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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

gay, houston, lesbian, people, bar, gay community, suburbs, town, city, community, howard, call, friends, meet, unity, driving, person, ray, caller, lumped

SPEAKERS

Speaker 10, Speaker 7, [Music], Speaker 11, Speaker 3, Speaker 8, Speaker 12, Speaker 6, Speaker 9, Speaker 2, Speaker 1, Speaker 5

 Speaker 2 00:01

Okay, your next line is can you hear me?

 Speaker 3 00:08

Your next line is god, you're so good looking Howard you're wonderful.

 Speaker 2 00:12

Caller, you're gonna have to try back. I don't know what happened there. I just really see that attitude is one of giving up, you know, telling me that it's not going to happen. I will not stop beating my head up against a wall until there's a cure.

 Speaker 3 00:29

Yeah. Until we don't have to fight anymore. You know, it's terrible. I don't understand why in Harris County, Houston, Texas. The fourth, why don't have to talk to you and tell everyone, the fourth largest city in this country. 1234, uno, does, tres, cuatro, the fourth largest--

 Speaker 5 00:48

Hello.

 Speaker 2 00:48

Hello. I'm calling on the air.

Hello. Hi. You're on the air.

 Speaker 5 00:52

Can you hear me?

 Speaker 2 00:53

Uh huh, go ahead.

 Speaker 5 00:54

Can you hear me?

 Speaker 2 00:55

Yes. Go ahead.

 Speaker 3 00:56

Maybe they can't hear us.

 Speaker 5 00:57

Yes. I would just like to talk about the political situation here in Houston.

 Speaker 2 01:07

Okay.

 Speaker 5 01:09

First of all, I think a lot of people fail to realize that, number one, you know, we are located in the middle or the bottom of the so called Bible Belt.

 Speaker 2 01:26

Good point.

 Speaker 3 01:27

Let's get over it.

 Speaker 5 01:28

And, not only that, we're going to meet a lot of resistance right now. And it's okay, like San Francisco, Seattle, West Village, New York City. You have the regular troops, right here in Houston. It almost takes like a special forces unit or command to break through the wall of resistance and prejudice towards the gay community and the situations that affect the gay and lesbian community down here. And I'm originally from San Francisco. I'm here in Houston on temporary assignment with a big company. And I have learned a lot. In the last three months that I've been here, I have learned a lot of ugly things about gay culture in Houston. For once, I mean, for one thing, I've discovered a very high level of animosity between suburban gays and inner city gays. Particularly the ones--

 Speaker 3 02:38

You find that in San Francisco?

 Speaker 5 02:40

--the gays who live out, you know, in Fort Bend County or West Houston and whatnot are always putting down and do not want to be associated with, in any way or form, with the gay community and the Montrose or the Heights.

 Speaker 3 02:58

Right.

 Speaker 5 02:58

And I mean, with that kind of, you know, division and fracturing, it becomes very difficult to get things done particularly if you have a lot of suburban gays who are playing, playing the role of what I would call desperate wannabes. They are so desperate trying to play the role of being straight or or trying to be accepted into the, what do you call it? The white male heterosexual power structure?

 Speaker 2 03:38

Right. You have you also know, I don't know if you've gotten involved at all with any of the organizations in town. But there's an incredible amount of divisiveness. Slate. Divisiveness between the organizations here in town, I don't think you could get ACT UP and the Political Caucus to agree on anything.

S

Speaker 5 03:56

No, no, you can't.

S

Speaker 2 03:59

And maybe that's too extreme of an example. But it seems to be that way within all organizations in town. They're all very divisive.

S

Speaker 5 04:06

Look at the way Ray Hill is treated.

S

Speaker 3 04:10

How was he treated?

S

Speaker 5 04:12

In a rather very disheartening way. If I mentioned the name Ray Hill in different bars or different circles. It's like, an overwhelming response of contempt towards the name. And I'm really shocked at that. Totally shocked. This man has done more for the gay community in this town than anyone I can think of in the last 20 years.

S

Speaker 2 04:42

Oh, he's done more than anyone hands down. No questions about it. The attitude I've seen a lot, I've seen that same attitude a lot. And I think the attitude is and it's usually from younger people. That he hugs the attention that that's not the image we need so much the, the white man, the older white male, that kind of looks straight. And, but I don't know that people take into consideration what Ray has done. Ray Hill went to Richard Nixon when he was here in Houston for the Republican Convention back in '68 and his challenger and met face to face with both of them and said, I'm here representing the gay and lesbian community of this country. What are you going to do for us in 1968?

