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SPEAKERS

Brian Nunes, Greg Gordon, Nancy Rodriguez, Lucy Chappelle, Cindy Friedman, Scott Lewis, Brian Bradley

B

Brian Bradley 00:02

And we're back. That was Love is all it takes by Romanovsky. And Phillips, back with us now is Michael and Michael, one from Parents and Friends of Lesbians and gays. And another one from the Houston area teen coalition of homosexuals and the Houston Institute for the protection of youth, which is a very new, very exciting organization that I'm learning more and more about just sitting here tonight. Brian, I think, you know, maybe a little bit about through the Ryan White work that you do what they do, but I know that they're providing shelter for youth, helping them get food, helping them find jobs, people that have these are teenagers that have left their home. Maybe we can start by talking about how, how is PFLAG an organization for those people for the actual for the gap? Because I know you're not a parent of a of a and I'm sure you're a friend of lesbians and gays, you know that you're not a you're not a parent? So where do you come in to the scope of the organism? All

01:19

people are needed. It's it is an embracing community. I have been involved in several organizations. And one need I see, including in my own family, is for parents to go through the coming out process as well, because I think most gays and lesbians don't come out overnight, some do. But there's a process of self acceptance and denial in some ways, stages of death, you know, anger, denial, and acceptance. And then once you know, there was only one thing harder for me than then then then accepting my gayness, and that was living a straight life. For longer, it was killing me. So when they talked about family values, and that we only our activity only leads to death. I'm sorry, but trying to be a straight person. I drove off a bridge. So I mean, yeah, it kills you. So PFLAG exists of a large contingent of parents, a few, a few siblings, brothers and sisters, they have different needs and parents do. Also, lesbians and gays who are who are there in support of parents, when parents, parents, oftentimes it's easier for a parent to talk to someone else's child than it is to talk to your own because you're so you know where your own child has been. And one of the parents in the last meeting says, I just hate that my

child had to go through that for so long. But you're talking about, you know, I wish that he could have told me and sometimes it's the child who can't tell the parents. It's amazing sometimes that parents are stronger sometimes than we give them credit for.



03:07

Let's talk about a little bit about what the child does go through. And Michael, you're 17. So you are probably pretty fresh. In the coming out process. I know that you've left home just in February, why don't you talk a little bit about what you went through in coming out to your parents and why you're not at home anymore at 17 years old.



03:30

Okay, um, well, I guess I'll start out I've known I was gay since I was 14. But I never I've, I admitted to myself that I was just kind of afraid, you know, to let people know. And then in October, I kind of I worked at Chick fil A and AMITA Mall. And I had well, to make long story short,



Brian Bradley 03:49

if you ever wait on Phyllis Schlafly



03:52

for her son?



03:53

No. But um, I came across a number and I call and I met Mark Garner and Steve Tompkins, and we became really close friends. And they've been like really positive role models. And they helped me throughout my coming out process and stuff. And they took me down a marches and show me like the bars and told me about all the different organizations and they gave me a number for lesbian, the gay and lesbian switchboard. And we called that and found out about hatch and everything and I went there. I met a lot of people and they've been there for support and us for basically my best friends are and in December, I started coming out to friends at school, I went to se in high school. And it's like, it seems like it's real conservative, but actually, it's not because there I found out that there are a lot of gay people that go there. But then in December, all these guys started calling and the guys that would call I mean, there was girls would call it but you know, the guys that would call like a little, you know, flaming accent, you know,



04:55

my sister, they were queens.



04:58

Definitely. And And my sister, she's like, she was asked me, you know, she kept questioning me, like, why were gay people calling? And I kept telling her no, they're not gay. They just sound great, you know. And then she started saying, you know, saying all this stuff, and when I went out, and I can't really, I don't remember where it was, but I went out one night, and I came back really late. And my parents, they've noticed the change, because ever since I started, like meeting and hanging around gay people, I like my attitude changed, you know. And so my parents, they noticed, changed a change. And they thought that I was like, on drugs and stuff. And so they my dad, when I do a lot



05:37

happier all the time. Yes.



