

NARRATOR: The following program contains language or images of a frank or sensitive nature, which may be considered objectionable by some. Listener discretion is advised.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

SINGER: (SINGING) After hours. After hours.

MAN 1: Oh, yes, you've tuned in 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 geared for gay and lesbian people. Here at *After Hours*, we may be diverse, but we have one thing in common, we are out of the closet and urge everyone to come out of their closets. That means standing up for yourself, taking responsibility for your own life, and being proud of who you are.

Realistically, we know not everyone can do that because of age, job, or frame of mind. That's OK. We're here for you too. So sit back, relax, and enjoy this week's edition of *After Hours*.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

MICHAEL Hi, and welcome to *After Hours*, your weekly escape. I'm the diva, Michael Crawford, and we're going to have a

CRAWFORD: really fabulous show tonight. We're going to be talking about forming male relationships with our special guest. Say hello.

GREG CASON: Hello. This is Greg Cason, I'm from Montrose Counseling Center.

MICHAEL OK, and we'll also be taking phone calls at, the number is.

CRAWFORD:

MAN 2: 526-5738-526 KPFT. We're also going to be playing a whole bunch of music from bands that are going to be at Lollapalooza because we're going. And if there are any queers who would like to go in a gang and meet us there and all that so we could beat up straight people or whatever, you can call and leave a message at 866-4007.

And we're going to be reading excerpts from this book entitled, *Boulevard of Broken Dreams, The Life Times and Legend of James Dean*, which reports to tell about his secret homosexual lifestyle, including the fact that he was a bottom.

MICHAEL Really?

CRAWFORD:

MAN 2: Really.

MICHAEL OK, but before we get into all the exciting stuff that's going to happen, I'd like to say hi to my straight female friend, Cuppy. Hi, Cuppy. And we're going to play a song from the Beastie Boys. Which song?

MAN 2: I don't know.

MICHAEL "Sabotage."

CRAWFORD:

GREG CASON: Can I tell my story?

MICHAEL No, except that it didn't go. Somehow, that was supposed to be the Beastie Boys, but the Beastie Boys aren't working right now. So let's try again. Stall for time while I change the record.

MAN 2: OK. Yeah, we were really looking for people to go to Lollapalooza this Friday. If you've been watching Woodstock Weekend on MTV, you know that there's going to be a lot of hot guys and chicks, not that we care but I'm sure we do care, and the women out there are probably caring. Of course, the lesbians in this town are way cooler and hipper than the young male gay person.

MICHAEL Isn't it true?

CRAWFORD:

MAN 2: It's true, we all agree.

GREG CASON: We talk about it.

MAN 2: We're alone with our own coolness. And we're ready

MICHAEL OK, we're going to try to be ready again. And this time it's not going to be the Beastie Boys instead, it's going to be a new song from the new Opus III album, and it's called "Dreaming of Now."

[MUSIC - OPUS III, "DREAMING OF NOW"]

OK, great. That was-- God, that was an awful opening. But right somewhere in the middle of that opening was "Dreaming of Now" from Opus III from the album *Guru Mother*. I am Michael Crawford, and we're going to be talking to Greg Cason actually right now. And if you have any questions on forming a homosexual male relationship, please call us at 526-5738-526 KPFT. And Greg, we'd like to welcome you to our lovely little show.

GREG CASON: Oh, thank you, Michael. It's great to be here.

MICHAEL You're very hiply dressed because you know that's important. Well, I think we'll start out by letting you make a few comments on what do you see as some of the key areas or key issues involved in forming a fag relationship.

GREG CASON: Well, in fag relationships, I'm so glad we can use that word. I think the first thing you've got to realize is that you're gay and that you're coming out. And maybe coming out is the number one thing. I think the number two thing that tends to hit everybody's mind is HIV and the health status. And then from then on, it's just learning to be in a relationship.

I think one of the most difficult things a lot of people don't realize is that for a moment, one, we're about 10 years behind heterosexual people because we start perhaps after we leave high school. We start with those first relationships, those first puppy love crushes, holding hands, going to the movies, and then moving on to the harder stuff a little later on.