S

Speaker 5 05:33

That was a very dangerous time back then.

S

Speaker 2 05:35

Oh, absolutely. Can you imagine?

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Speaker 5 05:38

I mean, that was the year. Keep in mind 68 was the year that nearly tore this country apart. You had Bobby Kennedy, Martin Luther King assassinated, anti war demonstrations going through the roof, race riots, whatnot. I mean, there was a lot of people will tell you, '68 was one of the worst year since the Civil War this country had ever seen.

S

Speaker 2 06:00

Do you think Ray Hill is is kind of our town's, I don't know if I should come back on to Harvey Milk?

S

Speaker 5 06:08

Oh, definitely. Most definitely. Yes, absolutely. And another another situation that I'd like to bring up. I'm also affiliated with MACT. And, you know, from various people that I've spoken to within MACT tell me that compared to a lot of other cities, the country with MACT branches. They tell me that, particularly among African American members, and Hispanic and Asian members, several other black and Hispanic members have told me that they experience, this is shocking. They tell me they experience more bigotry, prejudice, racism, from gay whites in Houston than they do from heterosexual whites.

S

Speaker 2 07:07

Oh, there's no question about what I do that, but I will. I will agree with you 150%. But I will also tell you a brief story, and then we're gonna have to go to another call. I was involved with Queer Nation a couple years ago when your organization Men of All Colors Together was thrown out of a club called the 611. I don't know if you've heard this story.

S

Speaker 5 07:26

I've heard about that story. And it's disgusting.

S

Speaker 2 07:28

The owner of that bar said, and I quote him because I would never use these words otherwise. "I don't want my bar to become a nigger bar, or a wetback bar." And he threw those people out. Now MACT came to Queer Nation, and told Queer Nation about it, which of course, outraged the organization, and said, we want to do something about it. But MACT didn't want to ruffle feathers and refused to be involved. They said, we'll tell you about it. If you want to do something about it, that's fine. But we're not going to be involved in it. And so sometimes, maybe like in that case, and this might have been under old leadership, or whatever, because

this is several years ago. You know, you got to go in and fight. And I think that kind of attitude, where they would not go in and fight with us kind of invites that kind of bigotry, you can't play the victim role.

S

Speaker 5 08:22

Well, there's another side to that situation. First of all, I was really shocked that AMCT wanted to affiliate itself with an establishment like the 611. Because club people regard to 611 as below board, and more or less, more or less put that bar in the same category as the Atrium or what's the other one on Westheimer?

S

Speaker 2 08:49

QT's.

S

Speaker 5 08:49

Yeah, that they more or less put 611 in that category. So that's why they don't, they didn't really feel any loss. Particularly the word that type of language used by the manager of 611 is more or less an example of, you know, a good example of what the real source is over there. It's basically a scum bar.

S

Speaker 2 09:19

I have really enjoyed talking to you. I appreciate your call. And I appreciate your comments about Ray Hill. I take those to heart. I don't, I don't think we do give him enough credit. Thank you so much for calling.

S

Speaker 5 09:31

Thank you.

S

Speaker 2 09:32

Hi, you're on the air. Who am I talking to?

S

Speaker 6 09:37

Hello.

S

Speaker 2 09:37

— Hello.

 Speaker 6 09:38

It's Tom.

 Speaker 2 09:39

Hi, Tom. How are you doing?

 Speaker 6 09:41

Oh, doing great. I'm going away for 20 some years. And Ray Hill is the icon of our community. Can you hear me?

 Speaker 2 09:57

Oh yeah.

 Speaker 6 09:57

Okay. And let me give you a quote from a gay activists by name of Keys. I'm not gonna give his last name. Ray Hill. I was waiting Ray hill with this little way un-quote. Anyway, apathy. Last election we have over 400,000 is estimated. Over 400,000 queers in the city, and we put up and we can't put one in office?

 Speaker 3 10:34

That's a good point. Yes.

 Speaker 6 10:36

You know, even if we only turned out 100,00--

 Speaker 3 10:39

We can't even fill the Wortham theater, what're you talking about?

