

JEWEL GRAY: And once we get a non-discrimination policy, what it will also do is that will require you, a businessman or person, to have a non-discrimination policy to do business with the city, which is something. Now a lot of people have been screaming about this, but this has been passed in a couple of other cities where they have domestic partner benefits.

And a lot of, probably a third, of the Fortune 500 companies in the world have all got domestic partner benefits. And the big scream is that it costs too much, it'll cost too much. It won't cost too much. These people-- the big scream is, oh it's full of gay men who are going to be taken advantage of because they're going to be having AIDS and needing all this medication. And the proof in the pudding is that it's about 1% more money than they spent the year before--

JIMMY CARPER: That's right.

JEWEL GRAY: --to take care of the employees that are loyal and faithful to them, and their families, and their loved ones. And not just the ones who have a piece of paper saying--

JIMMY CARPER: And when it comes right down to it, there's not much of their many people who signed up for it--

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. That's right.

JIMMY CARPER: --anyway.

JEWEL GRAY: That's right, not that many.

JIMMY CARPER: But this talks about not ever being able to--

JEWEL GRAY: Vote on that.

JIMMY CARPER: To have that. And have that, plus other things. They leave that kind of open.

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: So--

JEWEL GRAY: It's definitely a discriminating policy.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, we've got partner benefits for married couples. We've got domestic partner benefits for unmarried, heterosexual couples. I bet a lot of people in the city didn't know that. There are domestic partnership provisions for unmarried, heterosexual couples. So it seems to me that--

JEWEL GRAY: Didn't I just read where some lesbians sued a city to because they offered the partnership package to heterosexuals but they wouldn't give it to them? And they just sued and forced them to do it because you can't offer it to some and not the others.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, exactly. They keep talking about this as special, special, special, special. Well, it's special to everybody but me.

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah, really. Really. It's not special to, it's not special to ask for equality.

JIMMY CARPER: No, it isn't.

JEWEL GRAY: It bothers me when I hear a Black activist try to take and separate the issues, the Civil Rights issues because they don't want to be connected to this issue. And it bothers me because it is exactly the same thing. The only difference is, yes, they do carry what makes people prejudice against them and on the outside. They cannot hide it and that we can. And that's about the only argument I've ever heard.

JIMMY CARPER: Not all of us can.

JEWEL GRAY: Right, not all of us can.

JIMMY CARPER: Like you and I. Yeah, we can't do it.

JEWEL GRAY: But it really disappoints me when I hear someone try to separate these kind of discriminations. The American Indians, they're discriminated against. People are discriminated against in this country. In this time, when everybody's going, God bless America. What does that mean? God bless white America? God bless the America that's gone to college?

Well, God bless, because it doesn't mean God bless the guy sitting down on Main Street with no job and panhandling. It doesn't mean God bless some gay person who's been locked up in jail for three days with no charges because they wanted to hassle him. It doesn't mean God bless America to the feminists who lost her children in New York because she was politically active. It doesn't, wait a minute, it is not and liberty for all. It is not.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

JEWEL GRAY: It is just for those who want it to be.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, well you know what who's all included in we the people?

JEWEL GRAY: Really, right. Who is that? And what part of all, don't they understand? I mean all, all people. It's not just the people you don't like or the people they don't like.

JIMMY CARPER: All three mayoral candidates are against Proposition--

JEWEL GRAY: That's right, all three. All three.

JIMMY CARPER: Chris Bell was on the committee. Mayer Brown has been openly against it from the very beginning.

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. That's right.

JIMMY CARPER: And now Sanchez has jumped on the bandwagon.

JEWEL GRAY: Well, it's a bad thing. It's not a bad thing just for civil rights. It's not a bad thing just because it's a gay issue.

JIMMY CARPER: No.

JEWEL GRAY: It's a bad thing because it's good business. It's good business for our city we've lost major money in the city because we don't have that policy. We don't have that. So this money is going to Denver. It's going to Philadelphia. It's going to Orlando. It's going to LA. It's going to Chicago who all have these kind of things where, they do business that way.

So we've lost money. And there's a chance that the gay games would come here. I mean, we're working hard. There are people here working hard to get the gay games here. And that's a major thing.

JIMMY CARPER: To say nothing of the Olympic.

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. It's a major thing. And that's right, the Olympics won't come here at all if we don't have that policy.

JIMMY CARPER: No. It doesn't matter who we bribe on the Olympic Committee,

JEWEL GRAY: That's right.

JIMMY CARPER: --they will not come here.

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. And they made that clear when they didn't go, when they didn't go to oh God, they didn't go somewhere there was a choice. And it came right down to that was the only difference between one place and the other. And they went to Sarajevo, I think.

JIMMY CARPER: Wow.

JEWEL GRAY: Was it when they went there in Sarajevo?

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah, I think that's when they went to Sarajevo. And somebody else, that was the choice between Sarajevo and the other people. And I can't remember who it was, but that's what it was. Sarajevo, whether they meant it or not, enacted a law that fit within the Olympic parameters. And that's what happened.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

JEWEL GRAY: A little background on that.

JIMMY CARPER: Little background on that. And what about Annise Parker?

JEWEL GRAY: What about, oh God, I must, when you sent me that email, I just assumed you'd already arranged it and I was just saying, yeah, that's cool, great. Have Annise on. Now, I find out tonight. Oh, didn't you call Annise? No. I didn't get. I don't get that information.

JIMMY CARPER: Ouch.

JEWEL GRAY: No, I didn't call Annise. And I didn't get a hold of her.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, neither of us called her.