MICHAEL OK. Well, let's talk about first now, I know that a lot of people my age or a lot of people I know seem to have a really hard time meeting guys or at least meeting guys for dates. I mean, getting sex is easy. And anybody who regularly listens to our program knows that everybody on After Hours has a very active sex life.

GREG CASON: Congratulations. I don't think everybody could say that out there.

MICHAEL But sex is tired now, and I want a boyfriend.

CRAWFORD:

GREG CASON: Ghost.

MICHAEL So where are--

CRAWFORD:

GREG CASON: If you can't get a real guy, there's always a ghost, an imaginary man.

MICHAEL Where will you say of some of the interesting or most productive places to meet gay men?

CRAWFORD:

GREG CASON: Well, you see, I think a lot of people think that bars aren't places to meet men. Perhaps that's our first place we all learn to go and meet people, but it's not a good place for every person. So I think that we have to be a little more global about when we're looking for people. When you're coming out and you're in the closet, there are very few places you can actually go to actually identify other gay men. And in fact, your gaydar, if you will, or the thing that helps you sense that other gay men are there is not so activated.

So those people tend to do better in bars and tend to do better where they can recognize other gay people, even if it's in a truck stop or a restroom or in a bathhouse, whatever. But then as we get a little more-- those of us who are a little more open and a little more comfortable with our sexuality, we actually have a greater opportunity to meet people in more varied and interesting places. Whether it's joining the bowling league or to the skating club or whatever, or it's just walking down the street, riding your bike, which I find is really a wonderful way to meet people. But you all didn't hear that. Or any kind of-- going to school, in classes.

All of a sudden, when you start to be able to recognize other gay people, then you can give them that sort of look like, how do you do? And then the sparks can start to fly.

MICHAEL But what if the sparks don't fly or you're afraid to approach that person, what are some-- I don't know, I don't

CRAWFORD: want to say surefire. But what are some, I don't know, more comfortable ways of introducing yourself to that perspective boy?

GREG CASON: I think that's one of the harder things. Sometimes, we see people that we're very attracted to but we're so afraid of that we don't go up to. In fact, if we're that afraid, perhaps if we did go up to them, we wouldn't actually feel good about ourselves. We wouldn't actually perhaps come out with the information and really meet with the person and really get interested in the person.

Maybe perhaps it's best to meet people that you don't feel really afraid around. And if you do feel afraid, usually, that's something going on inside yourself that means you need to do some work inside. I think the one thing that a lot of people forget about is they're so desperately looking for relationships, they completely forget about themselves. And sometimes, when you're in a very desperate state or in a very fearful state, nobody wants to be with you anyway.

So you've really got to work on that. Really got to come to peace with yourself, feel good about yourself. In fact, I think it was Eleanor Roosevelt, who said something along the lines of that she felt she had to have a relationship - well, maybe this is for other reasons. But she actually said she actually had to have a relationship with herself first and that she actually had to feel good about herself, something along those lines. We always forget that.

And especially as gay people, we just want to jump right out there and we're fed this line from all the pornography and et cetera, just that all of the men out there, the gay men worth having are these beautiful specimens. And that's just not how it always is.

MICHAEL One of the things that seems to get in the way of forming, I don't know, at least for me is the issue of homophobia, being out, internalized homophobia and so on. Because I kind of made a personal vow to myself that I would never date a person who wasn't completely out, meaning out in every single circumstance. But that's really hard to do. I mean, how do you find that person?

Because even I who are very out, I think we're all out probably to even be here talking very out, I have instances where I'm checking myself and saying, hey, this is another coming out experience. I have my own internalized homophobia. It's very difficult. I think we're always coming out all of our lives.

What you think you're getting at, though, is that you don't want to date someone who's too different from you. Because if you're more out, then to go out with someone who's really in the closet is really going to be a strain on you. And on them, because they're always going to be really fearful that you're going to somehow out them. And you're always going to be really frustrated that everything you want to do or say is going to be checked by that person's fear. But how can we deal with the internalized homophobia and how it puts up roadblocks towards forming relationships?

GREG CASON: Internalized homophobia is something that has to be dealt with. There's really a 2-step process that needs to be done. First of all, you need to do some work, some analytical work. Some people choose to go into personal therapy, some people do just fine meeting with friends and reading books, going to the movies about being gay. You've really got to explore what it is to be gay and identify what it is to be gay.

