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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

gay, republicans, lesbian, vote, democrats, democratic party, republican, republican party, elected, caucus, queer, endorsements, lobby, support, election, harvey milk, houston, voting, lesbian community, party

## SPEAKERS

Jimmy Carper

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00:00

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00:09

the sound of Texas KPFT Houston, a Pacifica radio network station 90.1 FM 89.1k e os College Station



Jimmy Carper 00:43

Oh yes, you've tuned into after hours queer radio with attitude right here on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of after hours is ready to bring you news, interviews, dialogue and music geared for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people and their friends. Hear it after hours. We may be diverse, but we have one thing in common. We are all 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 okay, we're here for you too. So sit back, relax, and enjoy this week's edition of after hours. Hello, Houston, and welcome to the October 31 edition of after hours. We're here every Saturday night at midnight on KPFT Houston 90.1 and ke o s College Station at 9.1. We bring you three hours of queer life. I'm Jimmy Carper. And with me tonight is



02:33

Michelle Myers.



02:35

And one more.



02:37

Good evening. I'm Scott Herbert. Glad to be here tonight. Jimmy, thank you for inviting me. I'm



02:42

glad for you to be here. We've got a whole bunch of stuff going on tonight. We're on talent queen



02:47

who has Halloween. Happy Halloween, everybody. Yes.



02:50

And in addition, it's the fifth Saturday of the month,



Jimmy Carper 02:53

which means lots of gay and lesbian music, queer music. All right. I've got people scheduled on four Saturdays of the month. And when we get a Saturday, fifth Saturday, then I get to do what I like to do.



03:07

It's free form Saturday. Yeah, it's like a little present. And oh, yeah, I love it. Thank you,



03:17

Michelle, it's great. There, there's something else that's going on, that's very important that we want to get into just immediately. So we get all the people that are just nodding off.



03:28

What are we gonna try to do plan something in their mind. So they've committed behavior that we want them to on Thursday, or Tuesday.



03:34

Now, the years, over the years things have changed. And it's not so much of a big rush to do the voting on voting day, which is



03:46

the voting day is November the third and we'll be voting from 7am to 7pm, across the state of Texas and probably across most of the nation.



03:56

That's right. That's right. However, I mean, people have been allowed to vote for that this whole past month,



04:01

the advent of early voting here in the state of Texas has given us a tremendous opportunity to turn out people that we wouldn't be able to otherwise and to also give us a the handle on. You know how things are going so far. Makes voting very convenient. Basically, you can vote anywhere in the county that you're registered to vote in. You can do it basically from 7am to 7pm, the week before the election. You've got all kinds of opportunities to vote, there's no excuse that will work with me anymore.



04:33

Oh, yeah, that's, that's the best thing about early voting is I think people begin to understand that they can't say, Wow, something came up. That's true, right? Therefore, I was in



04:46

Detroit overflowed and had to wait for the plumber. He didn't get there until seven o'clock at night. Right. So. So Scott, you're with, I'm with Stonewall, gay and lesbian Democrats. We're a newly formed organization here in Houston. We've basically sort of come into existence through a process of promotion, focus groups, finding an organization that we fit with, and having the Harris County Democratic Party, you know, the good old, what everybody thinks of is the straight people over there, come together and say it's time for the gay and lesbian community, and gay and lesbian Democrats in particular, to come together, to turn out votes, and to express that we are not going to tolerate discrimination against gays, lesbians, bisexual or transgender roles, and be able to elect Democrats to office and hold them accountable.



05:50

Okay, on the outside looking in, because I'm not a political person. And by that I mean, I mean

Okay, on the outside looking in, because I'm not a political person. And by that I mean, I mean, everything is political. But I mean, I'm not active in political circles. Why do we need a separate organization for gay and lesbian Democrats? Aren't we fully accepted in the Democratic Party as is or what



06:11

actually we are. And for years, we have had a gay and lesbian caucus meeting at various Democratic conventions on the state and national level on the county level. And we've been able to influence the Democratic Party itself, to change to the point where they are supportive. They are expressing a willingness to discuss issues that are important to us on a basis that is real, that is timely, and that we can expect to obtain results in terms of laws passed. In the in the past both parties were when I first got involved in politics, both parties were equally homophobic. I go back to the Johnson



07:02

herd. And they say that many, many times when we, when somebody kind of downgrades maybe Dale carpenter are fighting in the Republican Party. She says, hey, you know, 20 years ago, we were fighting that same fight in the Democratic Party. So you know, let's not go there.



