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Wed, Mar 22, 2023 1:53PM

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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

pflag, people, ex gay ministries, gay, parents, bisexual, doug, houston, give, lesbian, tonight, support, issue, relationship, put, love, understand, folks, phones, ex gay

## SPEAKERS

Scott Lewis, Gigi, Kirk Keevert, Jimmy Carper

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00:01

PFLAG can support their parents more than they can the youth PFLAG by virtue of our



00:08

does that is super important. Yeah, it deals with



00:11

people aged over 18 years of age. So PFLAG addresses the parents in the in the adult, but carefully with hatch that works closely with the youth. And so that's where we try to, to team up. But our emphasis is helping parents understand the issues, support them in the process of understanding the issues and try to grow in their awareness of what being gay and being lesbian is all about. Where is it? What is it, because it in many times takes causes people to have to change their basic fundamental beliefs, which they perhaps were taught by their parents is the fundamental biblical beliefs perhaps. And in order to, to question those issues, you really have to be very thoughtful, and you have to, you have to spend time and energy, trying to say, how can still relate this as a Christian, and as a loving parent. And when it's contrary to what I've always believed all my life. And so you have to spend the time the parent has to spend the time to learn first. And to do this in PFLAG is in an environment where other parents who have done this can support you and help you we have libraries, videotapes available, so that the parents can, can come experience the journey of understanding and growing to deal with this different expectation. I mean, it was not my expectation that Doug was going to be gay. And so that was my expectation. And so I had to, I had to learn to deal with that. And that's where PFLAG, you know,



Jimmy Carper 02:05

how did you get involved with PFLAG.



02:07

Doug invited us, Doug got got involved with the flat bar out. Us and, and we have enjoyed it immensely. It's a wonderful group of people. You, you just can sense the love and the care and the giving. It's an all volunteer organization



J Jimmy Carper 02:29

I'm familiar with. We would



02:30

like some time to visit a PFLAG meeting. Would we be welcome.



02:35

Certainly, you'd be welcome. We meet on the first Sunday of every month at Christ Church downtown on Texas and Fannin on Sunday afternoons at two o'clock, and we have a one hour general program session. And then we have the heart of the P grant PFLAG effort is our small group, we break up into small groups of eight to 10 people with a facilitator and we share our experiences and support one another in that way. And that's that's really work.



J Jimmy Carper 03:07

I was just going to ask you, if I went to a meeting, what would what would happen? What could I expect?



03:12

tomorrow's meeting is on ex gay ministries and Doug Wow, John Bush, timely that this is on tonight. Doug and John Bush will be presenting the program tomorrow on ex gay ministries. Would you



03:25

give us that address in time again, please?



03:28

It's the Christ Church, that they drill. Downtown Houston on Texas at Fannin. It's 2pm. Sunday afternoon. It lasts till about 430 It's, it's a great place to come and, and share and get some

answers

J

Jimmy Carper 03:46

maybe because maybe this is the parents coming out. I mean, the child has spent years dealing with being gay. And And yep, well, we know you know, it took you 12 years to come to grips with it. And we can't expect our parents to do it in five minutes.

o

04:08

Yeah, when the chop comes out. The parents go in the closet. Oh, yeah. Yeah. I don't want to admit it to their family, their friends, their co workers. And the interesting thing is that in my experience when I have when I have opened this issue opened my closet door and talk to my friends and and others have had the same experience. Our friends are very supportive. It's Oh, well, my nephew's gay are Oh, my sister's lesbian. Wow. Yes. You just start networking this thing to where people understand it's not this terrible thing. It's it's part of our society and it's it's these are wonderful loving people who need to be valued and not put was

o

05:00

just one of the billboards that PFLAG had put up on the freeway they were so Oh yeah. And and I wish that you had let us know more about that in advanced on because we would have been more than happy. I mean send us a notice to the radio station while they are now coming through a rock in our apartment windows do something let us know guy right. But but one of the billboards that that I liked was everybody know somebody that's gay? That's right, you know. And I liked that.