The other thing is in coming out process, you need to take steps, and you need to always take your next step in coming out. That helps us to deal with homophobia because at every step in coming out, we're actually dealing with the homophobia, the internalized homophobia that has been put inside of us from society. Society basically says, gay people don't deserve to exist.

And this is what I really love about relationships, you always get this message from society, gay relationships don't work. But then society always says, we don't want gay relationships to work because we won't even give them the marriage rights. And when we know the main reason heterosexual marriages stay together is for legalistic reasons. Like they have their marriage, like they have a legal bond together, they have a house together, their church expects them to be together, their family expects them to be together.

And gays have the opposite thing going on, where the church wants them apart, their parents don't want them to be gay, they want them apart from their lover, they can't get legally married. So gays only have one reason to be together, and that's love.

MICHAEL As there are claps in the background and cheers. OK, let's say that John boy has met his friend, and we'll call them friends right now. And they're out on their very first date. Remember those sisters on the wall?

[LAUGHTER]

MAN 2: Mary Ellen.

MICHAEL And they're out on their very first date. And John boy is sitting there thinking, how can I not get laid on the first date?

GREG CASON: How can I not get laid?

MICHAEL Yeah, I mean because sometimes it seems that you go out, you get laid, and then the next day you find out you don't like the person. So the thing seems to be or at least to me, is to not get late on the first date, maybe the second but not the first. And actually talk to the person and find out if you like him or not before.

GREG CASON: OK, yeah. It's pretty much good in all instances to have a little mystery. It doesn't matter who you are. When you show it all on the first day, you're pretty much saying, I don't want to see you anymore after this. You've really got to hold out a little. And you have to hold out in all areas, not just sexually perhaps on the first day. But you don't want to tell them your life story on the first date, you don't want to tell them all your personal problems, you don't want to tell them what your mother did when you were three.

The first date is really just a getting to know and how do you do? And really a spiritual connection. And so it's a good idea, good instinct of yours to not have sex on the first date or maybe even the second date, or maybe even the third.

MICHAEL Well, Madonna personally says that you shouldn't sleep with anyone before the fifth date.

CRAWFORD:

GREG CASON: Well, I like Madonna for saying that because I agree. Actually, if you want to be in a relationship with someone, that's what you have to do. If you want to have sex with somebody, then why even wait? Why do you even have to go on a date? I mean, you really could-- or you could just go on a series of one night stands, but I think those tend to be the most exhausting for people.

Either people tend to have a very positive view of their sexuality and they can go in and out of, let's say bathhouses or bars, whatever, and have sex on a rather casual basis, or people want to hook up in a relationship and then they have to approach things very differently. But you can't try to have both at the same time.

MICHAEL You had a comment?

CRAWFORD:

MAN 2: Oh, well, I was just going to say that Madonna also slept with people right away and never dated them.

MICHAEL It was a goal to aspire to. We've all done that, we can't criticize her for that.

CRAWFORD:

GREG CASON: But we've all got to have goals too. Do you know actually having goals even after that, having goals is more attractive. People who are aimless and don't have goals tend to be less attractive, and they're less attractive to other people. Here's another secret. I'll give you all my love secrets here, as long as we're on this topic.

Another good love secret is to not be so nice all the time. Be true to yourself. If you don't like something, then you don't have to do it. If the guy suggests going to Astroworld and that is your biggest nightmare in the world just because you think he's hot, don't do it. Say, well, I don't really like Astroworld. He'll respect you a lot more, and you can go on with things.

Same sexually, don't give in to something sexually you won't like. He's going to tell that you don't like it right in the middle of it, and it's going to be pretty much a turnoff, and he's going to blame the whole bad sex experience on you. And if you just came forward and said, no, I don't want to do that, it would work out actually. So one thing is to actually be a little more true to our feelings. And sometimes not always be so nice or be such doormats.

MICHAEL OK, we're talking about forming gay male relationships with Greg Cason. If you had a question or a comment, **CRAWFORD:** please call us at 526-5738-526 KPFT. I have kind of a question about-- I mean, every guy that I've gone out with or even just slept with, they always comes as part in the conversation, if there's conversation about coming out. Why is that so important? Because we all had to do it.