 Speaker 6 10:46

And I stood up on Pacific street up there trying to get people to register. And I was handing out

And I stood up on Pacific Street up there trying to get people to register. And I was handing out some of Brian's flyers. And I have never seen such hatred. What goes beyond apathy? I'm telling the truth.

 Speaker 3 11:07

Do you have any solutions to the problem? What do you think we're missing? Are we missing out on something?

 Speaker 6 11:13

Yes, it's what we're missing out. And I find it among the activists in this city. And I'm gonna put it right on the button. And I've noticed that for some time, the activists like to call themselves activists but when it comes to like the bar at 611, that son of a bitch should have been closed down a long time ago. If anyone, if any bar practices bigotry in any, in any form, then then by God, we ought to get out there and close the damn business.

 Speaker 3 11:48

Do you think every gay and lesbian in this city should have carried a sign and picketed that bar and ruined its business and closed it down?

 Speaker 6 11:55

Absolutely.

 Speaker 3 11:56

I agree. Totally.

 Speaker 2 11:57

Where, Tom, where's activism in this town?

 Speaker 6 12:01

That's a very good question. Where is it?

 Speaker 2 12:03

Queer Nation is dead. GLPC seems to be inefficient, effective and ACT UP, what the hell have they done lately? I mean, what what what was the last thing ACT UP did? I saw him do a little

protest at Castle Dental three months ago. And I haven't heard anything since.

 S Speaker 6 12:24

Yeah. I keep talking about this. And and, and the thing that that people don't pay any attention to, the hatred in the city starts with religion.

 S Speaker 2 12:37

You're right.

 S Speaker 6 12:38

Okay. We do nothing. Absolutely nothing. San Francisco did, did, did something, that dammit, I wish I had been there. And I would have loved to have my picture on on Pat Robertson, because I would have given him the bird in a New York second right there. Anyway, we do nothing because of our of our fear toward religion. There is no such thing as fundamentalist Christianity. First of all they are they are a contradiction. But we do absolutely nothing when these bastards stand up and tell blatant lies, we do absolutely nothing.

 S Speaker 2 13:21

So what do we do? How do we approach it?

 S Speaker 3 13:23

What's the solution?

 S Speaker 6 13:25

The solution?

 S Speaker 3 13:26

Yes.

 S Speaker 6 13:27

It is to get out there and do it.



S

Speaker 3 13:30

You know, I really think what we're missing here is that, and I don't I abhor violence. I really do. And I think--

S

Speaker 6 13:38

I'm sorry about that.

S

Speaker 3 13:40

No, no, no, no, no, listen, let me finish. Let me finish.

S

Speaker 6 13:48

--That you don't like that? No, no, no, no, no. Get to the place where there's going to be found in Harrison. So okay, you did nothing except stand by and say, Hey, I can't do it. I just can't participate. And it's gonna be done.

S

Speaker 3 14:04

You didn't let me finish. What I'm saying is that, I think that the reason why activism is at a near zero in this town is because not enough people have been hurt. And not enough people have been badgered. I think what's going to happen and just like any civil rights movement, this country is going to be taken to the streets. I abhor violence. But I think the only way that gay and lesbians are ever going to achieve any kind of lawlessness in this country are going to be through violence. And I hate to say that, right?

S

Speaker 6 14:34

You're absolutely right.

S

Speaker 3 14:35

And what happens at the the gay lesbians in Houston, they're not mad yet. But one day, caller, they will be. And that's what's going to happen. Because this city, this state, this country is going to make us so mad that we will one day take it to the streets like they did at Stonewall 25 years ago.

S

Speaker 6 14:54

I was telling him that. That, I'm running into this right now And I'm finding it alone. But I'm going to win, you understand?

S

Speaker 3 15:04

We all will at the end, but we've got to unite.

S

Speaker 6 15:07

But, but there is persecution out there, of course. But the thing is that, that we use a bar, and we swing around from bar to bar and do absolutely nothing toward achieving civil rights. There is no such reality as as gay rights. It is simply human rights. Exactly.

S

Speaker 3 15:33

We all human.

S

Speaker 2 15:34

Tom, thanks so much.

S

Speaker 3 15:35

Thanks, Tom.