05:40

There's a problem with it. And



05:41

my parents, my dad was going through my stuff in my bedroom and found a little pink patch card on it. And we were like, we were having like this really big argument. And he was in there. And I saw him go through the day, he went through my chest, and it's like, under some of my clothes, and he found it along with some twigs and stuff. And well, he found out and he was he was really supportive. And he said, Is this he said, Is this what's been bothering you? I said, Well, it hasn't really been bothering me. But it's changed the way I you know, I am. Because I've met, I met people that are similar to me. And he said, Well, he said, Well, why haven't you told me I was just afraid. Then he told me, you know, you really don't have anything to worry about, you know, we're here for you. And so time goes on, you know, Christmas passes, and my sister is going through my things again, and she still doesn't know what she suspects. And she, she told me she she found a twit, you know, and she told my mom and my mom, she started talking to my dad about it. My dad tonight. It's my mom because you know, my mom, she's she's I'm not, you know, like stereotyping anything. But she's, she's, you know, Cuban, she was raised in a Hispanic background. She's She went to Catholic school, our life. And so she's been she was raised homophobic kind of. And so she really didn't know how to react. And so she was like, she was denying it. She told me, I was too scared to ask girls out. And so it's like, and then we just said,



06:59

Are you too scared to ask boys out?



07:01

No. Not not quite know. But she was really, she wasn't cool about it. I mean, we were we'd have like constantly fighting every night. And then like when I one weekend, it was in February. And hatch was going to Austin for Valentine's dance. And I really wanted to go, and my mom wouldn't let me go. And so I went anyway. It was for the weekend. And we came back and my mom was pretty, you know, upset. So she told me I had until the end of the week to get out. And I really didn't know what to do. So I called Mark and Steve went, you know, the people I met when I worked at Chick fil A, and they've been real, you know, they said, well, they let me in, you know, I stayed with them for about three or four weeks. And then my mom felt bad. And she asked me to go back. So I went back later. And then you know, things kept going. And my dad, he's, he's really sick. He has AIDS and everything. And it's just like really depressing the way she, she's reacting, and the way she's handling it. And so it's like, I don't know. That's the main reason I left in June, my parents moved to a leaf. I lived in Pasadena. My parents moved to a leaf and I really didn't want to move out there because I didn't have any friends out there. And so I just, you wanted to be where



B Brian Bradley 08:15

the boys are. Yeah. So first thing we need to do is buy this guy, a key map. South Houston, elite.



08:25

And the weird thing is my parents moved to Pasadena before they moved to elite. And so I went to Rayburn talk about very conservative school. I hated that school. And when I moved out, I transferred to Adobe. And that's where I started having fun. I came out of school, I wore a shirt that said nobody knows I'm gay. One day, I had the whole cafeteria staring at me. And I met a lot of people that a lot of gay people, mostly lesbians, but I met like three guys.



B Brian Bradley 08:49

Michael, what problems specifically are your mother? What problem is your mother experiencing?



08:57

She's just she told me when she first found out she said, I don't want another aids victim in the family. And you want to explain that? Again, okay. Well, my dad, he has AIDS and my uncle had AIDS. And he died in July. And my dad, he's had AIDS for two years. And we found out we never knew he was HIV positive. We found out when he went to the hospital, and they tested him and he came back with AIDS and they see I like this pneumonia. And he's had it for like two years, not the pneumonia, but he's he's had full blown AIDS so we never knew he was HIV positive.



B Brian Bradley 09:31

So possibly your mother is more afraid of someone else that she loves. Yeah, I



09:36

think that's it right now. Like of your sexual



Brian Bradley 09:39

orientation.



09:40

Well, she she thinks she thought I mean, she's not really like this anymore. It's taken time, but like right now she's she thinks that I've convinced her that and you know, not all gay people have AIDS and you know, and she's she's believed that she she first she thought like the typical stereotype you know, like You know, let's insert like our pitch and everything and homosexual men are like, you know, real Nellie. And finally, they aren't. No, they're not. And I was shocked because that's why she told me she told me that. She said, you're not gay. You're just too scared to ask a girl out. And so I'm like, Well, no, you're wrong mom.



S Scott Lewis 10:20

Because he's not too scared to ask a boy out, mom. We have to take another quick little break. But when we come back, I want to talk about what PFLAG has to offer to his mother at the stage that she's in. You're listening to after hours on KPFT 90.1. Houston. This is a continuing tradition that is never ever going to go away. Are you listening? Second Baptist, we're never going anywhere.



B Brian Bradley 10:42

Don't be redundant Scott.