GREG CASON: There's rarely a gay person out there who didn't have to experience the pain of having that heterosexual identity, having to go against the grain of everything we were taught from our parents, friends, family, and school to being true to what was going on inside and to having to bring that inside to the outside and have to feel good about it. It's an incredible painful process, one that all of us have to go through as gay people in this country at least in this society.

And it's something we bond around, it's something that really brings us together. It's not just our sexual orientation, it's the fact that we're an oppressed people that really brings us together. And actually, I hate the fact that we all had to go through such pain, but I do like the fact that what it gave us is this gift of sensitivity and awareness that so many other people don't have. So many heterosexuals don't have, who haven't had that expression or that experience.

MICHAEL OK, let's go back to John boy. And let's say he and his dream boy, they have gone out on their first date, they're up to date number five. And this is the date, we're following Madonna's rule, they're going to have sex. And they're both sitting there antsy over dinner wondering, how are we going to talk about what we view as safe?

And let's say John boy is HIV positive, and he has not told his dream boy that yet. But before they have sex, he feels that he should. How should he go about that and how do you, I don't know, bring up the conversation, I mean, bring up the topic of safer sex and discussing what you like and dislike and so on and so forth?

GREG CASON: I think in today's world in 1994, the more adjusted gay is going to be expecting that topic to come up. But perhaps, there are a lot of gays out there who want to deny that it exists and actually get very angry that it's still tied to sex. I don't think we can-- we don't live in a world where it's not tied to sex.

I remember being in high school walking down the hall when they said, so the gay cancer, blah, blah, blah, was announced on the radio. And I thought, oh, great, I'm just coming out being gay. And now it's been with us for 14 years, so we all have an awareness of it. So it's going to be coming out.

One thing is, it doesn't have to come out on the first date and maybe it doesn't have to come out on the third. But it perhaps should come out early because it's something people need to talk about openly and honestly. If it's going to be enough to make the person run away from you, then you'd best put it out on the table and make them run away, because you don't want that person around in a year when you come out with the HIV fact, and you're in love, and you've set up house together and that person runs away.

But the best thing to do, there's no delicate way to do it. Perhaps it's just to perhaps bring it up and just sit down and say, I have something important to tell you. And of course, the person's stomach is going to fly just like when the person's about to break up, that big important talk, it may be of that same caliber. But we do need to talk about it.

A lot of people have different things about when to tell. A lot of people say you have to tell before you have the first sex experience or you have to tell in the first day. I don't agree with any of that. I think you tell when you're ready to tell. But I think you're also, both partners have a responsibility to practice as if both are positive. In fact, the only people that really know their actual status are positive people. Negative people really only have the last test and even then, it was three to six months before the last test.

And unless you were living in a bubble, which most of us aren't, you don't really know your status. You've always got to be aware of that.

MICHAEL CRAWFORD: But how do you bring up-- how do you negotiate what you think is safe versus what he thinks is safe? How do you do that, give and take?

GREG CASON: Yeah. I think there's a lot of discussion, around I think people pretty much accept that anal sex, whether top or bottom, the person on top needs to wear a condom because it's considered a risky behavior. It doesn't matter if the person on top says he's negative, he needs to wear a condom. And it's probably best if he doesn't ejaculate inside, to pull out and ejaculate on the outside. I mean, that's what the porno movies show us. I don't know why that isn't hot, why people feel they need to do it inside. But we can talk about that.

Around oral sex, I think there's been so much debate. The one problem though, I think is most gay men don't practice oral sex with a condom. So the reality is, it doesn't happen very much. So most are willing to do it without a condom, and I think that's pretty much how things are practiced. If you have different rules than those kind of basic things and you need to talk about them, and I think it's OK to talk about them during sex.

You can talk about it before if you want to talk about things before. But it's OK to say, oh, put on a condom or put on lube or start to show the person things you like anyway. I think one of the interesting things this advocate sex survey came out is that more variety in sex acts, before relationships, a third of the people sampled said they wanted more variety in sex acts, but half the people and couples want a more variety in sex acts. It's like people just stop talking about what they need to do when they're in a coupled relationship. It always needs to be a discussion.