S

Speaker 2 15:38

We're gonna take one more quick phone call before we go to a little music and a little break. And then we'll come back and take some other phone calls after that. At 526-573-8526 KPFT. You are listening to After Hours a continuing tradition on KPFT Houston, 90.1 FM tonight with your host, Howard McHale, and myself, Scott Lewis, the next caller hung up.

S

Speaker 3 16:03

So it's blinking again.

S

Speaker 2 16:06

We can't take that call yet. So Howard, what are we going to do? Can I fix your hair? All the lines light up.

S

Speaker 3 16:14

All the lines. I tell ya, but we can't take any more calls. How come? It's getting that time? We

ALL THE TIMES, I TELL YA, BUT WE CAN'T TAKE ANY MORE CALLS. HOW COME? IT'S GETTING TIGHT TIME! WE haven't screened them yet. Hey, we have to screen y'all guys.

S

Speaker 2 16:22

And so do give us a call at 526-573-8526 KPFT. And we'll continue this discussion in just a minute. Before we do that, we're gonna take a little break for a little music. We're not going to play Go West. You know, if Howard had his way we would play Go West as every song on this whole show tonight, what we are going to do is we're gonna play a dedication that I want to do for a very dear friend of mine. I don't, I don't know that we always realize how special and close that our friends are to us. And I just realized in the last month how my closest friend in the world really is my closest friend in the world and that I really care about him. And I'm playing this song for someone who's always there for me when I need him. This is for my best friend.

S

Speaker 3 17:20

For two reasons. It's about my height, maybe an inch shorter to build the field to go by Cedric and my daughter, Bill. Bullington to give anyone a free Greg for any reason, because you are enticing them to be it's illegal because nobody enticed and it's illegal under the guidelines from--

S

Speaker 2 18:02

Right. I gotta run. Thanks for your suggestion

S

Speaker 7 18:12

Submitted for your approval. You're on your way back to the old home place. You're driving down that lonesome road. There's a sign up ahead. You're entering in to the Bluegrass Zone. Every Sunday, noon to three on World Radio 90.1 FM KPFT in Houston.

[

[Music] 18:37

Against we have heard on high preaching sermons or other things, and morons in ribeye, echoing their legal strength. Oh, yeah. You need education. Gosh, Oh, yeah. You need to pay John to

S

Speaker 8 19:07

The volunteer programmers of lesbian and gay voices. Wish you a joyful, peaceful and safe holiday season. And most of all, an end to homophobia. Tune in to lesbian and gay voices. Friday six to 8pm here on World Radio 90.1 KPFT Houston.

S

Speaker 3 20:14

Late nights KPFT Houston.

S

Speaker 2 20:20

Eight inches soft. Oh my goodness. We're just learning new little tidbits as the show goes on and on and on about what? Oh, I don't know. So if I put this on a minus, then his mic will do phone as well. Is that correct? I don't know, either. Anthony, Anthony Rios has joined us the only openly gay person down at the City Health Department. Is it the city health department's at the city county health department or that was a proposed merger that never happened?

S

Speaker 9 20:51

Please don't confuse me with the county.

S

Speaker 2 20:53

Oh, aren't they the worst. So go in there and push my buttons, Anthony.

S

Speaker 3 20:57

Anthony, push my buttons.

S

Speaker 2 20:59

We're taking phone calls here at 5265738526 KPFT on what seems to be a quiet controversial topic?

S

Speaker 1 21:10

Are you ready?

S

Speaker 2 21:11

Honey, I'm always ready for you. Are you there?

S

Speaker 10 21:14

Hello.

 Speaker 2 21:15

Hi, what's your name?

 Speaker 10 21:16

My name is Erin.

 Speaker 2 21:18

Erin, and you were saying you have come from Mexico. And there seems to be different attitude here in America about gays and lesbians.

 Speaker 10 21:24

Oh, well. In Mexico, this isn't about gays is completely different because they very repressed and if the police they sit them in the street. They go to jail. That's what they do with them. And so they are high and looking Houston are still the same thing is like gay people cannot be openly free. I don't know why.

 Speaker 3 21:51

Do you think they should be?

 Speaker 10 21:53

I think all of them we are people. I mean, if you're gay, dviduals straight. I mean, we are human beings. We are persons. We need that. But that's just my opinion. But Houston doesn't have this kind of, I don't know how to call it, they are not ready. Because the big corporation is very funny. They're open to work with them to give them work. But they don't want them. It's funny. I don't know what.

