scared me-- I thought he was standing behind me there for a minute. I forgot I only had one earphone on.

BUDDY So yeah, Matt's the prime example of what's going on in the gay community. Matt's the youngest member of our staff.

JOHNSTON:

MATT: Well, I just aged a little. My birthday was--

BUDDY Did you have a birthday?

JOHNSTON:

MATT: Yeah, I turned 20.

BUDDY Oh man, 20.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: He's no longer a teen. What are we going to do? We've got to find another young-- what do we call them-- Twinkies?

BUDDY You want a Twinkie? He's got those leather britches on.

JOHNSTON:

MATT: Oh, leave me alone.

BUDDY We're just trying to tell you--

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Now wait, let's clarify-- let's qualify this. Leather britches with a hole in one knee. Hmm, makes me wonder.

MATT: Well, I haven't had time to match the other knee up yet.

BUDDY Well--

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Wear them backwards for a while.

MATT: Oh goodness.

BUDDY Yeah, there's a lot going on for you. We've got--

JOHNSTON:

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

BUDDY --what's an idea?

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Wearing the pants backwards. It don't work, trust me.

BUDDY Where's that notebook at? Here it is.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: I don't know. We've got--

BUDDY It's right in front of me.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: We've got Mardi Gras coming up. I'm going to be in New Orleans on Mardi Gras.

BUDDY Are you going to go?

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: I'm going to New Orleans.

MATT: And you're going to call us?

BUDDY Why don't you call us?

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Yeah, I'll call up. I'll see if I can't find a Dixieland band to play in the background while I'm calling you all.

MATT: We'll give you some quarters to take with you.

BUDDY Well, look--

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Oh, thank you.

MATT: If you don't spend them all in the bookstores.

ALAN: Oh, I thought that was why you were giving them to me.

MATT: No, you have to call us on a payphone.

BUDDY Those aren't quarters in his pocket?

JOHNSTON:

MATT: No, no, it's not.

ALAN: Just proud to see you.

BUDDY Those are the roll of tokens. Those are those car wash tokens, right? Yeah, sure.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: No, I'm just proud to see you. It's not a roll of quarters in my pocket.

BUDDY And Terry's not here. Terry's feeling under the weather.

JOHNSTON:

MATT: So we hope she gets better.

BUDDY Maybe she's feeling Sue under the sun--

JOHNSTON:

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

ALAN: Now, now, now, now--

BUDDY I don't know what she's doing.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: She's a nice young lesbian.

BUDDY She don't feel good, I know that right. And we've got a lot of stuff happening to you, for you. In March, Ron

JOHNSTON: Sparks from the AIDS Foundation's going to be here. Scott Clark's going to be here with couples. Lloyd and Robert are going to be back with the Texas Gay Founders. And Angie's going to be here from the Montrose Counseling Center.

And we're going to do a special thing for you on April the 24th called Reflections of a Rock Lobster. Do you know what that is?

ALAN: No, that's about the young man who took another male to his high school prom.

BUDDY Aaron Fricke.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: I remember that because I was in high school at the time.

BUDDY Do you remember that? Aaron Fricke. I talked to Aaron yesterday. He's living in Garden Grove, California.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Is he?

BUDDY Yeah. So Aaron's going to talk to us live on the radio, and then we're going to listen to a radio adaptation-- is that

JOHNSTON: right--

ALAN: Adaptation.

BUDDY --of his book that's really nice. So we've got to cut all the dirty words out.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: We call these excerpts.

BUDDY Yeah, we've got to cut all the dirty words out because the FCC won't let us say certain things at 3:00 in the morning. If you don't like that, you can write the FCC. It's 1919 M-- as in Mickey Mouse-- Street Northwest, Washington DC, 20554, and let the FCC know what you think about--

ALAN: And you can use dirty words in your letter.

BUDDY Well, yeah, I don't know. They might come knock on your door. I don't know what they're going to do. We just want to tell you that 1988's going to be a great year for gay men and women everywhere. And it's time to break out and get out of the closet--

ALAN: Yes.

BUDDY --and get that pride alive--

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Activate.

BUDDY Yeah, activate, or you're going to just self-destruct. It's 2:51 AM.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Yay.

BUDDY This is radio celebrating live from the heart of the Montrose, *After Hours*.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: The criminal homosexuals on the air again.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

BUDDY 2:54 in the morning from KPFT Houston on the Texas Gulf Coast. It's a listener-sponsored Pacifica radio. And

JOHNSTON: Mark, I believe, is with us. Are you?

CALLER: Yes.

BUDDY Yeah. So what's cooking?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Oh, nothing. I'm just sitting here at home, doing nothing.