07:18

Well, there Absolutely. Is, is, you know, there are some people that we owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to somebody, somebody needs to be standing in Harvey Milk's place? That's



07:34

right. Yeah, that is right.



07:38

You know, we don't have the luxury,



07:41

I thought this show was the only place where you can hear about Harvey Milk anymore.



07:46

Well, I'm not going to let the position that Harvey Milk occupied in gay and lesbian history die. Thank you, we have a tremendous need for young people to step up and fill the shoes and stand in the place of those people who are not able to stand any longer.



08:09

And not only that, thank you. And not only that, but to take a tip from Harvey and how he got to where he was. And that's through all of that good coalition building and realizing that you can't be a just a gay and lesbian, bisexual, transgendered person in politics, you have to be there for everyone.



08:35

Exactly. And I come from a background of organized labor. I come from a background of the faith community. I come from a background of having been raised a 100%. Democrat. And I do have a tremendous appreciation for the challenges that are faced by the Log Cabin Republicans. There is a tremendous need for them. They've got a really difficult battle. All those right wing zealots that we ran out of the Democratic Party are over there being the successors to the Aryan nationalist, the John birchers, the hate mongers, the national and I'm also gonna say this The National Socialists, those people will not be satisfied with just the power that they have now. They would like to take away our rights.



09:38

Yes, yes. Yep. I'm leaving you out of this. Michelle and I brought you in here specifically, because you are the treasurer of



09:48

the Houston gay and lesbian Political Caucus, okay. Otherwise known as the caucus caucus.



09:54

The caucus has a tremendous responsibility to fulfill in this community. and they are able to screen candidates from both parties. If both parties would participate, they are able to communicate to the general population of gays, lesbians, transsexuals, and by and by bisexuals transgender is out there. And there is a need for that organization



10:28

starting back on August 28, now, excuse me July 28. The caucus started it screening process, and by the third of August had screened almost 80. candidates. I mean, and this is face to face. That's great. But I mean, I mean, that's a tremendous effort.



10:54

Let me ask you something about that. And I know that the caucus gets accused of being

Let me ask you something about that. And I know that the caucus gets accused of being heavily leaning on the Democratic side, which of course, da, but here we have a situation where



11:12

you screen people who want to be screened, yes, only. Yes.



11:18

And we have a political party, that saying, You're not going to we're not going to back you if you screen with a gay group. So



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and that's what to be public. A lot of a lot of the Republicans will say.



11:35

So what is this



11:37

opposition is that and this is where I'm coming from the the Republican Party is the threat right now, not just to our civil rights, not just our lives, the Republican party today is a threat to the Republic. And that threat, is expressing itself through their continuing intolerance, their rejection of anything that even resembles a reasonable form of government. I truly feel that the Republicans have gotten to the point now, where they would do anything to destroy the federal government reduce its power, and keep people in the dark.



12:27

I've heard, in fact, I've heard from a past president of HDL PC, that, gee, you know, I don't think Republicans are really anyone who's a Republican is not part of the gay community, period. And and then we go all the way to the other side, to person like Dale Carpenter, who is fighting like hell, to win recognition in that party. So



12:58

yeah, and the, the current Board Chair for the caucus is a Republican. I mean, you know, I mean, you know, we have we have Republicans on the board of directors,



