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SPEAKERS

Jimmy Carper



00:02

The following program contains language or images of a frank or sensitive nature that may be considered objectionable by some listener Discretion is Advised



00:13

I am what I am I have my own special creation so come to give me the hook or the Ovation it's my bed I wanted a little brighten and it's not a blaze lies not worth a damn to you can say I don't want



01:13

to don't want bang my own drum something is noise I think it's pretty bangle things from a different angle oh god life is jam till you can shout out I am and what I need no excuse I do my own deck. Sometimes he says no internet notifies Damn, till you can shout out



02:44

Whoa it must



Jimmy Carper 02:45

be Saturday night at midnight because you're listening to after hours. A continuing tradition on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of after hours is ready to bring you news interviews and music here for gay and lesbian people. Just as Gloria Gaynor says in this song, it's time to open up your closets we at after hours urge everyone to come out of their closets by our definition that

means standing up for yourself and taking responsibility for your own life. But if you feel that you can't come out right now because of your age your job or whatever reason that's okay we're here for you too. So sit back relax and enjoy this week's edition of after hours



03:55

you used to do my own deck sometimes no return and no department will stand up to Houston shout. out hi



05:11

Hi, this is Scott Lewis and welcome to after hours a continuing tradition on KPFT 90.1. Here with me is Brian Bradley, my co host for this evening. And we have some exciting things going on for you tonight some exciting guests. Topics first, Brian,



05:30

we have the honor of having rescued Smith. He's the clinical director and coordinator at the Stonewall Recovery Program at 12 oaks hospital. And Rusty also is the executive director of the tri lambda counseling associates. And tonight, Rusty will be giving us some great insight into problems that gay lesbian, particularly youth have with alcohol and chemical dependency, HIV status, and just the added extra burden of being an adolescent and being gay or lesbian at the same time,



06:02

that's going to be at 1230 following Jimmy's queer music zone. And of course, at 115. We'll have this way out. And then at 145, we're going to be talking about the Republicans who are here in town. And we're going to have some news and talk about the convention and what's going on. So stay tuned to after hours. I gotta do something.



06:25

Yes, well, normally I could introduce but ya know,



06:29

is that the maid?



06:30

This isn't No, this isn't the maid. This is Jim Carper, who is responsible for that wonderful opening, and I have to I have to say that's a new opening. And that is great about Ray



06:41

Gaynor.



06:42

It was but you should say Jimmy and Draghi looks just like Gloria Gaynor no I



06:48

look like Loretta Lynn. It's real sad. Anyway, it's Jimmy with the QM Z, queer music zone right here on after hours. Continuing tradition on KPFT Houston, 90.1 FM. And I got to thinking what are we gonna do tonight? What are we gonna do tonight? But the Republicans are coming the Republicans are coming and we've got a lot of queer music that we can play for them just to give them a little message. Let them know we are here. And



07:42

why do we have here? What do we have here? We have known a Hendricks and she's going to do rhythm of change.



07:57

Yeah, we will remain that was your girlfriend in their new album. L word speaking. Here doing? Remain? Yes, we're remaining. Yes, we are family. And before that was Michael Callen with living in wartime. We need money for AIDS. That's the message of that song. We need caring and coming up. Everybody seems to be talking about family values. And so I thought, boy, what what can I What can I pick for that? And our good friend Jimmy Somerville has just the song. Oh, you think I don't like Jimmy because I've been talking about his Abbott impersonation. No, no, no, no. Just because the ratio did it better. Hey, Jimmy was out there. He has been an openly gay performer. For years now. He may have led the fight. Big member of rage in London. And he has a song that I just have to dedicate to the Republicans when they talk about their family values, because it's about our kind of loving.



09:18

And that's right, there's a lot more to love than boy meets girl. It's Boy Meets Boy and Girl Meets Girl and every other kind of combination you can think of we're all out there and we're vital. And as true to form, I'm going to go over time because I have one more song. And it's for the show and it's for the Republicans. It's for everybody. It's our song. And after that I'll leave you this has been the queue MZ. They were music zone with Kenny. And this segment and every segment of QM z is dedicated to the men and women out there on our streets. It's tonight, the Q Patrol.



10:08

And we're back. This is Scott Lewis with Brian Bradley, hosting after hours, a continuing tradition on KPFT 90.1. I know it's not one o'clock, but I just keep getting in the habit of saying that. I have to. We have with us here, Rusty Smith. He's the clinical director and coordinator of the Stonewall recovery program. He's also the executive director of the tri lambda counseling associates. Welcome, Rusty. I'm very glad you're here. Rusty. What does all this mean? What do you do?



10:41

And I know why.



10:43

Well, tell us a little bit about that. Rusty, what is your average clientele?



10:49

My average clientele are mostly gay and lesbians. Probably 90% are gay and lesbians. The majority of them are young adults in the age anywhere from 19 to 26. And most of them are chemically dependent or dealing with depression.