As for what's safe and what's not safe, we've constantly got to look at the literature, but we can't let it scare us, because the people that tend to get really scared and not have any sex also tend to binge later on and have all kinds of unsafe sex. So those people are in a very dangerous position. The healthiest thing to do is engage in healthy sexual behavior and not be ashamed of it, and really guard against any kind of infection.

One thing I really don't like too is a lot of HIV positive people think that in fact, that it's OK for them to practice unsafe sex because they've been infected. And in fact, we know about reinfection. And a lot of HIV positive people haven't been educated about reinfection and the dangers of reinfection. So we all need to watch ourselves.

MICHAEL And some HIV positive people after finding out they're positive refused to have sex at all and just kind of become nuns, almost.

GREG CASON: It's unfortunate. It really is. I think that's the shame that our society has brought on to people with HIV and the disease. There should be no shame to it. It's too bad that our sexuality has to be so tied to that disease when in fact, our sexuality is something to be celebrated. And if we could celebrate our sexuality, but it probably takes someone who's very out of the closet or at least have dealt with quite a bit of homophobia, and then you can really start to celebrate your sexuality and really feel good about who you are. And having sex with someone with HIV should be no different than having someone who's HIV negative.

MICHAEL And that's something that I don't-- it's something I don't understand is I've noticed that guys will sleep with anybody if they don't know their HIV status. They're not the persons. But if they know that a person is positive, it's like, no, can't we just be friends and that kind of thing.

GREG CASON: I don't understand that either. Are these people crazy? I mean, you just want to say, wait a minute, wake up and smell the coffee. Just because someone didn't say what their HIV status was doesn't mean they're HIV negative. And what I really like is that people will believe other people when they say they're HIV negative because we know people lie, they lie all the time. They lie in relationships. They lie out of relationships. People lie. It's unfortunate, but we have to face that fact that sometimes people aren't telling the truth. And the only protection we have is to protect ourselves.

That's OK. You know it's really weird, though, I told you we did a workshop at Montrose Counseling Center that was called we're fags and then the F word without condoms. And the thing about that workshop is we really try to explore that unsafe sex does happen sometimes. And we need to look at the reasons why.

I think Dr. Dean O'Dell who's a big radio psychologist said, you can't expect heterosexuals to have sex with condoms their entire relationship and yet gays are expected to have sex with condoms their entire relationship. That's something we have to grapple with. But I think that why is there a double standard when in fact, HIV is also in the heterosexual community? But we do need to explore alternatives, and there are very hot alternatives. Anal sex isn't the only way.

MICHAEL You heard it here first. Anal sex isn't the only way. OK, let's go back to John boy. OK he and dream boy, they've had sex for the first time, and they're working on forming their relationship. What are some of the special issues that they're going to have to deal with because the one person is positive and one person is negative?

GREG CASON: Well, in the first year of a relationship, it's called the lemons stage. And it's just all so wonderful in that first year. You just feel good together, you want to be together all the time, you want to go to the movies together, you want to totally blend and become one monster. And it's really kind of wonderful, actually. It's probably the one stage a lot of people miss when they get into the more mature part of the relationship because that's when there are fights, you cry, you call your friends.

Anyway, as for being HIV positive and negative, those relationships, those issues probably aren't faced as critically in the beginning as they will be faced later on. Because as the lemons starts to go, as the people start to define themselves toward the end of the first year, they start to realize their own identities and the differences that are between them. And that's when the threats start to set in, and the threats in the relationship.

So sometimes, it can be good for six months or so. And then depending on where the person is, let's say a lot of times, it's the negative person who gets really freaked out. And the negative person wants to run away. And a lot of times, it's the positive person, I've seen that too. Where they don't want to be with a negative person, someone who doesn't understand what they're going through, doesn't understand what it's like to face things differently.

And one thing we see in positive and negative relationships, this is also something that's very interesting. Sometimes, the positive person, especially if they just found out that they're positive, will start going through--well, maybe if they're in the first year of finding out, because usually in the first year there's a lot of denial. But after that first year, they start to go through this sort of spiritual awakening, and they start to really go through a great deal of advancement and personal advancement and awakening that the negative person doesn't go through.