JEWEL GRAY: Sorry, yeah but--

JIMMY CARPER: We would like to have her on, but you know--

JEWEL GRAY: Annise, if you're listening, or Pokey, or Cicely, or somebody like that and wants to talk about this, come on down. We'd love to talk. Run right over. You know where we're at.

JIMMY CARPER: I've always said to Annise that I know how late this show is. And Annise, normally--

JEWEL GRAY: She's a goer though, isn't she?

JIMMY CARPER: She, yeah, I mean she's normally in bed 9, 10 o'clock every night. But this is campaigning. And she's going to be up at--

JEWEL GRAY: Doing what she has to do.

JIMMY CARPER: --6:00 in the morning to go to those breakfast meetings. And she's going to be up until midnight going to those other meetings.

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah, talking to people and letting the message be heard.

JIMMY CARPER: That's right.

JEWEL GRAY: I think we ought to be doing this every day of the year.

JIMMY CARPER: I was--

JEWEL GRAY: It would kill Annise, but I think this is the kind of thing we'd be doing every day.

JIMMY CARPER: I still have a little glow on because when Annise was first elected, first time that she was elected, she came here.

JEWEL GRAY: Cool.

JIMMY CARPER: Because it was a runoff, and it was held on a Saturday. And it was, she left her party, came here to be on the show, to share in the glory. And

JEWEL GRAY: Maybe she'll make it a tradition.

JIMMY CARPER: We're going to be talking about it--

JEWEL GRAY: A family tradition.

JIMMY CARPER: --all the time anyway because the Annise is good for this city.

JEWEL GRAY: Oh definitely, and not just for gay people. She's interested in things for mothers, and children, and the ecology around here, and business people. She has managed to put business people and ecology people together. She's managed to put families and resources together. You know, she's not just-- and she's working, what was it she was working on, she has been working, I think, on the metro, I mean, the rail stuff. And you know she's doing a lot of stuff for Houston. It's not, the fact that she's a lesbian doesn't mean that that's all she does.

JIMMY CARPER: No.

JEWEL GRAY: It's just like it's not that mean that's all we think about.

JIMMY CARPER: That's very little of what she does, actually.

JEWEL GRAY: Exactly, very little.

JIMMY CARPER: Probably Janine Brunjes is doing more as a liaison to the Mayor than Annise is because Annise is busy, like she says,

JEWEL GRAY: Doing city work.

JIMMY CARPER: --I'm busy with potholes and people talk about potholes and about garbage pickup.

JEWEL GRAY: Irate citizens, that's right.

JIMMY CARPER: You know, and when you're talking about garbage pickup, Rainbow the Clown just comes to mind.

PRESENTER 1: I'm so going to leave that alone.

[LAUGHTER]

JEWEL GRAY: God bless. We love Rainbow and the Rainbow you're talking about is bandit yard signs.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, no, actually, real garbage because he is working in the solid waste.

JEWEL GRAY: Right. He's a solid waste disposer.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, you know, and he is he is against Proposition 2, even though working for the city, he couldn't take advantage of it because he doesn't have a domestic partner.

JEWEL GRAY: Right. That's right.

JIMMY CARPER: And he's really just mean spirited--

JEWEL GRAY: --and not likely to get one, either. Let's face it.

JIMMY CARPER: It's really just mean spirited. Ouch.

PRESENTER 1: We love you, Rainbow.

JEWEL GRAY: And is that how we want our country to go, mean spirited? You know I was reading on hand that tonight about some discussion going on tonight about our own Taliban here in the country. And you know, I think the thing that people, there were some, this is a common discussion going on a lot of gay and lesbian bulletin boards and email groups, is about this religious right here in this country--

JIMMY CARPER: You bet.

JEWEL GRAY: --not being very far from that.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

JEWEL GRAY: And you know, and I know this is reaching, but as long as I know that sitting on the City Board, the people who make decisions about my city, is someone who's like me, I feel much better that I have a voice kind of. I have a voice in Washington.

JIMMY CARPER: And we have a place at the table.

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. We have a place at the table because having someone there who's not just gay friendly,

JIMMY CARPER: No.

JEWEL GRAY: --but knows what it's like to be--

JIMMY CARPER: She is one of us.

JEWEL GRAY: --be discriminated against.

JIMMY CARPER: And not only that, but the Annise has always been strong for bisexual rights, and especially, transgendered right. She's been a leader in transgender rights.

JEWEL GRAY: Definitely right there.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

JEWEL GRAY: So you know, she's not just a good lesbian, she's a good--

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

JEWEL GRAY: --city representative.

JIMMY CARPER: Now, I don't always agree with a lot of her stuff, either. It's like she's a little too kind on those--

JEWEL GRAY: But politics is a give and take game.

JIMMY CARPER: --civic associations, as far as I'm concerned, but--

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah. It's a give and take game. If you want support here, sometimes you have to give it in something at least.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, not only that, but we all have to live together, too.

JEWEL GRAY: It may be important to 5,000 people. But her thing that she got for stepping back off of that may have been something that was positive to 100,000 people.

JIMMY CARPER: There you go.

JEWEL GRAY: And see, it's a game of exactly where-- how many people you have and what kind of support you've got.

JIMMY CARPER: And I'm still a little miffed with her about the WestFest.

JEWEL GRAY: Yep. Me, too.

JIMMY CARPER: That's always gonna stick in my craw.

JEWEL GRAY: But you know, she didn't do this by herself.

JIMMY CARPER: No.

JEWEL GRAY: No. She was part of a team that decided that this was-- and we have to respect that team. I don't like it. I didn't like it at all.

