

[THEME MUSIC]

- Hi. This is Craig Washington reminding you that none of us are free until all of us are free. So keep listening to *After Hours*, KPFT, Houston, 90.1 FM.
- The following program contains language or images of a frank or sensitive nature that may be considered objectionable by some. Listener discretion is advised.
- OK, Louise.
- Yeah.
- Get your pencil out.
- What? What's going on?
- Well, this is one of those songs that's in that vein.
- Oh. So you need to write down this song. See, we're building our case.
- Who doesn't know this?
- A lot of people don't know this.
- Oh.
- Who is this?
- This is Pamala Stanley.
- And "Coming Out of Hiding."
- Yeah.
- It's one of the many songs--
- She lives in Houston.
- She lives in Conroe or--
- Or something like that.
- Lake Jackson, or--
- Yeah, 'cause she's always doing benefits and stuff around town.
- Maybe we should get her to come on the show.
- In fact, she was live at Miss Camp America last week.
- Eh? Oh, really?

- Yeah, she and-- it looked like her daughter.

- I do have her number because she gave us a picture a couple of weeks ago, a couple months ago when she was live somewhere at one of the bars. But write this down on your little scorecard. Because you could score big if you get the *After Hours* basket of goodies.

- Goodies! Mmm.

- We'll figure it out later.

[MUSIC - PAMALA STANLEY, "COME OUT OF HIDING"]

- This is real weird.

- What?

- Because we've got all this stuff that we mixed into this a couple of years ago.

- This is an award-winning thing that you do.

- It's, like, not hearing it now.

- In fact--

- Not an award-winning thing.

- I think so.

- Well, maybe.

- It was on *This Way Out*, one of those segments. Remember? A couple of years ago?

- I almost remember hearing it on this station.

- Anyway, Pamala Stanley.

- Mhm. You know, she did a sequel to "Coming Out of Hiding?"

- Yeah, "Coming Out of Hiding II."

- Yeah.

- It's, like, they do sequels for everything now.

- I mean, she did one for that. I've got a copy of it at home.

- Oh, really?

- Yeah.

- Is it any better than this?

- No, no, it's not near as good as this.

- Well, was this on a CD?

- Don't I wish.

- I don't know if it is or not. That's why I don't play this very often, because it's not available anywhere, somewhere. But we'll talk to Pamala. Maybe we can get her to come on the show next year. Wouldn't that be hot?

- Yeah.

- She probably would do it.

- I think so.

- We'll call her and see what's going on. Anyway, you call us and let us know what's going on. 526-4000 or 526-KPFT *This Way Out* with Greg Gordon and Lucia Chapelle coming up in about, oh, 22 minutes at 1:30. And it's a new time slot.

And then we'll be back at 2:00 with more *After Hours*, whatever it is the hell we do. And then at 3 o'clock, the BBC, and then at 4 o'clock, we can go home. And *Blues Broads* can come on.

- Yeah, blues for you, the little blue corner.

- Anyway, if you made a pledge during the marathon, thank you very much. Please send that tax deductible donation to KPFT 419 Lovett Boulevard. Or come by the station and pay in person and you can pick up extra goodies upstairs. And that's what keeps us going.

- And if you pledge on credit card, thank you very much. And I know there's a couple of goodies that we're mailing out that we haven't done so yet. My husband's in town. So I didn't get to it, OK?

- Oh, did he bring his money?

- Yes, and he took it back with him today.

- This is brand new from some women from Kentucky. Is that right?

- Mhm.

- We grabbed this down at Inklings and ran real fast. But Pokey caught us and made us pay for it anyway.

- I know. She's that way.

- I didn't know she could run that fast.

[LAUGHTER]

She was, like, hey, you queens! Come back here with that CD. This is your girlfriend. And we won't be silent no more. And you're listening to it on *After Hours* on KPFT.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Oh.

- Your girlfriend. It's just the same old stuff, over and over. Every week I tune in, they play the same old music.

- I know. Isn't it just awful?

- It's because we're trying to program your brain, like we were talking about earlier. Somebody did call and say that he and his wife, or he and his wife had gone to the counseling center. And the counseling center's not just for gay and lesbian people.

- Oh!

- He went there because he said that being bisexual, he felt like they would be more understanding. And they were. So we wanted to point that out.

- Gotcha. I didn't realize that.

- So we're going to continue programming your brain, because-- because why? Because we're hateful bitches. And that's what we do.

- We like you.

- No, that's the Mickey Mouse--

- Oh, that's right.

- I'm going to be out of town next week.

- And I'm just going to play all kinds of different music.