13:12

I think they're people that are fundamentally Republican. In the same way. They're people that are just left handed. And, you know, it's, you know, I can't think of a better analogy right now. But there is a need for those people. There is a need for those people to engage the Republican Party to change the Republican Party, actually, to make the Republican Party better. Yes. It is not the kind of challenge that we face in the Democratic Party and the Democratic Party, we've gone through the changes. Yeah, we've gotten to the point where we can elect gay and lesbian people. We can elect representatives who will listen and who will vote to support our issues, and who have no problem. No problem at all. In walking into the awards banquet of the Houston, gay and lesbian Political Caucus of walking into MCC R and saying, I want your support in this election is pretty strong. today. We have those candidates in the Democratic Party. I was at a meeting this morning at breakfast this morning with Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee. And one of the speaker's was the Reverend James Dixon, and he had run for a vacant City Council position that Chris Bell eventually won the election. I recall that and leading up To the election, he was screened by the caucus by the Montrose area Democrats and by everybody else. And when it came up to the line of fully endorsing gay and lesbian rights, domestic partnership benefits, he waffled today, this morning, he supported the same issues that he waffled on. Progress was possible.



15:29

It takes it takes time for people to thank you, Michelle. Okay, I understand what's going on. I don't want to use this word, but I will get used to what the situation is. And seriously think about what they want to do and what their position is. And if you have a position, and you have some thoughts that while maybe it's not quite right, it takes time for an individual to change their mind to understand that they might have been wrong. And we all take time to develop, and we're always changing. So I think that's really good. And I really encourage anyone who is a Republican, and who's a member of the queer community, to think about working within their system. I mean, we're not trying to make converts, I would love to make compromises to the Democratic Party, since I'm a member, but work within the system and change those minds and change those hearts. And that takes time. And that takes effort. I mean, on our side of the political fence, we actually have an easy job as compared to the Republican queers.



17:07

I really don't want to discount those people who went before us. There have been a substantial number of lesbians and gays, who have been willing to walk into the hostile environment of a senatorial district convention in the Democratic Party. And say, We're here. We're queer. Get used to it, because we ain't going away. We are getting we are getting elected. We're getting elected from our precincts. We're getting elected from the 34th precinct. We're getting elected. From the 32nd precinct, we're getting elected from the Montrose precincts. And we're going to keep coming here as delegates. And we're going to keep voting for Democrats, and we're going to vote for enough Democrats to get seats at the state convention, we're going to vote, we're going to turn out enough voters, for Democrats to get seats at the national convention, whether you want to give them to us or not. We're going to do that. Those days when Dennis Spencer was go, it was leading the Montrose area Democrats into a hostile state convention, or the events that we have to remember that we went through at this point in time, the Log Cabin Republicans are better organized than we ever were, and have the ability to elect themselves

to positions of power in their party. The state Republican executive committee is completely dominated by right wing zealots. But they still have to follow the rules of the party. It's time for the non Kevin Republicans to use those rules to gain the power of being a delegate. It's not going to be easy. These people really do hate in the Democratic Party. We didn't have to face up to the hate as much as the Log Cabin Republicans are going to have to.



19:39

So what you're saying is we have to remember the past. We have to remember those who went before us. And we'll have to use those as examples. And all of us in the queer community have to work together and help each other whether we are Republicans or Democrats.



20:00

Exactly, yeah, we have to be able to stand in the shoes of those who went before us and say Not here. Not now. Not in my town and not in my country.



20:12

Okay, so Scott Are you are you advocating go into that booth and hit that Democratic ticket all the way or



20:21

my Montrose for this week all the way up to the election is generally if you're out there within the sound of my voice, or the Harris County, in particular, vote the straight Democratic ticket in Harris County, it's punch number two, flip to the last page. There may be a special election there if you're an H ISD. Vote for the school bonds. And there are other special elections around the area that you'll be able to make up your own mind on there's one really ridiculous special election for one term, one month of an unexpired term of a state representatives office. You know, that's



21:01

somebody running.