 Speaker 3 22:27

So do you believe that believe that the homophobia in Houston is due to the large corporations?

 Speaker 10 22:33

I think so I think there's something is wrong right here in the city. I don't know what it is. I just don't really, I would like to know what's going on because it looks like it people, the another set of people in a way they are, they all only had the right to be the way they wanted to be?

Because we see you with blank. And we had the same thing. I mean, so big corporations do not understand that.

 Speaker 3 23:02

Well, what do you think gay and lesbians in Houston can do to eradicate that opinion? How can they change life and Houston for us?

 Speaker 10 23:11

Kind of I just I was listening to another person to just talk a few minutes ago and only with violence and I was one time right here. In Montrose because I live close by and I was in this a speaker program. And, and I was just shocked. No, so there were power like a community has so together. I never been in one. And-

 Speaker 3 23:37

Do you feel you're in a powerful gay community right now?

 Speaker 10 23:40

A part?

 Speaker 3 23:41

A part of a powerful gay community.

 Speaker 10 23:44

I do. I mean, I live right here in Montrose. And everybody says, oh it's the vendor community, this is the best place for me. I can go from the middle of the night and nobody bothers me.

 Speaker 3 23:56

What do you do to empower your environment? As a gay as a lesbian in this community?

 Speaker 10 24:03

I'm not a lesbian.

 Speaker 3 24:04

Listen, you're not lesbian? No. Okay. Well,

 Speaker 10 24:08

I know I lived in my best friend in Mexico, okay. He was gay person. And he suffered just like me, went for his boyfriend. So I definitely understand exactly what's happening with that community.

 Speaker 3 24:25

How can you help the gay community in Houston?

 Speaker 10 24:27

How can I help them? I don't know. I am a very quiet person. I can talk to the father, I'm a very quiet person. I'm not really talking, I am persons who like to do things and everything is going wrong in the way I do. I really I don't know what to do. That I should do. I would like to be free all this community, sounds like all of them, we just we are all ones. I don't know why we can never set the things.

 Speaker 2 25:01

I wish that all straight people had that same view. We thank you so much for calling.

 Speaker 3 25:06

Thank you.

 Speaker 2 25:08

You can call in and join the conversation at 526-KPFT, that's 5265738. A gentleman named Rick called in and he said that he had stumbled onto the, I guess he stumbled onto the program. And or he might be a regular listener. I don't know. But he is a Christian and kind of took offense to being lumped into the fundamental--

 Speaker 3 25:35

Wait a minute, can there not be gay Christians? Let's--

 Speaker 2 25:39

There are gay Christians. Okay, but he was he is not homophobic, does not have a problem with gays and does have a problem and being lumped into a big bad, bad Christian people kind of lump over in the corner. The, because he's not homophobic and all Christians are not homophobic and there are gay Christians and it is a good point.

 Speaker 3 26:04

I'm not heterophobic?

 Speaker 2 26:06

Well, I am. But you know, I think I think what has caused, what has caused us to be so anti-right wing is Rush Limbaugh, Pat Robertson, Jesse Helms.

 Speaker 3 26:19

The American Senate, the Treasury Department, the Justice Department, the Defense Department. Keep going?

 Speaker 2 26:28

Well, the FBI takes us now.

 Speaker 3 26:30

Thank you, Janet Reno.

 Speaker 2 26:32

And Anthony, if you would push line seven, we'll go to our next caller. Caller, are you there? Yeah. Hi, what's your name?

 Speaker 11 26:43

My name is Bill. Bill, you're on the air. Okay. My topic was I heard the gentleman say earlier that there's no unity between interloop and people, he directed more toward west Houston. Two years ago, I moved here and moved directly into West Houston, and I'm a property manager. I have plenty of gay people, gay couples on my property. And there is no interaction between the two. We're separated, and there's no interaction with gay people outside the loop at all. I was told by people inside the loop that I would be miserable living out here while I liked the area. But why can't we bring it outside of the loop and outside of the Montrose? Montrose district.

S

Speaker 2 27:29

Do you think that's because there's kind of a fear we are, as somebody pointed out earlier, and sometimes when you live down in the gay ghetto, you forget, we are deep in the crap of the Bible Belt. I mean, we're way down in it. And so is that why you think they're scared of being labeled? Is that when there's not an interaction out in the in the outer loop?