- I don't know where I'm going. But I'm going somewhere far, far away, beyond the moon, beyond [INAUDIBLE]. I just have to get away, Mary.

- Am I that-- have I been that evil and hateful?

- No. But I just need to get away.

- Oh.

- And you're going to go to Europe, right, in the fall?

- That's what it looks like.

- Well, please. Where are you going?

- Berlin.

- To Germany?

- Yes.

- Oh, please. Bring me back a big chunk of the wall, like a brick size.

- Oh, yeah. I plan on it, if I can get it.

- Oh, please, Mary. I don't want, like, a little pebble. Forget it.

- Well, you know how they are. They probably--

- Don't go to Italy and chunk off *David's* toe. Somebody already did that.

- No, that's been done. And I don't know how he did it. Because *David's* on a pedestal. His toe is, like, seven feet off the ground.

- Michelangelo's *David*, in case you don't know, some idiot ran through the place where it's--

- I'm going to be going there, too.

- --on display and jumped up with a hammer and whacked off his toe. Ow.

- That's incredible.

- [INAUDIBLE] David stomped his toe.

- And it's just in this beautiful rotunda. It's just--

- Oh, really?

- --gorgeous. He's the only piece of art in this room.

- Yeah, well, we won't talk about *David*. What are we going to talk about? Hasn't anybody called? Nobody has anything to talk about. We're just going to play the same old stuff.

- I can't believe it.

- Well, *This Way Out* with Greg Gordon and Lucia Chappelle coming up in a little bit. So by the way, 93Q, they're not playing rock and roll anymore.

- What?

- Now they're country.

- Country?

- They fired all the DJs. And now they're playing country music. What is going on here? Maybe we could go down there and apply.

- Does that mean--

- Be, like, a gay morning show.

- Yes. Gay country and western.

- But you wouldn't get up in the morning to do a morning show.

- Well, if it's early enough.

- We'd have to tape it in the middle of the night and play it back.

- I can do a show at 2:30 in the morning. That's no problem.

- No, Louise. I'm talking about 6:00 to 10:00.

- Wrong.

- Drive time stuff.

- No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no. So does this mean we have three country and western stations now in this town?

- I don't know. Here's a question. How do the mayoral candidates feel about the gay community, AIDS, and the like? We need to write them a letter and invite them on the show and ask them. Let's do that.

- OK.

- Because we are getting ready to invite Vince Ryan and Annise Parker here to discuss election issues. And they will be coming at you very, very soon. We'll give you that information. We can also invite the mayor and Bob Lanier and Sylvester Turner to come talk to us.

- Sure. Why not?

- I'm serious, girl. Why not? We'll write them some letters and ask them because I don't know how they feel. I know how we feel. There are just too many broken hearts in the world. And we're going to keep screaming and yelling until you figure out that it's OK to be gay or lesbian.

Now we got this picture of Brian. Did you see it?

- Oh.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

- That the second picture he sent?

- Yeah, the pictures are getting more interesting.

- That is too hot.

[LAUGHTER]

- I can't tell you.

- What a beautiful, beautiful, beautiful young man. Child.

- Anyway, call us up and let us know what's on your mind. 526-4000 or 526-KPFT. There are just too many broken hearts in the world. Don't be one of them.

- Really.

- Fight back, kids.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Week after week, it's just the same old stuff. I don't even know why I'm listening.

[LAUGHTER]

- You're not. You're doing the show, girl.

- Because we're here!

- And we're queer.

- *After Hours* radio, celebrating live from the heart of the Montrose 90.1 FM, KPFT Houston. We're the gay and lesbian faggots screaming and yelling in the middle of the night.

- Ta da!

- And you're listening. And we're glad that you are. 526-4000 or 526-KPFT. I'm still waiting on a police officer to call me up and come screaming out of that closet. The number again is 526-5738 or 526-4000.

- Yeah.

- I better be quiet about-- no, never mind. I do want a cop to call and come out of that screaming closet. Don't you think? It's about time.

- It has to happen sooner or later. Hang on. *This Way Out* with Greg Gordon and Lucia Chapelle coming up in just a second.

[MUSIC - JASON DONOVAN, "TOO MANY BROKEN HEARTS"]

- Somebody called in and asked about-- something about a sleepy time cartoon? Do you know what that is?

- No, but we'll find it.

- OK.

- What is that?

- I don't know.

- Well, call us back and let us know what it is you want to hear. 526-5738, 526-KPFT *After Hours* on 90.1 FM. We're getting ready to call Whitmire's headquarters.

- Are we?