The negative person may be going through this thing of, oh, I'm going to live 40 or 50 years, and I don't really need to think about life's big issues. And a lot of positive people will start really dealing and grappling with those issues. And sometimes, that will drive people apart because the positive person becomes more advanced developmentally and spiritually.

MICHAEL OK, and let's say that John boy and dream boy, they're progressing at maybe not the same rate, but they're doing OK. And then the issue of monogamy comes up.

GREG CASON: Yes, and that's such a good issue. Because I think in our society, it's almost expected because we all want a pattern ourselves after that ideal heterosexual relationship. What I really liked is on the cover of Time magazine this week is they said, is it in our genes? Is infidelity in our genes? Because I think there's a lot of biological points to the fact that perhaps, sometimes infidelity is more natural than we had originally accepted. That monogamy may be that heterosexual marriage ideal, it may be a myth. There is actually a book called *The Monogamy Myth*. About heterosexual monogamy being a myth.

But in gay relationships, the big dangers are perhaps the people not talking about it and trying to live their relationships after sort of this heterosexual ideal. But most gay relationships, they'll talk about it. And that's probably the beauty of gay relationships over heterosexual relationships. And so we'll talk about it and say, well, what are we going to do? And a lot of people, they'll say, oh, well, of course honey, I want to be with you. And the other person says, of course, I want to be with you. And in the back of their mind, they know that they're having sex on the side or they know once they're lovers out of town, they go to the bathhouse.

They really have to start to perhaps be a little more honest, because all that does is bring shame, they're hiding themselves, and then they're breaking an agreement with their lover. So perhaps, if they talk with their lover and become a little more out with it, they maybe can make an agreement that they both can live with.

MICHAEL It seems sometimes that gay men are afraid to be close to one another, of being intimate with one another. What effect does homophobia play in this and how can we help to combat it? Not just so much in terms of forming dating relationships, but relationships in general.

GREG CASON: Well, that's just sort of a man thing, because we're taught in our society that men aren't supposed to be intimate. And of course, it's queer to be intimate. So once you're queer, you don't want to be queer. All those straight-acting queers out there. So homophobia plays a great deal in this, to keep us apart.

But I will say in any relationship, if you're in a relationship, there's a yearning for independence that may also be a male thing. But when you're out of a relationship, there's a yearning to be together. It seems like we're never happy, but there's always this sort of tug of war going on. But homophobia, the one thing is if we could work on our own homophobia and we could work on the people around us homophobia, because sometimes it's the reactions that drive us to sort of being afraid to get in touch with other males.

I have a good friend who's straight, who's wonderful, who always every time he sees me wants a big hug and is very touchy, feely. And it's very odd because here I am, the gay one, who doesn't feel as comfortable. And he's very touchy feely, and he's straight. Because he's less affected by homophobia than I am. Because I have more of an inside of me. And I think as gay people, we're magnets for homophobia. We just pick it up wherever it is. And we can sense it when it's out there, and straight people don't always have that sense.

So we have a lot of work to do actually, probably more than a lot of straight guys.

MICHAEL You have the advocate sex survey sitting in front of you.

CRAWFORD:

GREG CASON: Oh, yes.

MICHAEL Yeah, and you said you wanted to go through that. What were some of the interesting things you found in there?

CRAWFORD:

GREG CASON: Well, 46% of men are pee-shy. That was one very interesting thing but probably has nothing to do with what we're talking about. Well, one thing as we know, there's sort of this myth that gay men aren't in relationships for it, but here it says 4 in 10 men of the people have partners, of the people who took the survey. And 87% of those people have made long-term commitments to the relationship.

So I think one thing we do know is that men are staying together. Men get together and stay together. Being in a relationship is not such a foreign thing.

MAN 2: Does it say anything about whether those people who are in committed relationships are monogamous or have more open relationships?

GREG CASON: Well, let's take a look at that. Because actually-- OK, what would people change-- it doesn't really say much about-- well, it probably does, but I can't find it. But the one thing we know about people in relationships, one thing I thought was very interesting is one quarter of all people in relationship would like more variety and partners. They'd like to have sex with somebody else.

So actually, there's a yearning by at least one quarter who admitted to the fact that they want to have sex with more people. That doesn't mean that more than that or probably more than that are probably having sex outside the relationship. I think it did say earlier in here that there's about half the men are in monogamous relationships, and another quarter are supposed to be in monogamous relationships, but they didn't quite make it.