o

05:35

I think it's important to from a from a gay person's perspective to talk about PFLAG. Because you know, PFLAG is often seen as the group for parents and the group for family members. And for me, when I came out when the end of my journey when I finally said, Hey, changing my sexual orientation didn't get to work. I was actually kicked out of the church I was involved with, we were all my friends were I had no friends left. And so the only thing I had was I started going out to Jr's meeting people there happened to fortunately meet somebody there who took me to the PFLAG meeting the next month, he was on the board of directors, a gay guy, one of my best friends now. But when I got there, it was the first time I had ever been in a room of people straight gay, lesbian, you name it. But there were people that told me that it was okay for me to be gay. They could accept me for that. And for the first five months, because it was six months before I told my parents that all of this had gone on. For five months, PFLAG was my only source of support. And the it was the place where I could be myself. And so PFLAG, although its primary purpose will always be for the families and friends. Its secondary purpose, and especially here in Houston is our chapter has grown tremendously. We have roughly about 150 folks that are meetings every month. But what's interesting is that it has a very, very large percentage of the population of the meetings are gay and lesbian folks, their parents may or may not accept them, they may or may not

have a good relationship with their parents, they may or may not have told their parents yet. They may or may not have come out to anybody but the PFLAG group at this time. I mean, it may be that their own coming out process is honored this



07:16

is if a gay man or woman contact you and say, Can you help me with my parents? Okay. Do you send material to the family? Do you contact them by phone app?



07:35

We do that we can send literature to the family, we can personally contact a family which is more effective. I think when you can talk one on one, I would think so. This is an issue that that like like most things that are hate related. You hate the things that you can push away from you and don't have to personalize. You call



07:59

it a thing. Yeah,



08:01

this is a hate that thing. But when it's my son, or my daughter, or my co worker or my neighbor, it's personal. I know this individual. This is a good person. Now I have to deal with this issue and myself about why do I feel that way? We'll see. Well, we can contact the parents we can we can try to encourage them to come to PFLAG. We can send materials. There are over 400 chapters of PFLAG around the country and in 11 foreign countries. If your parents don't live in this community, there are other PFLAG chapters around we can put them in touch with. So there's over 65,000 families represented through the PFLAG organization. And that's hundreds of 1000s of people.



Jimmy Carper 08:54

Doug, something you said just a little while ago. I want to I want to ask you about it. You said you walked into the PFLAG room and there were all these people who accepted you How did that feel? I mean, it's like the first time we were ever in a room with all of these different people.



09:14

I cried a lot. I really did. It was a it was a pretty amazing experience for me because it was number one it oddly enough PFLAG meets in a church primarily because it's the biggest place that we can find for the cheapest amount of money to meet with all these folks. But here I was in the church, and there were straight people. There were gay people. There were people that

frankly, look just like people that were in my church that I just gotten kicked out of three weeks ago, before this, and it was just the most amazing thing. In fact, when I told people what had happened to me, I remember one mother that's still in the group now and she just she looked at me and we were in small groups and she just got up out of her chair. She came over to give me a hug. She gave me a hug and I just said I mean, it was just amazing. She goes, I can't believe you've been through that. I'm so glad you're here. And I lost. I mean, it was. It's a very. I mean, it's a very, it was a very emotional time for me, and I'm so that's part of why I'm still in it. That's why I'm giving back to it now, because there's so many people that can benefit from what that group has to offer, especially in our community. Yeah.



10:25

It, Jimmy, it seemed. And Don, especially, it seems that, that it's hard for, for people like myself to, to relate to that, as much as I want to do this program is geared toward saying, We love you, and we care. And not only saying it, but meaning it and showing it. And, and, and, and this is why I think that we've been wanting to try and find somebody from DHK ministers, because we know from things we hear from things from read, that it has destroyed many lives and has led many of our young people to simply go out and commit suicide. Okay. That's what the ex gay ministries have done to, to a lot of our brothers and sisters. Okay. And so it may be hard within within us to relate to this experience of saying, Wow, I finally walked into a place that accepts me because we ourselves have learned to say, To hell with you, I'm going here where I am accepted. Okay. Okay. Whereas that was not true. In Don's case, I mean, in Doug's case, okay. And, and maybe it's a little difficult to relate to that. But that's why we are super excited about what Doug is doing, simply because here we have somebody that has experienced it, and it says and can say with us, I do love you, I do care. Here's a way out.