BUDDY Well, you said you were sitting there with your lover.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Well, he's asleep.

BUDDY He's asleep.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Yeah.

BUDDY Well, what are you doing--

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: You can still sit with him.

BUDDY What are you doing up at this late hour?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Oh, I just got up.

BUDDY Yeah?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Sitting around watching TV.

BUDDY What did you want to talk about? You said you wanted to say something.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: I wanted to talk about gay rights.

BUDDY Yeah?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: So what was that guy's name that called up and started saying that stuff on the air?

BUDDY I don't know. He was being real naughty and he's going to get me in trouble.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: What do you have to do?

ALAN: If we can find him, we rip his head off. Oh, you mean about when someone says a word like that? We have to write a letter and apologize.

BUDDY So Mark, do you think it's great to be gay?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Yeah.

BUDDY Huh?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Yeah.

BUDDY Did you go to the parade last week-- last week. Last year?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: No. I wanted to but Steve wouldn't let me.

BUDDY Yeah, are you going to go this year?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: I'm going to try to.

BUDDY It's going to be great. You can come down and wave at me because I've never been in a parade before, but I'm

JOHNSTON: going to be in the parade this year. I just want to be up there waving at all the folks because they're going to be hundreds of thousands of gay people everywhere.

CALLER: Won't they arrest us or something?

ALAN: Nope.

BUDDY No, man. What are they going to arrest us for?

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: It's legal. We've got a permit.

BUDDY I work for the police department. What are they--

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: You do?

BUDDY Huh?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: You do?

BUDDY Yeah, I'm a dispatcher.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: This is Buddy?

BUDDY Yeah.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Oh.

BUDDY I've worked for the City here for almost five years. I've been dispatching police cars for 10 or 12 years. But there

JOHNSTON: are gay people doing everything-- doctors, lawyers. Barney Frank, a Congressman from Boston was here in Houston not too long ago. Gerry Studds from-- where's Gerry from? Colorado?

ALAN: And what was that former controller of Houston?

BUDDY I don't know, that guy that had all the credit card problems?

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Yeah.

BUDDY Well, we don't talk about him.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Buddy?

BUDDY Yeah?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: What do you think about all these homosexuals that are in hiding? What do you think they should do?

BUDDY Well, I used to be in hiding. I thought that you had to hide. But Harvey Milk, in the beginning of our show-- if you've ever heard the beginning, says that you just have to tell everybody that you're gay. And if you do and you come out-- I used to-- I'll put it like this. I told all of my friends because I hung around with a lot of gay people.

CALLER: Yeah, I used to hide it for-- I've hidden it for about two years. But this last month, I've come out of hiding and started meeting new people.

BUDDY Well, it's not really that you're hiding. Society does those things to us. And like I said, I worked for the City. And when I was approached by the radio station-- they wanted me to do a gay radio show-- I thought, yeah, sure. But when you tell everybody who you are and you go on a public radio station, well, anybody can hear it.

So I went to my supervisors and I told them what I was going to do. And I think they respected me a lot because I was honest enough to come forward and be up-front with them. I'm a good guy. You're a good person. And once you're a good person, you're always a good person.

CALLER: You really told these people at the radio station that you were homosexual?

BUDDY Well, the people here know that. But--

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: How do they feel about working with a homosexual?

BUDDY I don't know. I'm still working there.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Nobody's ever made an issue of it, so they must feel all right.

BUDDY I'm still working there. And there are gay people in Congress and gay people-- judges and lawyers and doctors.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: And you would be surprised how many people are not going to freak to find out you're gay. They're just not going to freak.

BUDDY There's only one place I'm hiding my sexuality right now, and that's from my lover's mother. Because my lover-- although he's out in the community and involved in gay rights here in Houston-- he doesn't talk about being gay with his mom and dad. And it really hurts me a lot because I think that he should. I don't think that he should have to hide that and be afraid--

CALLER: How does your mother and father feel about you being--

BUDDY Oh, they hate it. They hate it. I grew up in a small town in Arkansas, and my mom and dad won't even speak to me. They just hate it.

CALLER: Yeah, my parents-- they cast me out of the house when they found out that I was homosexual.

BUDDY There's a lot of that going on. And I talked to Aaron Fricke-- I don't know if you know who Aaron Fricke is. He

JOHNSTON: wrote a book called *Reflections of a Rock Lobster*. And Aaron was the young man that took his lover--

CALLER: What do you think about the book, *And the Band Marches On?*

BUDDY Well, I really haven't read that. Randy Shilts was here, and we interviewed Randy one time. And Randy wrote

JOHNSTON: another book called *The Mayor of Castro Street* that talks all about Harvey Milk. [INAUDIBLE]

CALLER: You ought to read that book. It depicts a lot of the homosexual feelings.