10:49

We spent some time eating, we laying down by stream, and all of a sudden there were shots. My arm exploded. Rebecca was hit twice and started to bleed to death. tempted to carry her clothes on successful, the entire walk out of the woods, I believe myself to be hunted. My name is Claudia Brenner. We were identified as lesbians by a stranger with whom we had no connection. He will spend the rest of his life in prison. But Rebecca, who was 28 years old, is gone.



L Lucy Chappelle 11:24

Homophobia can kill. Education is the only lasting weapon against bigotry. Which is why the lesbian and gay public awareness project wanted you to hear and think about this message.



11:37

For more information write us at Post Office Box 65603 Los Angeles, California 90065.



11:50

You work hard all week for a paycheck. And on Friday, you want to put as much distance between you and the boss as possible. Today into KPFT. Friday evenings at seven and get off the clock was working Joe. I'll drop kick you in your weekend in a most righteous Bastion that 7pm On Fridays. Right here at 90.1 FM KPFT in Houston Texas.



12:18

away something new. You on? Passes God and we're back. We have been joined by Stefan Lorenzo and Chad Aaron, who are also from the Houston Institute for the protection of you who came in busted into the studio and said, Hi, we're from hippie. And then when I told him to pull up a chair next to the microphone said what what do you mean, we have to go on the radio? Go figure. We want to talk a little bit about what you would do for what PFLAG would do for Michael's mother at the stage that she's in. She seems to have accepted somewhat, because she has brought him back into the home after four weeks of him being gone. So where do you lead her? Well,



13:29

first off, mother needs to know that there's other people in the same place that she is at. So she has a support system. By coming to a meeting. The by coming to a meeting. First off, that's a big step for her. And she would first off we usually have speakers, we have had speakers on what the Bible does, and mostly does not say about homosexuality. We've had speakers on self esteem of parents and self esteem of children. We've had speakers on activism and speakers on HIV as well. Then after a speaker for an hour, an hour of speaker then we break into small groups. And so a group of about seven or eight parents can talk about what they need to talk about. So she would be meeting people who also have gay children, and should be meeting gay children. And she would gay and lesbian children. And she wouldn't be able to share her story to the extent that she felt comfortable. And after doing this for several months, she starts getting a support system knowing that she's not the only one in the world just like we gay and lesbian people. We think that we're the only ones in the world sometimes. Parents also feel like they're sometimes the only ones in the world with a gay or lesbian child. So she would have just that knowledge takes the weight of the world off of a person's shoulders over the course of Months. She would. Hopefully, it has stated at the beginning of each meeting that PFLAG is a supportive environment. We support the children thinking lesbian children, we're not there to trash the children. Were there to love the children in all their diversity.

B

Brian Bradley 15:23

What would you have Michael from PFLAG to offer Michael's mother? And for that matter, Michael's father that might be beneficial in recognizing his father's health status and perhaps improving on that? And what information do you give to younger gay and lesbian members of PFLAG about the attorney for them to practice cyber sex techniques and what organizations and information is available to them

Ω

15:52

PFLAG parents oftentimes come from the suburbs. And so oftentimes, they're conservative. They come from a conservative background. First off, Michael's father would be a wonderful asset to PFLAG. And I think we would be accepted as such, there are a lot of parents in our group who have lost children to AIDS and, or who have children who are currently HIV positive. So in sharing stories, basically, we learn about that. Not only the validity, but the precious gifts that every life is. And so I think that Michael's father would be seeing not only if he's fully accepting of Michael, he would probably feel support himself. But you also end up being a resource for PFLAG. And then what was the other part?

B

Brian Bradley 16:53

What informational guidelines do you have for younger people about safer sex practices, techniques and, and that nature, because the last thing we need to do is to have this emergence of younger and younger people that are HIV positive. That is the fastest growing group in the country. Now, I've just received four phone calls this week alone about people who are in an age under 25, who've got their test results, and they're positive. We are not doing our job, correct, Lee. And it's just very frustrating. So maybe PFLAG can do something that I've not been able to do.

Ω

17:35

And maybe we need to have someone come out. I've been a member for a year now. And that is something although we talk about the necessity for our children to be safe. We don't necessarily talk about what that is. So maybe we need to have someone come out. We do talk in the group of that parents are always asking your children, do you know what it is? And so we increase the communication we open, open the lines of communication oftentimes, so parents can ask the questions, oftentimes, sometimes the parents are more ready for the conversation than the children are. And sometimes, oftentimes, the children are aching for the conversation. So they love it.