JIMMY CARPER: That's right. But she's done a whole lot of other great things. And I want you to know, thank you very much, she has been elected by the entire city. She is an at-large--

JEWEL GRAY: At-large seat.

JIMMY CARPER: --position.

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. And she represents the entire city.

JIMMY CARPER: So she did not get elected by gay people.

JEWEL GRAY: Gay people in the Montrose District. Because there really is no Montrose District--

JIMMY CARPER: No, there isn't, no.

--for those people out there sitting, listening, the Lou Sheldons out there.

JEWEL GRAY: And they keep redrawing it and making it worse.

PRESENTER 1: [INAUDIBLE] refer to the Montrose as our little neighborhood and everything. But as far as the lines--

JEWEL GRAY: I'm wondering when we're going to be Debra Danburg.

PRESENTER 1: --are concerned, we're not. We're just part of a big everything.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, we are.

PRESENTER 1: Some big chunk of everything.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, we are. You're listening to *After Hours*, queer radio with attitude--

PRESENTER 2: With attitude.

JIMMY CARPER: --on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station. That's 90.1 FM--

PRESENTER 2: "Effem"?

JIMMY CARPER: --and 89.1 FM, respectively. Jam KPFT. Somebody asked me what phone numbers stands-- I don't know. And I thought, Jam KPFT.

[LAUGHTER]

JEWEL GRAY: I do know.

JIMMY CARPER: See? See, anything to get you to remember the number.

PRESENTER 3: Really?

JEWEL GRAY: Big Roy's out there.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, and I hope he's out there taking phone calls. We missed him last time.

JEWEL GRAY: Oh, you know he is.

JIMMY CARPER: We missed him last time.

JEWEL GRAY: Yes, we did.

PRESENTER 2: Do you think our--

JEWEL GRAY: He was sick physically this time.

PRESENTER 2: Oh, my goodness. Do you think our little war on-- my goodness, what are we fighting against again?

PRESENTER 1: The Taliban?

PRESENTER 2: Groups of people who do bad things to other people?

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, something like that.

JEWEL GRAY: Based on religious philosophy.

PRESENTER 2: Yes, terrorism. Our little war on terrorism, is that about as futile as are war on drugs?

JEWEL GRAY: Man, I don't know what-- I don't want to be unpatriotic.

JIMMY CARPER: I don't know.

JEWEL GRAY: I don't want to be unpatriotic. That's not me. And I am definitely behind this country. But this bull hockey going on these days, if you have one word of dissent about what's going on that you are suddenly unpatriotic and less than is ludicrous.

JIMMY CARPER: I know, but I do have to say--

JEWEL GRAY: Patriotic means that we afford that right to people. I mean, it's ludicrous to say because somebody has some dissension or some disagreement or sees that there are other options does not mean they're unpatriotic.

JIMMY CARPER: But I do not like George Bush. I did not vote for George Bush. I will not vote for George Bush ever, ever. But--

PRESENTER 2: Either one of the George Bushes.

JEWEL GRAY: Any president-- any president could have stepped into those shoes. He has a good team.

JIMMY CARPER: Any time that the country is in peril, I believe it's important for everyone to get behind the president.

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. I agree.

JIMMY CARPER: And any president, any president, it doesn't matter.

PRESENTER 1: It doesn't mean you agree with them on the other issues, too.

JIMMY CARPER: My only fear is what they do in the name of this war. And that's why I'm real happy they're adding sunset provisions to most of the changes in the laws, that they expire in four years or will be voted down again.

JEWEL GRAY: You know, there's something to me that's just-- I just have to get this out because I don't want to seem unpatriotic, but--

JIMMY CARPER: Go ahead. Oh, my god, we are gays and lesbians who are unpatriotic. Oh, my god.

JEWEL GRAY: Something a little unseemly about, oh, my god, these horrible terrorists have just crashed into our buildings and killed 5,000 people. Let's go bomb them.

JIMMY CARPER: Right. Let's go do the same thing to them.

JEWEL GRAY: What's wrong with that picture?

JIMMY CARPER: Well, the fact is we've been doing it for 20 years. I'm sorry. I just have my philosophy, my position here. I've paid attention while people have been-- who didn't know what Afghanistan was until somebody hit that building. I've been paying attention to that part of the world for some time. And not only that but Southeast Asia, Philippines, has got a lot of terrorist groups there.

But I've been paying attention to this. And there is nothing there. I mean, the Russians have decimated that country. There's nothing there. It's only been about 10 or 11 years since the Russian left there. They've not built anything up. There is no-- I don't know where they could grow poppies for the heroin. I don't know where.

[LAUGHTER]

I can't imagine.

PRESENTER 3: Oh, that's funny.

PRESENTER 1: And the fact that Great Britain is with us on this one, and Great Britain's been fighting Irish terrorists for what? 400 years. And they haven't managed to stop it.

JIMMY CARPER: It's silly of us to sit back and say we're totally innocent-- not that anybody deserved being hurt for this-- but that we're totally innocent, and suddenly somebody smacked into the side of us.

PRESENTER 1: We have a question for nothing.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, shoot.

PRESENTER 1: We have a question. And you are?

HUNTER: I'm Hunter

JIMMY CARPER: Hi, Hunter. Welcome.

HUNTER: Thank you.

JIMMY CARPER: And you've been listening to all of this, and you had a question.

HUNTER: We were talking about it in school. The question was, should our president have military experience before he goes into office?

JEWEL GRAY: I don't think so. That's frightening. I'd rather our president be a civilian.

HUNTER: I was kind of questioned on that when our teacher asked.