S

Speaker 11 27:49

Very much so. Yeah, I mean, yeah, I've gone to the bars with with friends of mine, and people are trying to interact and wanting to get people's address, you can market yourself, you know, market ourselves, market our community and get it out of the interloop. And people won't give their address out.

S

Speaker 3 28:08

Let's remember that, that every city in this country, large, big, small medium, they have an inner loop, and they have an outer loop. The urban city sprawl and they have the outside, in let's go into Des Moines, Iowa, okay, Des Moines, Iowa, may have a wonderful gay community, but Jasper, Iowa, who has a farming community of 400, and maybe seven homosexuals, they like their community the way they are. So therefore, we have to compare urbanization to the outside community.

S

Speaker 2 28:37

But you know, Howard, I was just just, I was in Austin months back, and I visited with a friend of a friend who we drove around in his car and he had his gay pride flag on and the friend I was with commented, girl, look at you way out here, you know, all north of town with your gay pride flag on your car. And the person that we were riding with said, hon, this is Austin. It doesn't matter, people are people. Nobody cares. Why is it not that we're here? You don't see rainbow pride flags on 1960, I guaran-damn-tee it.

S

Speaker 11 29:12

I know and I'm out on highway 6, you know you definitely don't get out here.

S

Speaker 2 29:16

I have some friends out there. I could hook you up with, they do great barbecues.

S

Speaker 11 29:21

Thinking four and four between

they're new and far between.

 Speaker 3 29:22

If you see me driving down 1960 you'll see my rainbow flag.

 Speaker 11 29:26

I mean, that's one thing

 Speaker 2 29:28

You'll see is for it too, it's huge. The man has no hair. Sy Sperling. He's trying to date Sy Sperling, so he can get free transplants.

 Speaker 3 29:38

Yeah, I'm getting a part time job and a drive-in. Don't pick up my hairdo. I see your waistline.

 Speaker 2 29:45

That's because it's nude radio.

 Speaker 3 29:49

Yes, we understand. I think what we lose focus on is that actually what's going on here is that we're a big city and we live in the city for certain reasons and as gay and lesbians, we live here because we can be more open. And we choose to live in the suburbs and way, way out. So we can be quiet. And we can, some people we have to understand our community don't want to be blatant, ask my ex lover. I got used to screaming at me for being so blatant. But what happens if I think that's the choice that those people make? And what happens that we have to understand living in the city is that we can't ask those game lesbians to make the same choice that we make. Because we can be a tad bit more open here in the city. Do you understand what I'm trying to say?

 Speaker 11 30:36

Yeah, I understand what you're trying to say. But, I mean.

 Speaker 2 30:39

Don't you feel like you're missing out on something?

 Speaker 11 30:41

Yeah, I mean, for me to go to a place like basic brothers or to go anywhere and pick up a twit, jeez, I have to drive 30 miles to get pick up a twit. You know, there's no media, gay media whatsoever. Out here. There's just no relation.

 Speaker 3 31:02

Well, why don't you start a game media group out there?

 Speaker 11 31:06

Okay, well--

 Speaker 2 31:07

No, Howard, he's talking about, he's talking about getting like, being able to run down to a corner business that's close to him and pick up a twit or pick up a new voice or a triangle.

 Speaker 3 31:17

Maybe maybe no one's, no one has ever approached these businesses. Maybe that's why that's why you we need you. We need voices.

 Speaker 11 31:25

Good point. That's why I'm calling. that I've been here for two years and have not seen. But like I said earlier, there is there is a big diversity here. There's very little unity. I mean, I came from a little town in Louisiana, and the population was much less than here, obviously. And what little community we had, what was less prejudiced against each other that that was another topic that was brought up that was real good. Is the fight that go on between it are incredible here. You know, there's no support and backing each other hardly at all, you get your own little clique going. And that's about it. And everyone else fights with everyone else.

 Speaker 3 32:12

What do you suggest for unity?

 Speaker 11 32:15

That's really a good question. I am, I feel like I have a wide variety of friends and a bunch of

different little cliques. And as far as it's like, you know, God forbid, the wrong person goes to the wrong person's party or something like that everyone has a fit here. So what do you do?