B

Brian Bradley 18:17

And oftentimes, what I know parents to do is to say, Make sure when you have sex, that you practice cyber sex, and perhaps the child doesn't even want to talk about the issue of sex. The parent honestly mistakes, the situation to be one that needs that permission that you can have sex. But if you do have cybersex, perhaps what I could tell a parent, from my experience is,

maybe if your child doesn't want to talk about sex, let the first information that you give them be where they go, to talk about it when they are ready, because I'm not so sure that we as adults know specifically, what to talk to children about when they need to talk to someone else about safer sex.



19:06

We do have a large, a large part of our population is lesbian, and lesbians and lesbian parents. It does not affect them as directly, although it affects their friends.



Brian Bradley 19:17

But you know, that that in itself is a discounting statement. I'm not taking, you know, Grant exception to what you're saying, but by the very nature of you saying that, that somehow implies that they have less need to address that issue. We in America are always so reticent are so ready to put labels on each other. You've got to be absolutely gay, or you've got to be absolutely lesbian. Well, the majority of people in their sexual experience in their life, have if they do have same sex, sex, same sex, sex, they might find themselves having sex with someone of the opposite sex also, and that label has messed them up. So I'd like I'd hate for a lot of women out there to not, you know, get the information that they need.



20:04

You're right. And I do think that it would be a good perhaps house party for AFH or someone to come to, for a group of parents and friends. You're right, you're absolutely right.



Brian Bradley 20:18

Lesbian AIDS Project is a new group that's formed. And they'd be more than glad to talk to women about that.



20:27

I want to talk a little bit about what we're talking about family values. What family values? Are, is it that is it that I know you? And I don't know your stories, but have you out of the house at 17? You Michael, out? And I don't know,



Brian Bradley 20:46

for listening public is not aware of a linear Guerreros. Google.



20:55

We have those cat read right here.

21:06

I'm assuming you're pointing now which

21:08

sorority were you?

21:11

Did you know because you've never liked him to me. Anyway, Michael, was put on the street at 17 years old. Now. This is family values to me. I know I was put on the street at 17 years old. You don't know if you were put on the street at 17 years old, I want to talk about what hippie offers you and where you're at and why you're involved in hippie

B Brian Bradley 21:38

or maybe a better expanded question to be for you guys that find yourself at hippie now what is the common experience the commonality between yourself and other people and hippie? Or do you find that you all share the same story in so much as that you reached a point in your family life that you were thrown away? Or you were forced out because of your sexual orientation?

22:06

Well, as hippie that's a lot of it is the same. Yeah, there's a lot of kids that are there now been thrown out on the streets, and there's different people from different parts of Texas. I'm from Washington, and I've been on the streets since I was 14. And the reason that you're on the street is because my parents didn't accept being gay. It's just now they're coming around. Years later, and accepting that a little by little,

22:32

how old are you now? I'm 20. And you've been on the streets since you were six years? Yeah. How did you survive it 14 years old on the street in Washington, DC.

22:41

It was in Washington, DC. It



22:42

was Washington, Washington State. They're so close together.



B Brian Bradley 22:48

A lot of it was the geography class.



22:52

Lena and I went to school together. Survival. How do you survive on the streets at 14 years old? What do you mean survival?



22:59

It was survival, sex, survival, sex. And then I got I mean, I had my first sugar daddy within two weeks afterwards. And it just bounced to one person to another different places.



23:11

That's something Brian and I would know nothing about a sugar daddy.



B Brian Bradley 23:14

No, but you're still looking forward. I understand. Enough money in Fort Knox, Mary. Stephen, how would you describe your parents would if if you have an understanding of what traditional American values are, would you say that your parents fit in that mold? Or just how would you describe your parents?



23:35

My parents have been divorced. They don't know. What do you mean family



B Brian Bradley 23:39

mold is at the age that you were left home 14 Or you were cast out? Your parents were not living together? Okay.



23:51

How about you? Well, I've been on the streets. It will be two years in March. How old are you 19 My parents found out kind of awkwardly I was in Montrose one night and a bunch of

13. My parents found out kind of awkwardly. I was in Memphis one night and a bunch of rednecks from Baytown where I live came in fact bashing and see my car. And they had the chance to find my parents before I did and whenever I call my mother, she told me don't bother come home.



24:21

That's a traditional family value. Yeah. And so what did you do? I mean, you know, I mean, 30 seconds notice, you know, to never come home again. You have you know, none of your clothes you have nowhere to go. What did you do? Well, she



24:37

did let me come and get my clothes. She had them sitting, by the way and garbage bag is she Baptist? She Southern Baptist?