JEWEL GRAY: There's a certain thing they teach you in the army about dogged following through once you've committed, not to back down kind of stuff. And that's not necessarily a good politician. There was some backing down on our part in the Bay of Pigs, let me tell you. There was some backing down on our part big time. And if we hadn't, maybe we wouldn't be here today.

JIMMY CARPER: For some history on that, look at the life of Harry Truman. Now, here is a man who had no military experience--

JEWEL GRAY: Farmer. He's a farmer.

JIMMY CARPER: --and went to Washington and became president. And because he's the president, he is the head of the military. Now, the military is full of guys who want to go to war.

JEWEL GRAY: They're hawks. That's what they're born and raised for. 20, 30 years in the service, that's what they do. They're hawks.

JIMMY CARPER: And there was a very popular general-- [? Elf, ?] what's his name?

PRESENTER 2: Don't know.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes you did go.

PRESENTER 2: MacArthur?

JIMMY CARPER: MacArthur-- beloved by the Americans.

PRESENTER 1: Oh, yeah, the pipe, the guy with the pipe.

JEWEL GRAY: I really wasn't alive then, but I did read somewhere.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, I wasn't, either.

JEWEL GRAY: But I did read somewhere it might have been MacArthur.

JIMMY CARPER: But he decided-- [INAUDIBLE]

PRESENTER 1: That was before you were born?

JIMMY CARPER: He decided that he was going to do what he wanted to do.

JEWEL GRAY: That's right.

JIMMY CARPER: Because he was a general.

HUNTER: He was a rogue.

JIMMY CARPER: And he didn't think that the president was his boss.

JEWEL GRAY: He thought the president was a wuss because he wasn't a military man.

JIMMY CARPER: Right. And Harry Truman fired him-- fired him.

JEWEL GRAY: Jerked his butt out of the Philippines and fired him.

JIMMY CARPER: That's right, at the height.

JEWEL GRAY: At the height of the war.

JIMMY CARPER: And at the height of MacArthur's popularity.

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. And he was doing the job in the Philippines, and he jerked him out of there.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, yes. And so the idea here is to have somebody that maybe isn't part of the military experience.

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah, I don't want them trained in military.

JIMMY CARPER: To have a different outlook on that.

JEWEL GRAY: I don't want them trained military.

JIMMY CARPER: Because when you have somebody who was trained in the military, it's very much like a lot of these things, I think, that happened in South America where you have the military take over the government.

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. That's right. And we don't want that. We want the president to be a civilian.

HUNTER: Most military people are trained so they know-- they're like, we're going to do this, and this is what we're going to do. And they don't care [INAUDIBLE].

JEWEL GRAY: Well, you spend 30 years.

JIMMY CARPER: That's true.

JEWEL GRAY: You get your basic training, and then you spend 30 years to be a general and a decision-maker. And by then, you're pretty much indoctrinated into the brainwashing of being a military man, not that it's a bad brainwashing. But it is definitely a different thing. It's not your everyday guy on the street kind of world. And you learn to take orders and follow orders without question. And even if a bad guy gives an order, you follow it.

HUNTER: I was kind of confused on the issue.

JEWEL GRAY: And we can't-- yeah?

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, Jackie Thorn called in.

JEWEL GRAY: Oh, hey, Jackie.

JIMMY CARPER: And Jackie's listening, and Jackie's been in the military.

JEWEL GRAY: Hey, Jackie. Happy belated birthday.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yeah. And Big Roy has--

PRESENTER 4: OK, Jackie says that Harry Truman was an artillery captain in World War II-- World War I.

JIMMY CARPER: More like World War I.

PRESENTER 4: World War I.

JIMMY CARPER: It had to be World War I, yeah. It had to be World War I.

JEWEL GRAY: Boy, he's an old fart.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, I'm surprised. But he was a farmer when he went into politics. He was a farmer. I didn't know that, Jackie.

JEWEL GRAY: Wow. No, I didn't know that, either. I knew he had been-- wow.

HUNTER: I don't know Jackie, so.

JEWEL GRAY: Thank you, Jackie.

JIMMY CARPER: Jackie is-- let's see Jackie is a heterosexual cross-dresser--

JEWEL GRAY: Extraordinaire.

JIMMY CARPER: --extraordinaire who has been in this community for years and years and years. I mean, back in--

JEWEL GRAY: Not that many years, Jackie.

[LAUGHTER]

PRESENTER 1: No, it's years and years and years.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

JIMMY CARPER: Back-- I don't know who came first, Phyllis Frye or Jackie Thorn, I'll tell you the truth.

HUNTER: I learn new things every day.

PRESENTER 2: Or nylons, for that matter.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, or nylons. Milky Ways.

[LAUGHTER]

JEWEL GRAY: I'll smack him for you, Jackie.

JIMMY CARPER: That was-- Jackie, that was Jim. That was Jim. You can--

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah, I smacked him for you.

HUNTER: That was cold.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, that was--

PRESENTER 1: Those who are made out of wool.

JIMMY CARPER: The other Jim. Yeah, it was the other Jim.

HUNTER: That was cold.

PRESENTER 1: [LAUGHS] Oh, my gosh.

HUNTER: But wouldn't you want some-- but I agree with your point when you said you'd want someone, a civilian, as a president. But also, I thought about it like, would you want-- because you have people who have different viewpoints. So would you want someone who's like you or someone who's like someone else or kind of had different viewpoints? Because everyone has different opinions on different things.

JIMMY CARPER: How did your class settle it?