J Jimmy Carper 12:10

Right, Doug? If this is too personal, you don't have to answer it. But when we first started, or even before we started, I mentioned that people's spiritual lives are very important. And you've kind of been the gamut. What's your spiritual life now?



12:30

Well, I, my personal perspective, is I consider myself a spiritual person. I believe that. For me, Faith is an important part of my life. I would not say that I'm a regular churchgoer. However, I believe that, that I don't believe that any. Let me see, I want to phrase this. I believe that religion can be used as a good thing. And it can be a good thing, I believe, unfortunately. I but I also believe it's a very personal issue. And I believe that people have to make their own personal decisions. My partner and I even have different perspectives on this issue. And we're very happily reconciled with that. He happens to come from a Mormon background, and is no longer has any interest in that, in that, that church or that ground. So we have a we have a pretty diverse background. But at the same point in time, I have many gay and lesbian friends who are Jewish, who are atheist who are Christian and more power to them. For me, I found that I can do the most by helping others by reaching out to other people. And that's almost I guess, my form of spirituality. That's pretty spiritual.



13:48

No, no, no, we talked before the church about the relationship of PFLAG to the ex gay ministries. Okay, so I understand it. But I have a feeling there's people out there that is ready to ask that question right now. Could you tell us is there a relationship between PFLAG and and Doug's ex ex gay ministries?



14:10

Well, let let me first start Tom by just saying what it is that I'm doing. That may be more that that might be a good advice. That would be from about a couple months ago, I started realizing that there was a real lack of information out there on what these ex gay ministries do what they believe, and more specifically on the damage that has that occurs to gays and lesbians who go through these groups only to realize afterwards that number one, trying to change their sexual orientation is not possible. Number two, that they've wasted a large portion of their lives typically on a very futile quest of changing sexual orientation. I happen to be in the computing industry. And so I decided that the easiest and quickest way for me to start getting the word out was to create a website on the internet. So I've created an internet site. There It is out there called x dot x. And its sole purpose is to provide personal stories of people that I have made acquaintance with either personally or on the internet to have their personal stories of what they went through in these ex gay groups. And so what I'm doing is really trying to just get the word out right now I'm doing it through speaking doing it through the article that appeared in this past January issue of outsmart also through being here tonight. I mean, it's really just getting the word out, because frankly, there are very few people out there that have been willing to speak up and talk about it. And there's not a lot of real open, honest and personal information.



J Jimmy Carper 15:40

What's that computer address again?



15:42

Yeah, the website address. I didn't know if I wanna do that now or not?



15:45

Oh, yeah, we can do anytime. Anytime you just say it's



15:49

a long one. First of all, let me give the email address if you want to email me and you, you just have email, you can do that. It's E X, E X, gay x x gay@aol.com. That's E x E x gay@aol.com. The website address and if you're on the internet and can get to a net internet browser, you

just need to type in members memb e rs.aol.com. Forward slash E x E x gay. There's no www or anything like that. In this one. It's just members, not aol.com forward slash ex ex gay EXEXX. And if you just get the email address ex ex gay@aol.com. I'll make sure you get the information you



16:40

need. Oh, that's great. Yeah.



16:43

I think it might also be appropriate to mention too. We were talking about this earlier. And I wanted to bring it up as one of the things that the those folks that are out there that are on the internet can do is also take advantage of the resources that PFLAG has on the internet. We have a tremendous amount of brochures that we put together that are what you read this before coming out to your parents, those kinds of things that are available on PFLAG Houston's website, which I also maintain. And that's at WWW dot PFLAG PF la GHTX. That's h Tx for Houston. texas.org o RG. So www dot PFLAG H tx.org. And that's PFLAG Houston's website. And there's a lot of great resources out there. For those of you that are wondering about how to tell your parents or if your parents don't know what to do when once you've told them there's some good information for them there too, as



17:34

well. If you weren't able to get that information down, I guarantee you we'll give it a couple more times before we get off the air. And calm contact them. Learn what they've got. Understand what they've got. Because we do care.



Scott Lewis 17:55

I, Tom, we want to you want to say thank you and if you want to continue but we need to do a little pledge



18:03

drive. You're right. Okay. Yeah, it's



Kirk Keevert 18:08

because we we got we got people to thank man. Yeah, we have.