Brian Bradley 24:44

God It figures. Tammy Wynette wrote a song about that did



24:49

Tammy Wynette or Tammy Baker



Brian Bradley 24:53

chan How would you describe your parents? Would they fit that mold?



24:56

My stepfather is an alcoholic and my mother is is a bit



25:10

What did you do that night? Where did you go? Well,



25:13

I stayed with my boyfriend. And then we wound up moving, like within the week to Oklahoma City to where his parents were. And we stayed there. It was me and him and his best friend. And we stayed there about a week. And then we moved to Arkansas, Little Rock, Arkansas. And

we stayed with his best friend's brother until we got on our feet. And then we split up in I lived with a friend that I'd made there for the time that I was there.

 Brian Bradley 25:46

Do you find that a lot of people that find themselves in your position, and very quickly have to because of no other means turn to sex in order for me to have a means of survival? Some do?

 26:03

Some do. I mean, there's like organisms that like hippie. If hippie wasn't here, there would be six people on the streets now. Yeah. I mean, if I finding an organization like that, this is just really good. I mean, we don't have an organization like that in Washington.

 26:22

We're gonna have to stop here and go into this way out. Ken, can you guys from hippie stay, and after this way out, we can continue to some more. This is a this is an education for me. And I'm sure a lot of people that are listening. We're gonna go to this way out. And we will be back with more from Chad and Stefan and Michael from hippie. And thank you, Michael from PFLAG for coming in. Your we'll see at 145.

 Nancy Rodriguez 26:51

This is his policies, and I see every reason in the world for him to sign this bill. But I cannot predict what the governor may or may not do. The idea

 26:59

of having a commission on aids to inform the president of what's going on is fantastic. But I think the reality of the National Commission on AIDS is that they're not being allowed to perform their job.

 27:09

Nobody tells me what to put my phones not jersey, him not being here. Not glad not Hollywood, not anybody.

 Lucy Chappelle 27:32

Welcome to this way out the international lesbian and gay radio magazine. I'm Lucia Chapelle,

G

Greg Gordon 27:37

and on Greg Gordon, California's reworked rights laws await Wilson's response,

L

Lucy Chappelle 27:42

morality, oath and funding few top age news.

G

Greg Gordon 27:46

And when Thelma and Louise meet, easy writer, it's the living and

L

Lucy Chappelle 27:50

all that and more because you've discovered this way out.

♀

28:03

I'm Cindy Friedman.

B

Brian Nunes 28:04

And I'm Brian Ellis with news wrap

C

Cindy Friedman 28:06

a summary of some of the news in or affecting the lesbian and gay community for the week ending September 5 1992. Gay and Lesbian domestic partners are eligible for employee pension benefits under Ontario Canada's provincial Human Rights Code. That was the ruling of especial Pamela, the Ontario Human Rights Commission with respect to survivor benefits for Provincial government employees, but the decision is expected to apply to private as well as public employers. Since more than half of Canadian pension plans are registered in Ontario, the effects could be far reaching, the government has 30 days to appeal the ruling.

B

Brian Nunes 28:46

In other domestic partners news, Beretta and Horn have become the 35th and 36 cities in the Netherlands to officially register SAME GENDER couples. In California, the Los Angeles City Council recognized city workers domestic partnerships for sick and bereavement leave. Since Los Angeles has no official domestic partners registration, employees must sign a confidential

affidavit attesting to the relationship and the Ann Arbor Michigan City Council extended health insurance and other benefits to registered SAME GENDER partners of city employees and overhead extended benefits to heterosexual domestic partners almost a year ago.

c

Cindy Friedman 29:23

The US presidential candidacy of drag queen Joan Jett Black may have been a joke to some, but it's led to an official split in the direct action group queer nation Chicago. The jet black for President campaign was originally set up as a subgroup of queer nation Chicago, with an understanding that major decisions would be subject to consensus by the larger organization. Although one of queer nation's main complaints with the campaign was the lack of participation by women. It was jet black selection of lesbian and gay military rights activist Mary and Ben Shalom for the vice presidential candidacy. that ultimately led to the split. Queer nation voted not to support her because she did not fit the criteria they had discussed, but the campaign is keeping her on the ticket. A press release described the separation between the campaign and queer nation Chicago as mutual and non hostile.