JEWEL GRAY: Well, that's why you have those guys there. That's why you have a cabinet. That's why you pick a cabinet. You pick people that you think know something about that area so they can give you information and advice and keep you going so that you have-- somebody said, and I don't know if it was Confucius-- I doubt it but I'll say it was Confucius said this-- that all decisions are made on insufficient data. You never-- no decision has enough data to make it adequately.

PRESENTER 1: Certainly, none of my decisions.

JEWEL GRAY: You have these people around you to offer you as--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

JEWEL GRAY: --much as you can.

HUNTER: Thank you.

JEWEL GRAY: And that's why you pick these people to be around you so they can be your advisors. And then you pick somebody like Karl Rove, who's a butthole and won't let them near you.

[LAUGHTER]

HUNTER: Our class was kind of undecided on the issue. They were like-- they're kind of-- I was like I would rather want someone who was just like me to sit there and make my own decisions. I wouldn't want someone who was in the military who was like, this is how it's gonna go.

JIMMY CARPER: Who wants to overthrow communism!

HUNTER: Exactly. This is how it's going to go. You don't like it, there's the door. You can leave.

JEWEL GRAY: I'd rather have a political answer to a military answer any day.

PRESENTER 1: It's already kind of an elitist little group, anyway.

JIMMY CARPER: Who's that?

PRESENTER 1: The whole presidency thing. So I'd hate to even narrow it down even further by saying only people who are in the military can run.

JEWEL GRAY: In 20 years, it's going to be hard to find anybody to run-- the publicity, the digging.

HUNTER: I want to see a woman. I cannot wait to see a woman be president.

JEWEL GRAY: --the nastiness.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, me too.

HUNTER: When a woman is president--

JEWEL GRAY: Oh, no, man, it will be known when she has every period. Let me tell you. No, this is something I fear. When the first woman is president, that will be major news.

HUNTER: Front-page news. [INAUDIBLE].

JEWEL GRAY: She made this decision while she was ovulating. She did this while she was having her cramps on period. Is this affecting the president? Are her cramps affecting the president? It will happen, let me tell you.

HUNTER: You know when she has the speeches--

PRESENTER 3: [INAUDIBLE] press the button because--

JIMMY CARPER: Well, why don't we just get a postmenopausal woman?

HUNTER: She does those speeches and--

JEWEL GRAY: Then it's the hormones. Are the hormones working right?

HUNTER: She's going to have those speeches--

JEWEL GRAY: Everything will be examined, every emotional thing. Every connection to anything emotional will be examined for her emotional state--

PRESENTER 3: Did they say that about Maggie Thatcher?

JEWEL GRAY: --based on hormones and--

HUNTER: She gonna those, when it says, now the President of the United States, and she says, can you give me five more minutes, please.

JIMMY CARPER: I'm having terrible cramps.

HUNTER: Do you have some Midol? Because--

PRESENTER 1: I'm collecting my thoughts.

JEWEL GRAY: And I can see that. You are collecting your thoughts.

HUNTER: Call that guy.

JEWEL GRAY: That won't take long.

HUNTER: She probably won't have a problem with that because up in the government, they give the government a lot of stuff that they don't give us. So they'd give her some powerful menopause that would, like, kick it in two seconds.

[LAUGHTER]

Not us.

PRESENTER 3: Doped up. Don't bother her. She's got her Midol.

HUNTER: She's going to be like, yeah, we're going to make this decision about this.

JEWEL GRAY: But you bet you, within the first year--

JIMMY CARPER: OK, Hunter, just remember when you leave that studio, you have to walk by [? Tracy. ?]

HUNTER: I love you, [? Tracy. ?]

JEWEL GRAY: You betcha, the first year a woman is president--

HUNTER: I have nothing but love for you.

JEWEL GRAY: --that's what will happen.

PRESENTER 4: I know where you sleep.

HUNTER: In your apartment, that's where I sleep. I'm not like--

JEWEL GRAY: Because men have it in their mind that women make decisions based on their period. A lot of men think that.

PRESENTER 2: Oh, my goodness.

JEWEL GRAY: She's not going out with me. She must be on her period. No, it's just you're ugly and dumb.

[LAUGHTER]

But he can't-- the men can't buy that. It's gotta be something else.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, no, I can't--

JEWEL GRAY: It's just because you're ugly and dumb.

PRESENTER 1: If we don't get to judge--

JIMMY CARPER: There have been some studies indicating that men may have their little kind of--

JEWEL GRAY: They do. They have a cycle.

HUNTER: PMS.

JEWEL GRAY: They have a cycle [INAUDIBLE].

PRESENTER 3: If we [? can ?] judge George--

JEWEL GRAY: I've told people that for years.

PRESENTER 3: --the fact that he has an IQ in the negative numbers, then we shouldn't judge a woman for having [INAUDIBLE].

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah. How come we never talk about, oh, he had a testosterone rush. That's why he had this [? butch attack ?].

JIMMY CARPER: Exactly, exactly.

PRESENTER 1: We don't judge the guys for doing it when they have a rush of testosterone.

JIMMY CARPER: I agree, hey.

HUNTER: All my friends at school yell at me. They're like, oh, god, he's PMSing again this week. Don't bother him.

JEWEL GRAY: [INAUDIBLE].

HUNTER: I PMS at school all the time. I'm like, don't touch me. It's that time of the month. They're like, what are you talking about, Hunter? It's like that time of the week. I PMS all the time.

PRESENTER 3: Ooh, boy, they know him. Ooh.

JIMMY CARPER: How about some music? And I have just--

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah, I need to go to the bathroom.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

JEWEL GRAY: He programs all this around my bathroom breaks.

[LAUGHTER]

You know, when you get to be 47, you can't hold it as long as you used to.