21:02

Oh, yeah, the same two people that are in the this is the 1/34, the State Representative district that Gerald Torres resigned from, there's a Republican and a Democrat running, and you'll be voting for the Democrat when you vote the state state straight Democratic ticket, but it'll only be for next term. The unexpired term is the one month up until the next term this is okay. So, you know, you can go there, and it's same two names, just vote for the Democrat. You know,



bizarre? Well, elect, democracy is a sort of a strange animal, it costs a lot of money to put on these elections. Yes. You know, when we drag people through the dirt every two years to try to get the state representatives elected. And, you know, it's it's just a mess, the way the system is



21:58

now. And as frustrating as it is, to me, especially for what's going on with the right wing in the in the, in the Republican Party, I firmly believe in a two party system. I really believe in those checks and balances. And so, you know, when, when you say, I have been tempted to do that vote, just hit number two. And but something inside says there must be we must have a friend some way or the other party.



22:27

I welcome somebody to tell me about him. I know, you know, well, that's



22:31

what happened with the, with the caucus endorsements. This year, we we wanted to screen, everyone, we always want to screen, everyone. But unfortunately, only Democrats showed up for screening. And so it ends up that everyone that we ended up endorsing is democratic. Because none of the Republicans showed a couple of them talk to us, but none of them show.



23:05

You know, I'm really I really want to get to the root of, you know, what is that saying? What does that say to the gay and lesbian community when you've got a group of people who just refuse to even answer simple questions?



23:23

Well, I think I think it says two things. One to the community at home, that we're not ready yet, and the other to the community, and particularly in organizations like the caucus, that maybe there's a need to look at the caucus rules to make it somewhat easier for a Republican to come in and screen and get our endorsement. For example, we don't necessarily have to always rush out with the information immediately. Well, we can wait until they get all their other endorsements. And then,



24:15

you know, I hear that and it sounds really great, but you know, what's going to happen? You're gonna have people sneaking in, Republican sneaking in to get our endorsement. And they're only going to advertise it in the gay community. They're not going to have it on there. You

know, and they're gonna do everything to keep the Republican Party from finding out because they don't want to be ostracized. So



24:40

we haven't changed what is but we always discuss that every year and how we're going to handle that



24:45

mean for this time that we have, you know, going to be very literal here. We've made Democratic candidates walk over hot coals and answer some of the most How should I say this element and wacko questions. Have you ever heard and give the Republicans a free pass



25:05

or not? It's not a free not a free pass, they



25:07

still have to answer the question. And what



25:09

we did this year is we have we actually did hold off on making a big deal out of publicizing all the endorsements until a little bit later. In the campaign cycle, we did take our endorsements to get approved on that were brought forward to the membership and approved by the membership on the fifth of August, we brought them forward right away, and issued a press release. However, we kept, we didn't go out and publicize and publicize and publicize until a few weeks later, when some of the other some of those candidates who were Democrats had gotten some other endorsements. So I mean, we did we did do the same thing for the Democrats. But we did it by holding everything up a little bit.



26:07

Okay, can we hold on for just a second?



26:10

The sound of Texas KPFT Houston, a Pacifica radio network station 90.1 FM 89.1k e os College Station,



26:20

and if you would like to give your opinion on what's going on tonight, the number is 713-526-5738. And the show you're listening to is after hours, queer radio with attitude. And before



26:39

we just jump back, and while we're on the station identification, I think I'd like to thank everyone who called in and pledged. Oh, yes, for the fundraiser. Yeah, whenever we call for harvest, when we were out harvesting money, I guess we got over \$200,000 A lot of members, and thank you all very much for supporting this station and supporting the kinds of discussion and the kinds of things that happen on the station. This is your station, this is your community. This is your community radio.



27:15

And I really do want to congratulate everyone for being generous in supporting the station and giving a voice to so many different causes are so important to the community. Scott,



27:27

you have just on a personal note, you Your face is so very familiar. And I know that I've seen you for many years around the community.



27:39

Well, Jimmy YES. You know, it's trying to be like on on the the dollar bill or the denomination. I, in a lot of ways I would really like to be invisible. And to be able to get people to move and do what they should do, what they ought to do the right thing that they should do. It was really interesting this morning to hear it phrase this way to stop committing the sin of not voting. Wow, that's, you know, I've, I've heard I've heard a lot of things called sin before. And I didn't know when when when the Reverend James Dixon got up there and started talking about how sex wasn't sin. And not voting was I thought I had become Alice in Wonderland.