11:06

Would that be the first point that you would have a clinical contact with them? Then a crisis situation? Correct. That is wrested? Do you find that gay and lesbian youth have to deal with the regular peer pressure issues first, before they deal with the problems that they have by being gay or lesbian or chemically dependent?



11:27

Most young people who are gay and lesbian don't deal with being gay and lesbians? That's a secret. And what makes it so intense? And why about one in five tried to kill themselves, is because it's It's the deepest secret. So a lot of young people are dealing with gay and lesbian sexuality without dealing with it. So they're keeping the big secret. They're not talking to mom and dad or not talking to their friends. And when they're all by themselves, that's when they're dealing with it.



11:54

Is this a secret just because of general growing up, they learn by osmosis, maybe even before

they self identify their own sexuality, that there's something naughty about that thing that they wonder about themselves?



12:07

Brian, in our society, it's not easy to be sexual. So what that means is for gay and lesbians, the shame and guilt about being a gay person, or lesbian has intensified. What that really means is it's not okay to be gay in our society. There's a lot of self hate. That comes with a package being a gay person or lesbian



12:27

person. And I they learned this even before they self identify, they learned it when they were just a little kiddo. I sure did. And how do you approach a solution for them?



12:38

I think the solution is a long, long way down the road. But where we start, and I want to talk a little bit about really the Stonewall why the program's named Stonewall as an adjunct into what we do. Stonewall is our history, as gays and lesbians. And one of the things that we've been robbed of is a history, because we are a subculture. And because we're a subculture that's hated. We haven't been able to establish who we are. So in 1969, in New York City, there was a riot. And it's a time when gays and lesbians transvestites, people who are different in society took back the streets, we said we will no longer be a hated part of society. And it that's what Stonewall is all about. And that's what we're trying to give back to young people. People who are developing their sexual orientation is we no longer have to apologize for being gays and lesbians.



13:35

Do you find that the average 1819 year old that comes through your door is unaware of the events that surrounded the Stonewall Riots of less than 25 years ago that they don't even know their own history? That is just so short.



13:50

I think gays and lesbians who are in their 40s and 50s don't know what Stonewall is, right? I think typically, any culture that is robbed of history is doomed just to fall out of existence. And so that's what's happened. We have young people who are saying, for the first time what is Stonewall and when we start connecting with Stonewall then we see it in the political picture we have right now is starts making more sense. You know, no longer we subject to what Bush is saying to us. But we as a political force have a powerful voice. And what keeps us quiet is shame and guilt. And when we conquer shame and guilt, we become a viable political faction in the Science Society.



14:32

I like the name that you have chosen to use recovery and Foundation who because we as gay and lesbians throughout history have had a very stable foundation within our own culture that has been rocked since day one. But most people, irrespective of their age, are not the least bit aware that the greatest of artists and writers and painters, theologians and ministers of politics have most often and Being gay or lesbian, that is not in the history book. And I don't see it coming anytime soon. So I see gay youth thinking that they are the first of the species. And we have to reteach each generation that we have a long and viable and very proud history. And sad that we have to do that at the same time dealing with the other issues that surround adolescence. So your job must be incredibly interesting. But yet at the same time, frustrating, tell us how you approach these problems?



15:34

Well, we it's sort of a two fold approach. Number one is to go back and try to undo the damage. Gays and lesbians are broken people. They're, they're like many other the minority communities, they've been oppressed by society that says to be strong as to be right. And so if you're not strong, and you're not right, as society says, You don't exist, so we become the silent people who stand by the sides and get abused. So what we do is we try to bring people in and nurture them and re nurture them, re educate them and let them grow again, as regular human beings, that's really what we are. We also are a group of people who have no role models, because we are really in shame and guilt, who do we look up to? I mean, what we have is no one to look up to. And so we have to do is that's part of what the history is about is to let people see that there are role models throughout history, the examples you use, I mean, our modern society would be dragged to say the least without the gay and lesbian people who are leading our society, in both creative and courageous power. And so what we look through when when we bring someone into our program, and what I do individually in my counseling, is I try to connect them with a history that is both proud and courageous, because that's what fuels regeneration. And that's what we have to do. I mean, we really have to go back into someone, and let them look inside and say, You are perfect, you are gay. And for many people, because there's been so much religious abuse, we need to let them know that that the God that the regular God, their God, of whatever religion they came from, created them to be gay and lesbian. And that's a very scary thing for most people to say,



17:19

this lack of history, the lack of the dissemination of the history of gays and lesbians, is beginning to come to light. And we have radio programs such as this, thank goodness now, and you do see gay positive people and on television programs, and in other media's and I think that's one of the reasons that the white male power structure in America is frightened. Not only do they realize that there are people of national prominence that are learning to be recognized as gay and lesbian role models, but yet within each city, there are people that are looked up to as gay and lesbian role models. And the frightening thing that I see is, the powers that be on the opposite side of the camp, are pitting us against each other. And we're in fighting and going to destroy ourselves. They're very crafty and smart with that. But I think it's important that the gay and lesbian youth of America realize that they need to pick up a book or turn on

the television, to find a hero that there are heroes within their own cities, in their own counties. And they're out there. And it's our job as older people to reach out to them, and show them the way and how do you do that through your program?