18:14

Y'all help brings in some money. We, that's fine.

S

Scott Lewis 18:20

Thank you guys for coming down. Doug. And Don, thanks very much for coming in tonight.

♂

18:24

I just want to give one phone number real quick is the PFLAG helpline number. This is for those of you that aren't on the internet, but you at least have a phone 8679020 that's 86790 to zero. That's the PFLAG helpline and that number is monitored machine that's monitored every day. So you can call leave a message. If you want someone to call your parents and talk to them. They're having trouble dealing with your sexuality. Or if you want more information about PFLAG. It's a great place to go. Thanks for your time you guys.

K

Kirk Keevert 18:52

Thank you for coming in guys got

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18:53

I have one thing it will take me a couple minutes to say to put up final thoughts on this. And I am hoping that these thoughts are will be encouraging to you I thought about them long and hard in our society. For one man to show compassion, concern and love toward another man is considered a natural and unmanly for one man to share love with another to embrace the kiss the love is called queer. But the wars of war and hate the practice of deceit and to endorse state sanctioned murder is often called holy to lie and willfully endorsed a distortion of truth is translated as an act of God. To give up our search in faith for knowledge is considered an asset instead of a liability. Somewhere we have lost the meaning of love and tolerance. We feel our deeds must be witnessed and praised by others to hold any means Getting the hold any value. We witnessed time and again the actions of Christians to store not only the basic American freedoms, but the ordain human rights of the Creator. Often sugar coating off the sugar coating their deeds. As often sugarcoating their deeds in the name of that creator, for his man that You are mindful of him, with the Son of man that You visited him. You've made him a little lower than the angels, but your crown to explore and often with glory and honor is often lost in the belly of the bigot. In Genesis with the declaration of Let Us make man in our image, have ads come to mean that God is made of flesh and bones. Thus truth, the truth, as we see it is often shackled from our faith in our ever searching hope, for hope, knowledge and faith. God is a Spirit and they worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth was the words of the Teacher that we call the Christ. We are in Dear Brothers and Sisters, of all the absolute truth that ever is, this one stands out above all others. We are great spiritual beings. But when you allow fear and doubt, to be the controller of your soul, of your conscious of your mind, then you begin to lose the power of the great treasure that is called love. That is often that more often than not, is rooted in faith, and hope, and nourished by knowledge. You are not evil because you're gay. Not to the contrary, that's ridiculous and stupid and irresponsible to teach such a thing. You were given a gift, we're more than all to go of the silver and all the precious stones that have

ever been found by man. You were given the insatiable gift to know, to what to know, to understand, to love and to and freely field and to give compassion. You were given the special gifts that gay people have the gift to be truly and honestly very, very special person would love you all and we really do care. And and later on tonight, we will give the Doug's numbers again and so forth, and also piglet. Let me thank you. And dawn. We appreciate you guys. We do a whole lot.

K

Kirk Keevert 22:49

Yeah, Doug and Don, thanks very much for coming in. Tom. Thanks so much. We appreciate your, your your being with us tonight and having Doug Doug and dawn on. We got some. We got some people to thank. Thank goodness. We've got Mark, calling in from Houston to show his support for KPFT and a monetary manner he says it's a great show. He says his nephew even listens even listens to the show who is 14 years old. He bought the book for your mind after listening to after hours on KPFT Good for him. We got an anonymous pledge who says the reasons that he called are just too darn minimalist and doesn't amuse you are one of them. I have no doubt. I have no doubt and nor do I have much doubt that you weren't. We also had a call from Wayne

S

Scott Lewis 23:45

says he's literally huh, wouldn't Elmo when Henry was donating tomorrow? Oops, sorry. Go ahead.

K

Kirk Keevert 23:54

There's apparently some discussion about this whole Elmore Wayne handling thing and I've got my opinions on it. Wayne, who is in Houston and not in a nice Texas prison is listening to us right now. wants everybody to please call in and give their support. And we got another anonymous pledge from out Seabrook way and says he really enjoys listening to after hours, friends. It's your turn. These anonymous ones I think are people you've slept with and oh, just send the money to the station. Then we should be getting a whole hell of a lot more money.