But a full one half have made a commitment to monogamy and apparently are staying that way. But you see, that doesn't work for all people, it works for half the people. So the other half have to do other things. One thing about relationships, 40% of them need to act out more fantasies and 41% said that they wish that sex would be more adventurous in their relationships. So I think in relationships, one of the big dangers is we get the intimacy but then, we start to lose the sex.

MICHAEL Well, how can we not lose the sex?

CRAWFORD:

GREG CASON: That's a big mystery because you always hear people say, we had the worst relationship in the world, but we had the best sex. Then you hear the other people say, we were so close, we were so bonded, but we didn't have sex for a year. That's sort of a teeter totter we have to walk on, and we have to come to terms with the fact that of which one our relationship is and work on the other part. If our bond is pretty good, then perhaps we need to add variety in our sexuality and really sit down with our partner and talk very honestly about what's going on inside of us.

Just because we have yearnings to have sex with other people doesn't mean, we are going to have sex with other people. Sometimes, the fantasy is enough. Sometimes, a video is enough.

MICHAEL Phone sex.

CRAWFORD:

GREG CASON: Phone sex is wonderful. And then the-- phone sex is really good, and it's very safe. A lot of people really-- And one thing about phone sex is you can be whoever you want to be on phone sex. You can add an extra couple of inches around your chest, of course, take them off your waist. Or you could be whatever you want to be, that's one thing about phone sex. Or also on computers, people are now having cyber sex, which is kind of interesting and exciting.

And there are also sexual organizations. We don't seem to see them too much here in Houston, but they're really cropping up around the United States. Real sex positive organizations where they have men go, and they have jerk off club.

MICHAEL I'm sure they must be here.

CRAWFORD:

GREG CASON: We have some here.

MICHAEL But they're not like-- they don't advertise.

CRAWFORD:

GREG CASON: They may not advertise. Yeah, I guess I don't know about them all.

[LAUGHTER]

MICHAEL I don't know of any, but I'm assuming since we are such a big city, we have to have them.

CRAWFORD:

GREG CASON: That's true. How did a friend of mine put it who moves here? It's just not as accepted. I had a problem, excuse me, I had a friend who had a problem. When he moved from Houston to California he said all of the sex was so legal. And he liked the fact that Houston, everything is so forbidden. But the one problem when everything's so forbidden is when you just coming out, you don't really know what's out there, and you can't really access things. And you don't really know how to put spice in the relationship.

That's why we're talking about maybe the lesbians are so hip, it's because maybe the gay men really don't know that, in fact, there's a lot of variety out there, and there's a lot of things to experience.

MICHAEL Yeah. OK, and I guess I'm ragging on gay men here, but everyone is the same.

CRAWFORD:

GREG CASON: Oh, we're all. OK.

MICHAEL There's that whole little preppy just kind of thing that people have working. That's fine and all because it's going

CRAWFORD: to be very hot for the fall. But I don't know, there's nothing other than that. So you're going over your little list of notes that you made.

GREG CASON: Well, yeah. Well, I did have here that people push others away. I think one of the big problems is if you want to get another man, you really do have to work on yourself. And sometimes, that requires some big stuff, like some people need to go into to therapy and some people need to spend a lot of time perhaps in school or working on their body or nutrition or meditating or whatever the package is, you need to put together. Sometimes you need to put the package together or to put the goods in the window.

Because sometimes, we don't really care about ourselves, we only think that other people are going to be drawn to us just for our natural vigor or something. But we're all scared and sometimes, we need to work on ourselves to realize. And sometimes part of working on ourselves in those ways actually works in our fear, our fear of getting together with other people.

MICHAEL OK. Anything else we missed on your list?

CRAWFORD:

GREG CASON: No. Of course, I do have all these great words for--

MICHAEL Oh, that's true, you did have that. OK, wait. I want to put it in a little mood change music so that way, we can

CRAWFORD: prepare for the list. OK, let's see.

GREG CASON: Well, the thing about this list is, I guess these were synonyms as scribbled on a napkin found in the Mad Dog, which is in San Francisco.