18:37

Well, first of all, Brian, I'd like to divorce myself from the older people statement. I'm 36, I would like to hold the line in middle.



18:47

Your makeup needs to be a little touched up on Play. This is Radio, but you could have tried harder. Rusty is really a very gorgeous man.



18:57

So anyway, what I'd like to say is, is I think what we have to do is really look at society differently. We are no longer a subclass of society. See, society's role in keeping us oppressed is to make us believe the lie that we are not a full class people. We don't have a voting power, we don't have a moral power. And what we have to do is take that away from them. I believe that we were against ourselves and each other because we don't love ourselves. We believe the lie. Should we believe that people who are different who are gay and lesbian or not okay,



19:34

so we think we are responsible for we being broken.



19:37

Exactly. And as long as they can keep us in that sort of mindset that we are the problem will never recover. We can't get well. A really horrible event that



19:49

happens for for our gay and lesbian society. As we take back control is one in four of us have an addiction problem. One in four of us have an addiction problem would this number be reflective of people that step forward and identify as having a problem not unlike that of right, the person, you know, one out of nine women are right. But those are the people who show up at police stations, women saying that I've been right. These are clearly self identified not some, you know, great statisticians, numbers, real life people,



20:21

these are what we treat. And those addiction problems range from everything from alcohol, crack cocaine, eating sex. And what that means is we as a society that we're trying to come back into life are really under anesthesia. I mean, we can't lead ourselves because we are addicted. And what do we do? We stay stagnant, standing in bars not making decisions about ourselves. Now, you know, this is not to criticize what bars do. I mean, we are a tribal culture. And we have learned that bars are a place where we meet each other. The problem is, is when we're sad when we're down, the way we have responded to the kind of abuse that we live in, is that we drank we drug.



21:04

And we learned that from the heterosexual minority,



21:08

absolutely. Why society taught us that society said to us, we will let you exist. As long as you stay in the bar, you stay stoned, and drunk and keep your mouth shut. And what we're saying is yes, we will go to the bars, and we will meet our will meet the people we want to meet. But we also will be in the suburbs, and we will be in your grocery stores. And we will be everywhere we want to be because that's what free people do. But unfortunately, we still live with a lie. Where do we meet people? We go the bars we get drunk, we respond with the same patterns. You know, it's just like Brian, most people that come to me for couples counseling, they know what they say they say I want to be like the straight people are, I got I got news for you. Half of you know what we would say straight marriages end in divorce, what I would choose to be in a relationship that's a little bit better than that, we can find new ways of seeing how we culturally interact with each other. And we can live with each with each other without beating each other without running away, not paying child support. I mean, all of those elements are things we've taken on and we don't need.



22:15

So in part of your program, do you teach younger people that they need not make the foundation the basis of their relationship? Like the one that they learned from which is at best? Sad?



22:31

Absolutely. Because part of what societal response has been to the commitment marriage is marriages bit, sort of built on this lock and key, you're in it, you're stuck. And no matter what happens, we try to teach people to build relationships built on respect, what an interesting human concept, the fact that two people can equally be responsible in a relationship and respect each other. That may mean that the relationship may be monogamous. It may not be, but it's going to be something that two people negotiate. Society once again gives us a lot of guilt and shame two men or two women are not supposed to live together. So what happens is

we live in shame based relationships. You know, we may work in a place where it's not okay to say your significant other. So we have to lie. But what we try to do is teach it it's okay to be gay and lesbian and be in relationship.



23:21

I remember when I was growing up in the early 70s, as an openly gay person, the most often asked, friendly question that I had put to me was, if I was in a relationship, which partner was the man or woman and you know, today we laugh about that and then we, you know, are taken aback by but it was a very serious Lee asked and very seriously received question at that time, gay men and women to a great extent at 20 years ago, felt they had to assume a gender identity identified row Lachlan, and you know, where one is passive and one is aggressive. And do you address that in your program? Anyhow?



24:03

You bet and that's what we celebrate. You know, they say who wears the pants in the family say we both do what a great idea, you know?



24:09

Would it be okay if we both wore the dress and my family? Absolutely. We encourage that nicely, as long as you dress tastefully. Any good queer would



24:20

which would leave you out Brian.



24:23

Let's start. We're not talking about hairdos yet already. Scott.



24:28

I can see we need some counseling, intervention.



24:32

No relationship here. Can you