- Yeah, I want to see what she's doing this hour of the morning. We'll be back in just a second to do that. So stay with us.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Here it is. Become Butch or Nellie in less than a day, simply by taking the little pink pill. There's no need to recruit, seduce, or rely on environmental conditions anymore. The little pink pill does it all. Just one tap before breakfast breaks the cycle of heterosexuality for a full 24 hours.

For years heteros have been asking gays if they would take a pill if it would make them straight. Well, at last Queersville Labs have responded to this dilemma by giving heteros a taste of their own medicine. Yes, the little pink pill does it all. The boring cliched life of a heterosexual can vanish in one gulp. Mrs. Betty Morgan of Gresham, Oregon talks about the little pink pill.

- My life was a mess, bridge clubs, gross husband, alcoholism. You name it. Then one morning, I got my act together and took the little pink pill. In an instant, my sexual orientation changed, as did my desire to be married. Well, within a week, I ditched my old man, met a terrific woman, and got joint custody of my children. All this without water retention, headaches, or loss of appetite. Thanks, little pink pill. You made a new woman out of me.

- Results may vary. But don't consult a physician. The little pink pill. It does it all.

- And it certainly does. And it's available at Walgreens and Kroger and Eckert's and all those stuff.

- Yeah, I saw it there this afternoon.

- Somebody called and said, how do the mayoral candidates feel about the gay and lesbian community? I have no idea *This Way Out* with Greg Gordon and Lucia Chapelle in its new time slot coming up in just a few minutes. So we need to call Whitmire's office.

- Did you see the editorial in *The Voice* this week--

- No, I haven't seen *The Voice*.

--from Lobo?

- No.

- It seems as Larry Lingle is backing the mayor.

- Oh, really? I haven't read it.

- I'm not quite sure I understand why.

- Get me a copy of it.

- Hmm.

- Let me call the mayor's office. I have the number right here.

- You do?

- This is not her office. This is the Whitmire for Mayor campaign. Let me see--

[DIALTONE]

--if I can get her on the line here. See if we can get a hold of her this morning.

- OK.

[TELEPHONE RINGING]

- I've fallen! And I can't get up!

- KPFT Houston. We're here.

- And we're queer!

- Yeah, well, we sort of weren't here for just a minute. But we're back. And I really don't know what happened. But technically, it's beyond our control. This is *After Hours* on KPFT Houston, 90.1 FM. And here's *This Way Out* with Greg Gordon and Lucia Chapelle.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- I'm sure that we certainly made an impression. Because President Bush at least had comments to make the next morning, as unenlightened as they may have been.

- It was very depressing when we talked to the Civil Rights Commission. One of the members of this commission interrupted me repeatedly and asked why don't you just set up a program and send them off to be cured.

- It's an emotional thing for me. It's not gay issues, lesbian issues, bisexual issues. It's people issues.

- This is Lucia Chapelle.

- And Greg Gordon. And you're listening to *This Way Out*, the international lesbian and gay radio magazine on *After Hours*.

- Right here on Pacifica Radio 90.1 FM, KPFT Houston.

- Welcome to *This Way Out*, the international lesbian and gay radio magazine. I'm Greg Gordon.

- And I'm Lucia Chapelle. Major denominations remain in queer quandary.

- ILGA deficit threatens international operation.

- And lowans approach legislature with new resolve.

- All that and more because you've discovered *This Way Out*.

- I'm Cindy Friedman.

- And I'm Mark Saccomano.

- With *Newswrap*, a summary of some of the news in or affecting the lesbian and gay community for the week ending September 7th, 1991. More details have become available on the participation of gays and lesbians in overthrowing the recent coup attempt in the USSR. The San Francisco-based International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission established a Moscow office earlier this year, staffed by Tom Boellstorff.

The Commission was able to provide Moscow gay and lesbian rights activist Roman Kalinin with a computer system, along with funds to pay duties leveled on it by customs equivalent to six times the average USSR worker's annual salary. This system proved to be the only one accessible during the coup. And Kalinin and Boellstorff made good use of it, putting a handwritten transcript of Boris Yeltsin's proclamation against the coup into printed form.

With the photocopier in Boellstorff's apartment, activists were able to run off 4,000 copies of the Yeltsin decree. Stamped with the name of Kalinin's gay and lesbian newsletter, *Tema*, the copies were posted on walls and distributed in the streets to soldiers in tanks, as well as to the anti-coup resistance. Kalinin actually prepared a special edition of *Tema*, but the coup failed a half hour after he completed it. Kalinin told the press that, quote, "there were so many gay men on the barricades that we could have organized a gay squad. But it all happened too fast."