b

Brian Nunes 30:19

Meanwhile, England's Direct Action Group outrage, voted in August to dissolve all of its subgroups including people of color Disabled Working class and labia lesbians answered back in anger. Outrage membership claimed the subgroups cost too much and distracted the organization from its primary goal of combating homophobia. labia spokeswoman Catherine Lockwood said she was disgusted by the vote and said we had been thrown out of outrage.

c

Cindy Friedman 30:46

After a couple hours drinking, four young men drove a van to watch the women lining up to attend the 17th annual Michigan Women's Music Festival. zipping down the hilly dirt road leading to the festival site at about 50 miles per hour. They hit two women who were crossing the road after picking flowers in the woods on the other side. Six other women leapt from their cars and lifted the van off of one of the victims within a minute of impact. Women nearby included a physician and two trauma care nurses who immediately began to care for the victims until emergency services arrived. Despite serious injuries. At last report, the two victims were in stable condition and expected to heal without permanent damage.

b

Brian Nunes 31:33

The Minnesota Historical Society is preserving the memory of the 15 years the women's coffeehouse was a lesbian Cultural Center in Minneapolis. The society will be archiving Treanor, Porteus collection of records documenting the coffeehouses history from its origin in 1974. Through its dissolution in 1989.

c

Cindy Friedman 31:52

In Sweden, lesbian Barbara Gustafsson earned her doctorate with a thesis entitled The creation

In Sweden, lesbian Barbara Gustafsson earned her doctorate with a thesis entitled *The erotic and homosexual descriptions in Toba II* onsen's recent literature on sin herself attended the thesis defense with her lover of 37 years in what the gay and lesbian newspaper reporter called her coming out. Johansson is a world renowned author of both adult fiction and children's books.

B

Brian Nunes 32:19

Major mainstream corporations are beginning to come out with advertising explicitly directed towards gays. Philip Morris USA boycotted until recently for supporting homophobic US Senator Jesse Helms is advertising in the gay press for the first time. The new US gay and lesbian quarterly genre will carry the same spread for Benson and hedges special kings as about 60 other publications including Playboy and penthouse clothing retailer Banana Republic showed two men with their arms around each other in the mainstream fashion mag Vanity Fair for September. Banana Republic has also purchased ad space in the gay press for the first time, appearing in the second edition of out,

C

Cindy Friedman 33:00

but that's nothing next to what's happening in Denmark. The mainstream daily newspaper *politican* is targeting gays in a big way. running ads in movie theaters developed by powerhouse ad agency Saatchi and Saatchi two men are in a kitchen one of them cooking, the other first caresses the cook and then kisses him, leading to an embrace so passionate that they send vegetables flying all over the room. So where does the newspaper come into? Well, this, the non Cook says, Tell me whether they shouldn't have had some time. The cook response time and checks the recipe in *politican*

B

Brian Nunes 33:39

we wondering which Olympic athletes were lesbian or gay. The Netherlands was represented by at least one of each. Open gay John blankenstein refereed the soccer tournament, open lesbian Judoka Irene the COC tied for a bronze medal in judo in the 72 kilogram or 159 pound weight class.

C

Cindy Friedman 33:58

And finally, although the US Republican national platform opposes everything queer, including SAME GENDER marriages, the Republican Convention unwittingly celebrated a long term gay relationship in a musical selection. Convention producer David Nash said they wanted something upbeat for the dramatic moment when President George Bush took the podium with all of his family gathered around him. And the musical accompaniment to this embodiment of so called Family Values was the best of times.



34:33

Best Times is. As for tomorrow well.

C

Cindy Friedman 34:44

From the Broadway musical version of *luck Kasia fo*

B

Brian Nunes 35:15

That's news wrap for the week ending September 5 1992. compiled and written by Cindy Friedman follow

C

Cindy Friedman 35:20

the news in your area and informed community is a strong community. To this way out. I'm Cindy Friedman. And I'm Brian Nunez.

G

Greg Gordon 35:31

California Governor Pete Wilson gets another chance to sign or veto anti discrimination legislation for gays and lesbians this month of the hundreds of bills awaiting Wilson's decision in the wake of the state's budget crisis. Three measures would provide lesbian and gay employment protection, Wilson's veto of similar protection last year despite his campaign promise to support it sparked angry demonstrations. Deborah Frey has this report on the pending California laws.