S

Scott Lewis 24:40

\$60 pledges they've all pulled together. Anyway. We do have a song to go to D ream. Things can only get better you can.

J

Jimmy Carper 24:58

That's right, folks. Thanks. This can only get better. And that's Peter Hakuna from de rrim. En de Reem. Antoine, that's the original. And the money is coming in. And we do thank you that the phone number is 526573852 6k P F T. And I want to thank Mark for his pledge. And he

asked for a piece of music and he also said he thought it was a great show. His nephew even listens to the show. And he's 14 years old. Plus Mark bought the book free your mind after listening to this show. And boy, what a great book. That is. What Yes,

K Kirk Keevert 25:46

thank you, you know, you really didn't need to listen to the to the show when you're out in the lobby flirting with the guests that are leaving? Yes. I've already been through that.

J Jimmy Carper 25:55

Oh, well, then. Thanks again, Mark. But then he could play the song. No, no. Well,

♀ 26:00

yes, apparently you do. Okay,

J Jimmy Carper 26:02

well, let's go ahead and play it. It's gimme, gimme, gimme a man after midnight.

♀ 26:27

Yeah, you're a Sure.

K Kirk Keevert 26:28

Give me Give me Give me a man after midnight. And that's what we do every Saturday, right here on 90.1 KPFT, in Houston, and at 9.1 kg EOS in College Station right here, on after hours. And we do that every week. And most weeks, you're here listening to us, and most weeks, the phone, just rings right off the wall. And, and tonight, the phones are ringing, we need them to ring some more, the number to call 526573852 6k P F T to call and pledge your support, and show show all of us here that you enjoy listening to the program. If you got comments, we'd love to hear them. If you got requests, we'd love to hear them. If you got some money to share with us, we'd love to take that down to 526-573-8526 KPFT everybody wants to talk about same time.

♀ 27:33

Go right ahead. But this is how that that we are, this is the only station that that allows two totally gay programs to come on. And, and that is because of our continuing support. Of okay Pft. And so this is why we have to come to you once or twice a year. And and ask for your

support to the station. It doesn't run. Nothing is free here except our labor. None of us here are paid. That's working this program. And so we need your support, to continue to to allow us to come down here and and put on this program. All

K

Kirk Keevert 28:24

the folks pretty much all the folks that you hear on the air at KPFT be it be it on after hours. Excuse me be it on on on the besides be at Pat and Rosie be at the shows during the week. The folks who are here have their own free will they're here because they've got something that they want to share and that you have expressed some interest in hearing. Now is the time to express that interest in a more solid concrete fashion. 526-573-8526 KPFT Kahless show your support, let us know that you appreciate that you enjoy that. You you have some respect for some of the things that that we're trying to do here. And some of the things that we're trying to help you do.

G

Gigi 29:18

And this is Miss G G. And I'd like to one thing here

K

Kirk Keevert 29:26

I just got to laugh Gigi Gigi is always got to get out her her little electronic Rolodex so she can remember the the phone number for for BiNet,

G

Gigi 29:33

well I'm dyslexic

K

Kirk Keevert 29:36

if you need somebody else to read that for you, honey. Oh, I

G

Gigi 29:39

can read Numbers sounds but um, I wasn't gonna do that quite yet. That's for later and I understand basically as gonna say that. We do need support, but we also want a special support tonight. Miss Jimmy Carper. One have someone to call in with a \$500 pledge tonight we would be, you know, this show, it's not only a gay show, it's it's a family of choice show. I mean, the queer community we're talking about. I mean, we're all inclusive of everybody well with differences. And, you know, you don't get that too many places. help support us, keep us coming to you, because we're here to help you. This is a knowledge base, it's a power base. It's to educate and help people come to terms with their sexuality, whatever that might be.



30:43

Where else where else can you possibly find a radio station here in Houston here in the state of Texas, that, that, that that puts openly gay people on that that puts bisexuals on that puts people in drag on? I mean, transgender, the whole nine yards of our community, and where else can they find nowhere. And, and that is why so we can continue for each endeavor one that is representative that is represented so we can present somebody that is that can represent every facet of our community.