28:37

We've got a caller on line one who would like to air a comment. It's Sarah dipalma, who is featured here on the second Saturday of



28:47

the month. And okay, okay, we do this.



28:56

And then we push the number one button,



28:58

and Sarah should be there. Good.



29:01

Hi, there,



29:02

I share



29:03

with them listen, this conversation and I gotta say, I think they're, I think it's a mistake to give all of your power to one political party. I don't care who it is. Our experiences when we lobby, that new resident Republicans or Democrats that both parties have lots of good people, they also have plenty of jerks. And if you work with them, and if you show them that you work with them, sometimes you can actually convince even your arch enemies to take a walk



29:29

on a vote. And Sarah, you are with



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Oh, I'm sorry. I'm the director of the Texas gender and Information Network, among among other things,



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and you are no stranger to walking the halls of Congress.



29:43

No, or the state legislature either. And I think it's a mistake from another aspect. If you give all your support to one party, they have no incentive to actually do anything for you. You know, one definition of a liberal as of liberal is person who leaves the room when the fight We'd start

one definition of a liberal as of liberal is person who leaves the room when the right we'd start. And I think it's really a very dangerous proposition to give all your support to one party.



30:07

Really Republican tonight.



30:10

Well, you know, I agree that that right now, it would be really hard for me to find a Republican that I would vote for. But having said that, I think it's important that we maintain a dialogue with him. I think in the end, if we just simply walk away from the Republicans, I think we're cutting off our nose to spite our face,



30:30

sir, this is Scott, I'm sort of curious. You know, I think we're pretty well in the same camp in terms of, you know, lobbying being something that that is different from electing, but what do you think it's going to take to change the Republican Party to where they can publicly acknowledge transexuals?



30:55

Well, the real issue in the Republican Party right now, if you want to boil it right down to the hardest part of it, is money. If you were a candidate right now in the Republican Party, and particularly if you're running for some of the state legislative seats, that require not really huge money, but you need money to come from somewhere. And if that money is coming from the religious, right, they just bought and sold you. And until I until I see some change in funding, I think the Republicans are gonna continue to have this trouble. You know, the Christian coalition raises a million dollars a day, how much is to get how much is the Human Rights Campaign going to raise this month? And there's there's the major part of the problem.



31:41

Yeah, that's pretty major.



31:44

You know, it sounds like to me, what your advocate advocating is some type of campaign finance reform.



31:52

I think in the end that's the answer Because my experience has been when we talk to the

I think in the end, that's the answer. Because my experience has been when we talk to the Republicans, what they said during the election, and what they actually believe privately, is often two different things. And you know, if you've done lobbying, you know that sometimes, there are legislative ways around things. You can get things attached as writers, you can do all sorts of strange things,



32:15

you call them something else, you do something else with them, you know, instead of this being a, a right, this is something that we're going to do because it's the it's the thing that needs to be done. I yeah, I've been there lobbying playing the same game. The problem is the Republican or the you used it the Christian Coalition, which is neither Christian and not that much of a coalition. True. He is able to, you know, basically ferret out when they've been had Ronald Reagan, mess them around for years, and they really didn't like it. And the Falwell's and the pat robertson's, and the Gary Bowers said, no, no, we're not going to tolerate this anymore. If you're going to play this game with us, we're not going to support you and you're gone.



33:06

Well, that's right. And they cut off the money. And that was a big issue. I live I live in a district where Kyle Janek is the state representative. Now, if anybody knows,



33:16

very good state representative coming out,



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he's a right wing crazy.



33:21

I mean, you really if you could elect Mike Lasseeter, is your state representative and have somebody that is not only queer, but he's saying,



33:31

Well, anybody think at this point, we'd be better than Kyle Janet. But my experience even with him is that there's sometimes you can do something. The point that I'm trying to make is I don't know that it makes a lot of sense for us to just give all of our support to one party. I think the what they what the caucus got forced into was giving their support the one party because when another party didn't show is understandable. At the same time, I think it's also going to be understandable when the Republicans turn around and say, why should you help it you help you out? Why should we help the Political Caucus? You people don't do anything for us? I think

some dialogue is gonna have to be established. I don't care how far behind the scenes it is. Something has to be different. Because if they have a sweep in the in the legislative elections were like that it's process.