PRESENTER 3: [? Tracy ?] has these little things you just never knew.

JEWEL GRAY: What's that TMI, Too Much Information?

Yes.

HUNTER: TMI. TMI called and said hi.

JIMMY CARPER: TMI. I hate to put you on there.

JEWEL GRAY: And a whole room full of men.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

PRESENTER 4: Poor Tracy. Tracy's in administration.

HUNTER: Come on. We're going to go from talking about PMSing to Melissa [? Friedreichs. ?]

JEWEL GRAY: And you notice the conversation, pretty quick, when we start talking about menstruating, everybody goes, uh--uh.

PRESENTER 1: Uh-oh, menstruating.

HUNTER: How do you pronounce her last name?

PRESENTER 3: Time for music.

PRESENTER 6: Ferrick.

JIMMY CARPER: Ferrick.

HUNTER: Ferrick. I'm sorry, Tracy.

PRESENTER 1: Oh. [LAUGHS]

JEWEL GRAY: Damn, I did that, too. It wasn't happening, and it happened, anyway.

PRESENTER 1: (LAUGHING) She's still tied up by the-- tied up by the-- phone cord there.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, Tracy, let's have it.

PRESENTER 5: Jim, did you have sex before you came here?

PRESENTER 3: No.

PRESENTER 6: She's amazing.

JIMMY CARPER: Wait a minute, wait a minute. Hold on here.

JEWEL GRAY: I lost control.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, and we need to talk to you about that. Yes.

PRESENTER 6: Well, she's an amazing singer. It's her and her drummer, Brian, and her tour manager, Jen. And they're all great people. And she could be like super tired, but she will come out and talk to fans. She's accessible. They're very friendly. They're very nice people. But she's coming to Houston November 6.

JIMMY CARPER: Hey, hey, hey, where?

PRESENTER 6: The Fabulous Satellite Lounge.

JIMMY CARPER: Fabulous Satellite Lounge. Listeners to KPFT know that place because a lot of folks who get played on this station play there.

PRESENTER 6: Yeah. You can check it out at www.fabsat.com.

JIMMY CARPER: fabsat-- F-A-B-S-A-T?

PRESENTER 6: Or the number's 713-869-2665 for information.

JIMMY CARPER: Now, Melissa Ferrick has always been out.

PRESENTER 6: Yes.

JIMMY CARPER: She is the Melissa who has always been out. She didn't wait till she became a star to come out.

PRESENTER 6: She's the other Melissa.

JIMMY CARPER: She's the other Melissa, yeah.

PRESENTER 6: But she's just as great.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, she is.

PRESENTER 6: She should get more airplay. She's got eight CDs, and she's very accomplished. She's a Berkeley graduate.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yeah?

PRESENTER 6: Yeah. And she won Best Folk Rock Band at the 1999 Boston Music Awards. And her album *Everything I Need*, was nominated for Album of the Year by the 1999 Gay and Lesbian American Music Association.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, GLAM.

PRESENTER 6: She has a new album out called *Valentine Heartache*, which has some great songs on it. The first song on it is "Welcome to My Life," which is about being on the road. And of course, I think, outside of the fact that it's about being on the road, the chorus itself just reaches so many other levels, if you'll listen to it. It's really great. She's also playing at Lucy's Retired Surfers Bar at Sixth Street and Austin.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, just the thought of it.

PRESENTER 6: No, it's a great place. I've been there.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, OK.

PRESENTER 6: Yeah, she's playing there November 3 and 4. And then she's coming to Houston on the 6th. So you can check that out. Her website is www.rightonrecords.com. It's R-I-G-H-T-O-N-R-E-C-O-R-D-S.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, and what are we going to hear?

PRESENTER 6: The first one is "Welcome to My Life." It's off her *Valentine Heartache* album. It's her latest album.

JIMMY CARPER: And you're listening to it on *After Hours*, queer radio with attitude, on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station.

PRESENTER 6: I love that song. It's a great song. She puts on a great show. It's a lot of fun when you go there. I saw her a couple of months ago at Lucy's in Austin. So she'll be there. The number for Lucy's bar, if you want the info, is 512-472-7873. She'll be there November 3 and 4. But she'll be at the Fabulous Satellite Lounge--

JIMMY CARPER: Ta-da.

PRESENTER 6: --in Houston. I'm so glad she's coming to Houston. I mean, I'm still going to drive to Austin. Make no mistake about that. Oh, I'm sorry that's an overworn phrase. But call 713-869-2665 and ask the Fabulous Satellite-- as for information.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, and the date on that again?

PRESENTER 6: November 6.

JIMMY CARPER: OK. And that song was off of her new album?

PRESENTER 6: Her new album, *Valentine Heartache*.

PRESENTER 1: It's not like you're obsessive about music or anything.

JIMMY CARPER: No.

PRESENTER 6: Oh, no, not at all.

JIMMY CARPER: So what are we hearing next?

PRESENTER 6: I only talk about it all the time.

JIMMY CARPER: What are we hearing next?

PRESENTER 6: Well, this next song is called "Everything I Need." And whenever I'm down or just bombed, I put that in my car, I crank it up, and it just instantaneously makes me happy. And that's what I love about any artist-- not just her but just any artist-- if they can totally just [SNAPS] switch my mood around. I know that if I really like a song, my knees tingle. It's just this weird thing with me.

JIMMY CARPER: [LAUGHS] OK.

PRESENTER 1: Your knees tingle--

PRESENTER 6: So I know it's going to be a hit if my knees tingle.

PRESENTER 1: Your knees tingle anyhow. You have arthritis.