BUDDY Really?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Yes.

BUDDY What about the guy that called that was talking about AIDS? Do you think every gay person has AIDS, walking

JOHNSTON: around with AIDS?

CALLER: I really don't know.

BUDDY No, man.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Not hardly.

BUDDY That's not true. If it was true, we'd all be dead. Because nobody's been more sexually active in the last 30 years

JOHNSTON: than me. And--

ALAN: I beg your pardon.

BUDDY Unless Alan wants to fight over that.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Yeah, well, we'll fight over this later.

CALLER: [INAUDIBLE]

BUDDY Hey, man, I love my men. In fact, I'm mad because the guy on the couch that was naked was going to call back

JOHNSTON: and--

ALAN: He did.

BUDDY --and tell me where he was. Well, he didn't call.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: We're invited over for coffee.

CALLER: Have you guys seen that movie, *The Boys in the Band*?

BUDDY Yeah, that's great, isn't it?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Yeah.

BUDDY There's a lot of movies like that. There's a lot of things. Let me tell you something. In 1985, the US Census

JOHNSTON: figures-- and we talk about this all the time. We talked about it last week with Ray Hill. 1985, the government said there were 239 million some-odd people in the United States. 10% of that, according to the *Kinsey Report*, makes up-- well, 203 white folks-- well, 203 million white folks, 29 million Black people, 17 million Hispanic people. And the *Kinsey Report*, written back in the '40s and '50s, says that 10% of the population is homosexual.

ALAN: 1952, I think.

BUDDY Yeah, so that means in 1985, there were 24 million gay and lesbian people in the United States.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: And that's using the conservative figure. We generally figure the percentage must be pushing 20% if not over that.

BUDDY And you know something better than that, Mark? If you look at the Houston metro area, four and a half million

JOHNSTON: people-- that means there are 450,000 gay and lesbian people.

CALLER: For every 10 people, two of them are homosexual.

BUDDY Huh?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: For every 10 people, at least two are homosexual.

ALAN: That's what we're saying.

BUDDY And one of the cops that I work with, I told him I was gay and he freaked out a little bit. And then he came back

JOHNSTON: to me and he said, you know, I know there are gay people everywhere because when I walk into a room, I know that one out of 10-- and he's always going 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9--

ALAN: And then he gets to you.

BUDDY So he gets to the 10th one. And he says he's always wondering.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Yeah, that really blows my mind. You tell somebody that you're homosexual and then it's like--

ALAN: It's like they'd never heard of it before.

BUDDY Not everybody does that. Not everybody does it.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Most people do.

BUDDY And it's not easy.

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Not even most people.

BUDDY It's not easy to come out. It really isn't. But after you tell your family, and after you tell your friends, and after you tell the people you work with, and after you tell the people where you spend your money in the stores and the shopping centers--

ALAN: I was going to say-- let me tell you that people who are firm in their own sexuality, people who know themselves well don't freak about other people.

BUDDY That's right.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Have you guys ever been to the French Quarter downtown?

BUDDY The what?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: The French Quarter?

BUDDY Hang on just a minute and we'll talk about that, OK?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Huh?

BUDDY Hang on just a second, all right? All right. Hey, are you there?

JOHNSTON:

FEMALE Yeah.

CALLER:

BUDDY What's going on?

JOHNSTON:

FEMALE Well, I've been waiting for a while.

CALLER:

BUDDY Whew, Roger, pick up that line and talk to him, and tell him I've been to the French Quarter. But I didn't want to get too much into that. You know what the French Quarter is?

FEMALE Me?

CALLER:

ALAN: Yes, you.

FEMALE I'm only 16.

CALLER:

BUDDY Oh, 16?

JOHNSTON:

ALAN: Good for you, girl. Hope you never know what the French Quarter is.

BUDDY Matt, this is a 16-year-old call, so it's yours.

JOHNSTON:

MATT: This is a personal friend of mine I happen to know.

BUDDY Oh yeah?

JOHNSTON:

FEMALE You know me.

CALLER:

MATT: The Loch Ness Monster, as she's known.

FEMALE You came over.

CALLER:

BUDDY Yeah, I know. I'm just kidding.

JOHNSTON:

FEMALE Anyway, I'd like to say that-- I'm in high school. And it's really strange that some people are not mature enough in

CALLER: high school even to just tell them that you're a homosexual or something like that.

BUDDY Do kids freak out now?

JOHNSTON:

FEMALE Well, OK, I'll tell you what I'm doing. I'm doing this underground paper in my school. And we're more or less pro

CALLER: everything with some variations and/or decisions about what to put in it. But--