Kirk Keevert 31:28

And, and it's it's not a difficult process at all you call the number, you talk to one of the folks out there answering the phones for us volunteering their time to come here and answer the phones for us. And and you make your pledge, we've got a we've got some, some great premiums, we've got the for the basic \$35 membership level, we got the KPFT bumper sticker with the multicolored 90.1 FM logo on it. At the \$60 level, you got your choice of the t shirt, which quite frankly, I think is is the coolest, most concrete way to show your support show that you support that you listen to that you appreciate.



32:13

I don't know how many, I don't know how many KPFT T shirts I have. From from from my donating from the best



Kirk Keevert 32:22

lens drives past and this is a this is a brand new one it's got its it indicates that this is the the winter 97 pledge drive. And also you can get the mousepad at the \$60 level or the KPFT mug. At 90 at the \$90 level you get a couple of those T shirts or the KPFT CD case, at the \$150 level as a really nice black briefcase with the KPFT logo in



32:54

it. I have one of those and they are great. I use that thing just about everywhere I go. I mean I brought it with me tonight.



Kirk Keevert 33:01

And and don't forget about the electronic funds transfer we take the incident if if you do the instant membership route on your credit card you get you get a KPFT pin as well as as in addition to the premiums. The other option is the electronic funds transfer also you get the KPFT rollerball pen. It's a really it's a really nice black metal rollerball pen with gold trim. Really, really cool thing to have and it's the easiest way to to show your support for KPFT 526-573-

8526 KPFT let's I hear them I hear him out there having a good time. Let's let's stop those guys out there from having a good time and get them on the phones Gigi. Yeah, what's going on in the bisexual community this week?

 Gigi 34:04

Well, tonight I want to talk a little bit about a different subject. It's being bisexual and Amana sexual society. Okay. And I you know, I kind of come at this from a positive direction. A lot of people don't understand what polyamorous relationships are about or what bisexuality is all about. There's some bisexuals that choose to live in a monogamous relationship. But there's a lot of us out there that choose to live in polyamorous relationships. And I think a lot of people think that subtracts, you know, from a relationship if you're having sex with other people, right and You know, it's an issue that's come up a few times in the group? And well,

 Kirk Keevert 35:04

I'm sure it has quite a few times I imagine it I imagine it has, and it would be my guest that will continue to.

 Gigi 35:12

And, you know, I think there's a lot of misinformation about bisexuality, there's definitely a lot of minutes. You know, a lot of people playing the will take anything that moves. Well, you will know, have discriminating tastes,

 Kirk Keevert 35:35

they have to breathe.

 35:37

Hey, can go ahead.

 Gigi 35:41

But basically, you know, it's it's kind of intriguing because I met someone J. And we've developed this relationship based on a lot of the same things that a lot of people in close marriages, base their relationship on trust, being there for each other, just always start that's another relationships, there's just one difference. And that is that we're both open. And,

 Kirk Keevert 36:16

and and I personally think that if that's if, as long as both both parties in the relationship, agree

to that, and are available for that, I think it's I think it's healthy.

 Gigi 36:31

One of the cool things that's happened with her and I is that we have developed something that's really closer in some ways than I've been to any other human being. Part of that, I think comes from that out of all the people that she could choose to be with. She chooses to be with me even though she's with other people from time to time, and vice versa, you know, I come back to her, not out of a sense of duty so much that out of a sense of this is a person that's very special to me. And we're very kindred and spirit and and there's a lot of energy there that's based on a lot of issues. I mean, you know, as a bisexual, I'm not only bisexual, but we've been talking about this a little bit I'm identify as both being male and female. Right? And I think she does to to some degree, and one of the things that's really been cool is playing with that some. A lot of times I'll be the woman in the relationship, and she'll be more of a man in the relationship. And it's like I do all the housework I do all the cooking. Oh, now

 Kirk Keevert 38:03

wait a minute, wait a minute, wait a minute, you're stereotyping some gender roles?

 Gigi 38:09

No, I'm not they have been stereotyped.

 Kirk Keevert 38:13

Okay, pass it off as somebody else.

 Gigi 38:16

But in a lot of ways, I do take a lot of STEM roles. And I think one of the things about it is that I feel a strength from her. And from this relationship that I hadn't ever felt and and other types of relationships. And I've had a lot of people try to steer me towards being faithful, whatever that means. I mean, I've always been faithful well. And I've always been