 Speaker 3 32:35

I don't know. There is, you know, believe it or not what, what you just said, is really remarkable, because we do have unity, we just don't know how to funnel it. We don't know how to bring it together. And I think what happens is that the communication is lost. There are barriers and we have no role models. We have no gay and lesbian political role models. We have no gay and lesbian role models period.

 Speaker 11 33:03

I agree with that. 110%.

 Speaker 3 33:06

And what we tried to establish the people that who try to think we're on the in the inside loop is that we try to think we're role models for you guys' welfare. And, and I try to think that I'm a role model for that guy who's coming out tomorrow. Yeah, well, who will hear Go West for the first time tonight.

 Speaker 2 33:25

For the first through fifth? Keep making his play the damn thing.

 Speaker 11 33:32

I am a first time listen and I know wouldn't mind hearing Go West.

 Speaker 2 33:36

You had to say that. Thank you so much for calling.

 Speaker 11 33:45

Have a good one.

 Speaker 2 33:46

You too. Howard. We're not playing that damn song.

S

Speaker 3 33:51

I want to hear one more time.

S

Speaker 2 33:54

Number six.

S

Speaker 3 33:55

Number six.

S

Speaker 2 33:59

Hi, you're on the air. Hello.

S

Speaker 3 34:04

Hello.

S

Speaker 2 34:07

All right. Well, we'll--

S

Speaker 3 34:09

Go to number eight.

S

Speaker 2 34:11

Don't go to number eight.

S

Speaker 3 34:13

It's blinking.

S

Speaker 2 34:14

It means it's ringing queen.

S

Speaker 3 34:20

Ringing a blue.

S

Speaker 2 34:21

Somebody pick up the clue phone.

S

Speaker 3 34:25

Yes, that's what's missing. I think we need to be role models.

S

Speaker 2 34:30

Hey, well, Howard. We are role models. Please, we're the bald role models, but hey, what the hell? He put out, he brought a great point, which was this community has great diversity and no unity. And I think that's a valid point. I don't know really. I don't think we're unified. If we were unified the Wortham would have been sold out tonight.

S

Speaker 3 34:53

It should have been.

S

Speaker 2 34:54

It should have been. Let's go to call number eight. Hi. Push harder. Anthony push harder. Oh, harder. Anthony, harder. Oh, sorry. Oh, hi. You're on the air.

S

Speaker 12 35:10

Joe.

S

Speaker 2 35:11

Hi, Joe.

S

Speaker 12 35:12

I live out in the suburbs as well. And I moved out here five years ago, moved to a suburb only because it's close to work. I'm not one of these morning people were to work. But anyways,

you're talking about unity and where we can start. I think actually, we need to start within ourselves, within the bars. For example, a lot of people live out in the suburbs, when they go out to a bar, that's their only alternative to meet other gay people. Because it's very difficult to meet gay people in the suburbs. There's no common meeting place to meet people.

 **Speaker 2 35:52**

Well, the meat department at Apple Tree's pretty good, though. But ask Howard.

 **Speaker 3 35:56**

You know, that is a good that that is a wonderful point to bring up, caller. I might ask you that. And the reason why is because see, as a culture, as, as a culture. Yes, we are quite young in all this. And what happened is that society only allows us to be totally open in our domain. And where's our domain. Where's our domain right now, in gay and lesbian bars.

 **Speaker 6 36:22**

if you go out to a bar, and you see someone standing by themselves, how likely are you to approach a person? And just be friendly and talk to them?

 **Speaker 2 36:32**

Oh, you can't? Because you're afraid they think you want to trick? Exactly. You can't just make friends.

 **Speaker 3 36:37**

Oh, that is nonsense.

 **Speaker 2 36:41**

Howard, that's because the only reason you ever approach anyone is to trick.

 **Speaker 12 36:46**

A lot of people are so conscious for going out to the bar by themselves, right? I mean, I've had gay men have told me that I'm good looking. And I've met some very nice gay people before. But a lot of gay people, when they go out to the bars with their friends and their groups, they're embarrassed to be seen by their friends talking to someone and standing by themselves as

well, you know. And you gotta realize that sometimes when a person is by themselves, it's not because they're prudent, that person may live out in the suburbs is trying to meet gay people. Right?