PRESENTER 6: Yeah. [LAUGHS] I'm too young to have arthritis. I'm only 25. No, but you can order any of her CDs off her website. It's www.rightonrecords.com. It's R-I-G-H-T-O-N-R-E-C-O-R-D-S.com.

JIMMY CARPER: Actually, I've seen her albums at Soundwaves and stuff.

PRESENTER 6: Yeah, Lobo's has *Skinnier, Faster, Live*, which is her live album, which is also great. I have all of her albums except for the first one.

JIMMY CARPER: She does some airplay now and then during the day here.

PRESENTER 6: Does she?

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, she does, yes.

PRESENTER 6: I haven't heard. I should listen--

JIMMY CARPER: So let's bring the second one on.

PRESENTER 6: Yeah, it's "Everything I Need" off of the album of the same title.

PRESENTER 3: Oh, man, that was cool.

EWEL GRAY: That's not the one with James Woods?

PRESENTER 1: That is good. That is good.

EWEL GRAY: Oh, yeah, it is good. I like that, too. Yeah.

PRESENTER 1: They're talking movies anywhere [INAUDIBLE].

JEWEL GRAY: [INAUDIBLE] she's cool. Look, it's Bill.

JIMMY CARPER: It's Tom.

[LAUGHTER]

PRESENTER 7: Are we on? Are we on? Uh, uh.

JEWEL GRAY: We tried a while ago, and we weren't, so.

[LAUGHTER]

We had some [INAUDIBLE].

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yeah, yeah. Melissa Ferrick, "Everything I Need" from the album of the same name.

PRESENTER 2: Organic chips.

JIMMY CARPER: Thank you very much.

HUNTER: I like that song.

PRESENTER 6: Well, thank you for having me. I really [INAUDIBLE].

JIMMY CARPER: Yes!

PRESENTER 1: Organic chips. Yeah, those'll be here forever. [LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: I like this.

PRESENTER 6: Well, you can keep it. I'll get more copies.

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah, she was in the lobby, talking [INAUDIBLE] oh, you can keep this CD if I-- gee, what am I going to do with it?

JIMMY CARPER: Are you serious?

JEWEL GRAY: Go in and talk to Jimmy.

PRESENTER 6: Yes, keep it, please.

JIMMY CARPER: OK. I won't play it every week, but--

PRESENTER 6: Well, if it's getting played any way, I mean--

JEWEL GRAY: That's why I told him, go in and talk to Jimmy, man. He's the man.

JIMMY CARPER: Thank you. Thank you.

PRESENTER 6: No, thank you.

JEWEL GRAY: Stop by and talk to JD on his night.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, JD Doyle who does the Queer Music Heritage on the second half--

JEWEL GRAY: The one you did the commercial for earlier.

JIMMY CARPER: --second half of Lesbian and Gay Voices. He is the number one person in the United States, and maybe other parts of the world, too--

PRESENTER 2: The expert.

JIMMY CARPER: --on queer music.

JEWEL GRAY: Not a expert, the expert.

HUNTER: The expert.

JIMMY CARPER: Old and new.

PRESENTER 6: That's great. I'd like to hear some old stuff, really.

JIMMY CARPER: Listen Monday night at 9 o'clock on this station. You'll hear it.

JEWEL GRAY: To a big, tall woman.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

JEWEL GRAY: I'll sing her a song, "Ode to a Gym Teacher."

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, "Ode to a Gym Teacher."

PRESENTER 6: Well, you were talking about movies back here.

JEWEL GRAY: To me, that is one of the basic sounds, a basic song, from lesbian music. That's just one of the basics that things came from.

JIMMY CARPER: It is.

JEWEL GRAY: And Melissa took that kind of stuff, when she heard that kind of stuff, and turned it into what she listens to. What was her name-- Christianson. What was her name?

JIMMY CARPER: Meg Christian.

JEWEL GRAY: No, Meg Christian played the piano. This one is somebody else.

JIMMY CARPER: Chris Williamson.

JEWEL GRAY: Chris Williamson, that's what it was, not Meg. It was Williamson. Cris Williamson did a lot of that early music that-

-

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, they both did, yeah.

JEWEL GRAY: --Melissa and Jewel and a couple of the girls today--

JIMMY CARPER: Margie Adam.

JEWEL GRAY: Margie Adams, yeah. I had one of her great albums. God, I just loved that album. It was great. She played piano.

JIMMY CARPER: She just put out a new one.

JEWEL GRAY: Really? I didn't know that.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, after many, many, many years.

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah, it must have been that breakup with JoAnn Loulan.

JIMMY CARPER: That's exactly it.

PRESENTER 1: And there was much sadness.

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah, there was.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, when you break up with JoAnn Loulan, she wrote the book on lesbian sex.

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. Literally, she wrote the book on lesbian sex.

JIMMY CARPER: Literally.

[LAUGHTER]

JEWEL GRAY: Oh, she was fun to be with, though, I'll tell you. She was really-- she was a hoot. When she came here for the lesbian conf-- the women's conference here a couple-- a bunch of years. I was going to say a couple years. It's got to be 12, 15 years ago.

PRESENTER 1: Yeah, just a couple years.

JEWEL GRAY: Hey, we want to remind people to vote. It's very important. A lot of people sit back and say, well, it doesn't really matter if I don't go.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, it does.

JEWEL GRAY: It does matter. It does matter. What matters, it's not your individual vote but that attitude. That matters a lot. Not is it just a right, it's an obligation to participate in your government, to the people who are governing you-- in other words, the law givers, the bosses.