34:25

Well, one thing, Sarah, this is Michelle. Oh, yeah. One thing that is being done is the Lesbian Gay rights lobby of Texas, the LTR. Hell does lobby, both Republican and Democratic candidate representatives and senators. They have, like you said, they have found that that's what they have to do. So lobbying and working with them is one thing. Voting isn't the Other. And so what we have to do is vote for those people who will get us there where we need to be, and secure our rights and lobby with everyone. And we have to honestly lobby with everyone.



35:17

Yeah, sir. I think, yeah, it sounds to me like, you're, you're speeding things up a bit, and you're getting to the part where the Democratic Party is in control of everything. And the Republican Party has gone away. And then if the Democratic Party becomes complacent, because it has control,



35:39

well, that they've seen that happen in numerous states, especially in New York, do you talk to the gay and lesbian community in New York, they'll tell you that the Democrats will smile to the face and produce nothing in the legislature? Because they don't feel they have to figure out where the hell do their query is gonna go? Well, okay, the roster, nobody well,



35:57

but I think 20 years ago,



36:00

I think that's where we actually would like to get to.



36:07

I'd like to be there too, because



36:09

we can work that one easy. With with people



36:12

like Glenn Maxi and the ability of the gay and lesbian community to actually elect gays and lesbians, to the state legislature to the city council. There is that overriding factor that it's going to be real hard to mess with our interest if we're there at the table. And when we formed Stonewall gay and lesbian Democrats, and we looked around the room, at who were the people that were sitting in the Democratic National Committee offices in Washington, DC, half the people in that room were gay, lesbian, or transgendered. We are the Democratic Party. This is not something where we are excluded. We were not doing our jobs. We were not reaching out to the gays and lesbians in this country. Because we were already there.



37:16

nice problem to have.



37:18

I you know, it, it is a problem that I feel substantially guilty for. Because we were there and we forgot those people back home, we forgot that Harvey Milk was dead and that there was nobody standing in his place.



37:40

Well, I just wanted to get in my two cents worth I'm on a mobile phone.



37:44

Thank you so much for spending all of that money that you've just invested in. I wish you'd use the landline and contributed the money to KPFT.



37:55

I do. I just did a long distance interview and didn't charge them a nickel so they get in.



38:00

We'll be saying thank you, man. We'll be seeing Sarah in two weeks.



38:04

Okay, listen, Y'all take care. Thank you, sir. On the 14th.





38:07

Okay, bye, bye, bye. Now, Sarah did have a point, though, about the two party system. And I know that there's going to be one Republican I vote for. And it's Mike Anderson, for judge. And I believe it's 226. He's the guy who convicted, the bizarre 10. And I just, I mean, just that act alone will get me to the booth to vote for him.



38:36

The single issues that motivate an individual voter to vote one way or another in a particular race are something that are unique to you. And that something is gonna be you know, that your feelings about the Broussard murder, and the punishment of the perpetrators of that murder is something that you need to deal with. And you're dealing with it by supporting the judge that gave handed out the sentence. Even though this sentence is nothing compared to the crime



39:11

I was what could equal the crime as as a punishment.



39:17

And you know, as yellow dog Democrat who sits here in gauging in electoral politics and trying to convince the community that it is in their best interest to go to the polls and to vote the straight Democratic ticket. I can say, Okay, you have a reason for voting for this particular reason. We have so few democratic judges down at the courthouse right now. That I don't know what the Anderson race has a an opponent or not, no idea whatsoever. But the position that I have, is that the Republican Party has so dominated the courthouse that there are at Shirley judges telling lawyers telling defendants that this is the way Republicans do it, we're gonna set your bond higher, because you don't have our bid because you do have a lawyer, we're going to set your bond higher, because you look like someone who would flee, meaning you're black, you're Brown, by telling people who are not citizens of this country that have a different skin color, that they're going to have to pay a higher bond because of their skin color. And because that's the way Republicans do it. This is not justice, no discrimination, standard



40:43

stereotyping. And unfortunately, we're I think we're all a part of that. But



40:49

unfortunately, we are Yes. And it is a learning process to be able to recognize that we are to move beyond the politics of race, the politics of gender, the politics is social damage and sexual orientation. And to be able to say, fundamentally, what is in the best interest of this

country? Is the hatred, the discrimination, the rejection, the exclusion of people, that the Republican Party, I did not write the Republican state platform?