S

Speaker 3 37:23

Yeah, I think there's another point here that has to be brought up. And that is how we cruise, how we meet other gay and lesbians in a bar. And I think maybe we should offer a home study course and not in a humorous effect.

S

Speaker 2 37:34

And don't take it from Eric Deutsch that got me in trouble with court.

S

Speaker 3 37:37

Exactly. What we need to do is that see, you are perceiving right now, when you go to a game lesbian bar, and you're by yourself, automatically, you're telling yourself if I'm going to approach someone, they're going to think that I'm looking for this or I'm looking for that or I'm out of town or bla bla bla, see that doesn't have to happen. Because I think what happens is that as as we grow into the spectrum of gay and lesbian cruising or meeting people. What happens is that we learn to filter out certain things. And we learn to filter out negative things. When I go out, and I look and I talk. There's a whole, there's a whole spectrum of a person I look at, the way he handles himself, the way he speaks, is he alone. I would personally want to go up and talk to someone alone, not in the group. If I ever want to speak to someone in the group. See, people applaud frankness, and that isn't in our society that that there's disregarded. People applaud someone who say, I want to meet you, I want to talk to you, you're interesting, you have pretty eyes, you look intelligent. You're wearing a pin, you're wearing a color I like. I think what happens that we make excuses for the fact that we don't approach more people because we are totally afraid of rejection. Whether you live in the suburbs, whether you live in the city, whether you live in Shreveport, Louisiana, I think what happens is that as gay and lesbians, we should embrace each other a little bit more. Do you understand what I'm saying?

S

Speaker 6 39:08

When I when I first came here, and I go out to the bars, by myself, there would be times I'm not saying every time that I went out, I never saw anyone. Sure I met, I have met people. But when you live out in the suburbs, like normally go out on a Friday or Saturday night, so you don't see people on a regular basis. And a lot of times, people don't want to come out to the suburbs to come see you.

S

Speaker 3 39:31

How do you handle yourself when you go out?

 Speaker 2 39:34

Do you do you traditionally go out by yourself?

 Speaker 3 39:37

Because I don't I go all by myself.

 Speaker 6 39:39

Yeah, I mean, that's that happens because if you don't have friends that live out in your area, you always end up going into town.

 Speaker 2 39:48

Well, you just call Howard and I, and you can meet us.

 Speaker 3 39:50

But you know, but seriously, what happens that I think when you should go out, you should go out with this wonderful positive attitude. You should say to yourself-- Okay, I don't know why you go out. I mean it. I mean, I mean, some people look for sex, some people look to meet friends, some people look just to get away. And and what you need to do is really kind of search out and see people observe people who are doing the same thing you're doing. Oh, yeah, you know what I mean? Because believe or not, there are probably 700 people doing the exact thing you're saying and saying the same exact thing you're saying? And you two aren't connecting? Oh, yeah. So what we need to do is connect a little more here, because what happens is that, believe it or not, in the straight community, they're saying the same thing. Exactly the same thing. And what we need to do is say, because believe it or not, as a gay and lesbian person, it doesn't matter to me where you live. You know what I mean, I think we all don't, we really want to meet people. We all want to make friends. And I think what happens is that if we set this big, subliminal signal saying, I want to meet people, I want to be friends, I want to I want to meet other people, it's going to happen. And if we eradicate these polo shirts, and what kind of car driving, how much money I make and that afraid look. There's so many times I've gone on, people look at me, and they go, well, you look afraid. And I go all by myself all the time. So I think what we have to do is the person going out by themselves wanting to meet friends, I think they have to change. And they have to, they have to kind of open up themselves, let down the walls and say, Hey, I'm a wonderful person and I want to meet someone. I think that's really what you need to do. And we all need to do is gay and lesbians.

 Speaker 12 41:32

Well, I have over the past year I make myself when I go out to a bar, I have to say hi to one person strike one conversation before I leave make my journey back home

S

Speaker 3 41:45

And remember that you might have to make up 10 conversations, because all people are there for different reasons. Just like when my mother and my father met, you know what I mean? I mean, they met on a whim. They didn't know what they were doing either.

S

Speaker 2 41:56

They didn't know what they were doing when they were pregnant with you. Joe, thanks a lot for calling.

S

Speaker 3 42:01

Bye bye, Joe.

S

Speaker 2 42:02

You come out with us sometime.