35:56

One of those bills is a comprehensive civil rights package sponsored by Assembly Speaker Willie Brown. Included in the omnibus bill is the language of last year's AB 101, which called for gay and lesbian employment protection under the Fair Employment and Housing Act. Gay and lesbian rights advocates are skeptical that the governor will sign this into law since he vetoed it last year. But I've given him two other versions to choose from. AB 2601 was drafted directly from Wilson's veto message, in which he said gays and lesbians already had protection under the state labor code and did not need that special treatment that AB 101 would call for. Another bill AB 3019 is the same as 2601, except for a few amendments recommended by Chamber of Commerce lawyers and offers the governor one more option. Laurie McBride is the life aids lobby says she's hopeful that gays and lesbians will finally win protection against job discrimination. But she's not making any predictions. The three versions of employment protections for gays and lesbians are on the desk of the governor. And we think that the bill that he's most likely to sign is AB 2601. I'm not going to try to read tea leaves and say that I think the governor is going to do this or that this is his policy. And I see every reason in the world for him to sign this bill, but I cannot predict what the governor may or may not do. I'm Deborah Frey.





Lucy Chappelle 37:18

Most lesbian and gay activists in California expect Wilson to veto all three bills. And he Friedman has this report from Los Angeles.



37:28

La as gay community expects to be out in the streets again marching against California Governor Pete Wilson. He is expected to veto new measures designed to stop discrimination against gays in the workplace. Activist John Duran says workplace conditions for gays have deteriorated since a previous veto last year since the governor's veto. The labor commissioner has already taken 80 cases of discrimination ranging from the very blatant, which is I don't want a queer working here in the workplace to the very subtle last year when Wilson vetoed AB 101. There are weeks of protests and marches by gay activist Andy Freeman, Los Angeles.



Lucy Chappelle 38:04

Speculation abounds about what Wilson will do and when he will do it. The state Republican Party convenes in mid September, and some believe the governor will delay any action on the lesbian and gay rights measures to avoid possible disruption of that event. discussions in the lesbian and gay community have focused on the nature of what are sure to be widespread protests following the anticipated vetoes. The community's mainstream leadership have worried about violence erupting during the type of uncontrolled street protests that followed Wilson's veto of HB 101 last September. They're calling for relatively low key actions such as candlelight marches, members of queer nation and other more confrontational groups have angrily denounced such tactics. One man who has aides told reporters that while not advocating violence, he no longer has the time for quiet candlelight marches.



39:31

There Aaron Frick author of reflections of a Rock Lobster you tuned into this way out the international lesbian and gay radio news magazine Titus smiles I've come to talk. Because vision Safi VP.



Greg Gordon 40:19

of sales the continued existence of the US National Commission on AIDS is in question in light of recent federal budget cuts, staff funding for the only US government group sanctions to advise Congress and the President was cut by almost half this year. The Commission hoped to apply last year surplus to the shortfall, but government policy will not permit that remedy. Mark Beavis reports from Washington.



40:43

All of this might not have been a problem if the National Commission on AIDS had been given the same funding in fiscal year 1992 that it received in 1991. Instead, the Commission got

about a million dollars less. The amount from the budget was cut by about 20 percent.

about a million dollars less. The surplus from the earlier years would have been a great help. Carlton Lee is Chief liaison officer for the commission



41:00

think we've done well, considering we did delay one meeting we were planning a hearing anyway, in September, we're now just going to have a smaller meeting. We've got a couple of reports that are moving along a little slower than we had hoped. But we're still planning to issue those reports the next several months. The biggest cost, of course, is having to let people



41:23

go, the Commission had to layoff almost half of its staff of 20, many of whom are experts in the field of AIDS education and research. The restaurant short work weeks to staff members reportedly could not attend the International AIDS Conference in Amsterdam, even though one of them had helped to organize it. And one of the reports that's been delayed deals with the relation between HIV the virus causing AIDS and tuberculosis, except for the staff. The National Commission on AIDS is a bipartisan volunteer panel. Its members are appointed by both parties of Congress and the administration. Its first report America living with AIDS was released a year ago in September and called for more money for research and treatment and an urge to the Bush administration to take a more active role in combating the epidemic. The Commission's Carlton Lee says we've



42:06

been fairly blunt about our concerns that they're not listening to our recommendations and in not implementing the things that we've said need to be done. The President has failed to meet fully his responsibilities and leading the national response to this epidemic. But Nicole