41:26

I know, I've read it, it's horrible. And those people



41:28

wrote it. If you're voting for those people, are you voting for their platform?



41:33

No, I'm not voting for their platform. I'm voting for that man. For that one. One particular reason. And that reason is important to me.



41:45

In that I and you know, I acknowledge the importance of that reason to you, and I'm not going to tell you no, you should vote for the opponent if he happens to have



41:54

one. And I also have two people out there that we are community sponsored radio and we do as a radio station. And as a producer of a program we I can't I do not endorse any candidate and but you can I'm the Yellow



42:15

Dog Democrat sitting here they can tell you



42:17

tomorrow. sticker on your on your T shirt. Oh,



42:21

god bless Gary Morrow. He is one of the one of the people who really does matter, and who really does support gay and lesbian rights.





42:33

And he has the best bumper sticker in the world.



42:37

He's got the rainbow bumper sticker. I'm still waiting to see the bush jump the bush, Rainbow bumper sticker.



42:43

Yeah, count on that. Well,



42:45

we were out is Gay and Lesbian Liaison. Mario Yano came into town this evening. And we went out and passed out a couple of 100 of those bumper stickers on long Pacific Street and the various bars tonight was really, really encouraged. I saw you out there that the members the 200 or so bumper stickers that we had went in 15 minutes.



43:10

Good. Here in there at this. This Karate outfit? Yeah.



43:15

Did you know we all need to costume you know where it's weird that yeah, you know, when the campaign staff comes out comes down from Austin decides they want to go ahead and do something down here. I mean, we need to provide them with the opportunity to address or to at least see the gay and lesbian community and know that we actually exist down here. Yes. And that it is a Democratic Party. Yesterday party, have fun. Enjoy yourself. This is what it is about. No.



43:49

That's that's the thing, that that whole idea of politics. I mean, what what is the stereotype of politics? But what do what does the general public think of politics? Well, I mean, I, and I don't



44:07

have no idea when they think about it now. smoke filled back rooms with nevermind. You know, it's been a long, strange trip for me in terms of getting to the point where actually we can deal with the politicians that we get elected to hold there, hold them to their promises, and to try to

move them in a position or try to move them forward with our issues in a meaningful and purpose in a manner that we actually get something. This is really difficult. As Michelle noted, it takes a long time to change people's minds. Sure. You know, two or three years ago when we were screening that particular candidate for the state effort, the city council, and He was wishy washy and didn't really want to support domestic partnership benefits in the city government or equal protection for reemployment of gays, lesbians, transsexuals, bisexual and transgender girls, I'm gonna throw them all



45:20

at, you know,



45:21

GLBT we are, you know,



45:22

is gonna cut in here we're about the same age and, and I use the word queer liberally, because I've been using it for 10 years, but still, you know, I'm of that age that somewhere right in the back of my head, you know, just goes, ouch. Every time I say it.



45:41

I wish we could get another word.



45:44

The believe me on the Stonewall organizing committee, we have a very diverse group of people. And the Stonewall Organizing Committee is the only official body that exists at this point in time, we've had too much fun. Putting together I want to hear more about the fun part, putting together this particular organization. And it's been really remarkable that we've had the fun and we've managed to accomplish as much as we have, without having any sort of formal bylaws or structure or elections or any of that wonderful good stuff. It just doesn't just come together,



46:25

sitting around doing stuff. Well, I know Brian Keever is is a part of your group. It's fun.



46:32

That's true. That's true. We have a lot of fun with Brian keeper. And the really interesting part is

how it happened. Sue Schechter, the chair that we elected to be the chair of the Harris County Democrats