And if you don't, then you can't complain about the rules and the laws the bosses make. So if you feel discriminated against or you've felt discriminated against, don't blame anybody if you're not willing to get out and vote. Because the only person you can blame is yourself.

PRESENTER 2: That's right.

PRESENTER 1: It's really simple. If you don't vote, don't bitch.

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah, that's always been a standard. If you don't vote, you don't have anything to talk about. And it's not just that. It's an obligation. You know, everybody's feeling this surge of patriotism, and it's a good thing, as Martha says stoned out of her mind every morning.

PRESENTER 2: (SULTRY) It's a good thing.

[LAUGHTER]

PRESENTER 4: It's a good thing.

PRESENTER 3: She's high on her cookies, you know that. She's high on her cookies.

PRESENTER 4: Shh, shh, shh. Don't tell anyone.

PRESENTER 2: Oh, my, oh, my, oh, my.

PRESENTER 4: She's high.

PRESENTER 2: "Mathra" Stewart?

PRESENTER 4: "Mathra" Stewart.

JIMMY CARPER: "Mathra" Stewart.

JEWEL GRAY: It's, like, my goddess of decorating. It's a good thing to--

PRESENTER 3: That's my comic book. I'm still gonna do it one of these days. It's Godzilla versus "Mathra" Stewart.

JEWEL GRAY: Cool.

[LAUGHTER]

I like that idea. Rodzilla. And it's time that we realize what that means-- patriotism. You know, I was watching something the other night that I had just decided I wasn't going to watch because I just didn't have any-- it just didn't interest me. It was Mel Gibson in *The Patriot*. And I caught a few minutes of it. And I thought, well, this is pretty good. It's a good description of what was going on then, aside from the fact the--

PRESENTER 1: One guy wins the whole Revolutionary War single-handedly?

JEWEL GRAY: No, no, no, no, no. It was exactly what happened. I mean, not necessarily Mel Gibson and his character. But we were fighting the British war with British tactics, and we were losing miserably. And there were people who came down from the French and Indian wars and then Ontario and that area who came down and taught them about guerilla warfare.

And they did apply that. And at that point in the war, we began to win. When we didn't play the war in the box that was defined by the British, we began to win the war. And that's exactly what I'm talking about now. We need to step out of the box that has been predetermined for us and say that we have a right to determine for ourselves.

And when you go and vote, that's what you're doing. You're determining for yourself. Now, whether your object or cause wins, you've determined for yourself to participate in that part. And it's very important. It's patriotic. It's an obligation. It's what we owe for the freedoms that we have. I believe--

PRESENTER 4: It's the very least.

JEWEL GRAY: Right. It's payment for what we take for granted. And people look around, and they really don't see these rights. But there was a time when you could go to jail for saying some of the words that we say here all the time on a stage. There was a time when you could go to jail just for looking at somebody across a room too long.

There was a time when you could go to jail simply because your color of your skin was not white. And it didn't mean it was black. It could have been yellow. It could have been brown. It could have been red. And it could have been black-- any color that wasn't white. These are laws that people have changed by the power of their vote.

JIMMY CARPER: There was a time when it was illegal to serve an alcoholic beverage to a homosexual.

PRESENTER 3: Now, how did you know? How could you know?

JIMMY CARPER: It was illegal for more than a half a dozen homosexuals to congregate in one place at one time.

JEWEL GRAY: One place, that's right. That's right.

HUNTER: Gay people get drunk too fast. Maybe.

JIMMY CARPER: But these are laws that have been--

HUNTER: Just kidding.

They're trying to keep us separated.

JEWEL GRAY: Now, [INAUDIBLE] talking about gay and lesbian laws. But we're talking about free speech. We're talking about the right to assemble. We're talking about some of the rights that people take for granted that they don't even recognize their rights, they take them so for granted.

JIMMY CARPER: It was against the law to send homosexual literature through the mail.

JEWEL GRAY: It still is, some place. But it's through the power of the vote that that will change. And it's through the power of the vote that you have say-so about your city government.

This year there will be--

PRESENTER 1: I know there's a couple of people-- there's at least a couple of people in this room who aren't old enough to remember those--

JEWEL GRAY: That's what I mean. That's what I mean.

PRESENTER 1: --and take for granted the ability--

JEWEL GRAY: And when we forget our history, we lose our direction. We lose our path. And it's the losing the history that Hitler tried to do to the Jews. He tried to destroy their history, their cultural history. He destroyed all-- he tried to steal and destroy works of art and cultural representative writing. And he destroyed records of families going back. He separated families.

That was some part of the issue, some part of his design, was to take away their history. Because he thought, he knew, that you take away a people's history, and they have nothing to go guide them down the road. So that's kind of what we have to remember. We have to reach back.

Just because we're gay and lesbian doesn't mean our history is necessarily Paul Revere. Our history is what went on-- Harvey Milk. Our history is Ray Hill. Our history is Christine Jorgensen. Our history is people like this-- Arthur Ashe, people like this who-- Billie Jean King, who I have not decided whether is a lesbian or not yet.

[LAUGHTER]

It's been a long damn time.

JIMMY CARPER: Didn't she come out a long--

JEWEL GRAY: She did, three or four times. But you know what? She's still married. I just found out she's still married.

PRESENTER 6: She's married?

JEWEL GRAY: They never got a divorce.

PRESENTER 1: Well, you know, Bruce and Judy are married, and they're both queer.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, yeah, [INAUDIBLE].

JEWEL GRAY: But the point was these people had impact on our history. They had an impact on what's going on in our lives now. And we need to look back and see them. Harvey Milk is probably our George Washington, with as much significance to our cause and our movement as George Washington to the movement of freedom.