It's the usual story. Gays are making history, but no one knows it. We're not asking for awards for what we've been doing. Democracy will be its own reward. Under Democratic rule, we will be able to do our work."

- If you've ever considered becoming a member of ILGA, the International Lesbian and Gay Association, now is the time to do it. So you might want to get a pen and paper handy.

In reviewing its 1991 budget, ILGA found a deficit equivalent to \$13,000 US dollars, which could force the organization to cut a staff member and scale back programs. New memberships or further contributions before the 14th Annual Conference in Paris a year from now could stave off what ILGA's financial secretariat warns would be an immediate and sharp deterioration in ILGA's ability to operate.

Although ILGA is the only organization connecting the gay and lesbian rights organizations on every continent, its third world members are often unable to pay dues. The ILGA financial secretariat can be contacted at 141 Cloudesley Road, London, N1 OEN, England. Again, that's 141 Cloudesley Road, London, N1 OEN, England.

- And in London, the Outrage affinity group The Horrors of Babylon performed an exorcism to free the Church of England from the demon of homophobia. 15 costumed protesters chanted, burned incense, and destroyed a demon figure outside the ancestral home of the Archbishop of Canterbury as crowds of commuters looked on. Babylon co-founder Dave Hurlbut said the group hopes to isolate homophobia from theology in the public mind and has plans to take action against other religious groups as well.

- And on the steps of the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Boston last month, 3 to 500 spectators celebrated the wedding of 24 same gender couples. The ceremony was performed by both a nondenominational Christian minister and a pagan priest in an atmosphere of exuberance. The event was the climax of a season of actions by Queer Nation, which chose the site over the objections of the archdiocese to protest the Catholic Church's part in defeating recent lesbian and gay rights legislation in the city.

- Another major US religious denomination has admitted it's unable to reach agreement as to how to deal with gays and lesbians. A study group of the almost 9 million member United Methodist Church spent three years developing a 14,000 word report said to be one of the most extensive studies on homosexuality ever made by a church group, but concluded it has been unable to arrive at a common mind. A majority of committee members wanted to change the church's social principles by removing this section, calling same gender sexual practice incompatible with Christian teaching. But the minority opinion prevented a consensus decision. Opinions expressed in letters and regional conferences indicate that church membership is strongly opposed to the change.

Meanwhile, the US Episcopal Church is still reeling from its own indecision on gay and lesbian issues earlier this year. In Orlando, Florida, minister Harry Sherman resigned his position as head of the Cathedral Church of St. Luke in protest of his congregation's homophobia. But in Arlington, Texas, St. Mary the Virgin Episcopal Church decided to change its affiliation and become a Roman Catholic congregation. Because, as pastor Alan Hawkins said, we were concerned about the Episcopal church's inability to affirm traditional Christian morality.

The second annual Log Cabin Republican Federation National Convention met last month in Chicago with representatives from twice as many lesbian and gay Republican clubs as last year. Resolutions were passed urging US President George Bush to allow gays and lesbians into military service and supporting funding for AIDS treatment and research. The group also decided to publish a national newsletter.

Several reports over the past few years suggest that George Bush views all protest demonstrations as counterproductive. That possibility didn't stop AIDS activists from visiting Bush during his summer vacation last week. Matt Binder has the story.

- The AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power, or ACT UP, has designated September as a month for direct action around AIDS issues. On September 1, they launched their campaign with a die in just 200 yards from President Bush's vacation home in Kennebunkport, Maine. About 2,000 demonstrators marched through the town of Kennebunkport, blowing whistles and carrying banners. And when police stopped the march near the Bush compound, some demonstrators laid down in the street as others lifted them up and carried them away on stretchers. Kyle Sennett, a member of ACT UP in Portland, Maine was an organizer of that protest.

- I'm sure that we certainly made an impression. Because President Bush at least had comments to make the next morning, as unenlightened as they may have been. I was particularly pleased that the businesses were so supportive and that the police were so cooperative.

- There were no arrests during the protest. And the president stayed inside his house. The next day, President Bush defended his record on AIDS issues, saying the government spends \$4 billion on AIDS research. But the president also took a verbal shot at the protesters, implying they should change their sexual behavior to avoid getting AIDS.

ACT UP plans to conduct a protest every day this month, culminating in a large demonstration in Washington, DC on September 30. In San Francisco, I'm Matt Binder.

- The Atlanta, Georgia city council passed a resolution last month denouncing the Cracker Barrel restaurant chain for discriminating against lesbian and gay employees. Activists have been staging a continuing series of protests at a number of Cracker Barrel locations for several months, since the revelation of the chain's policy of firing those, quote, "whose sexual preferences fail to demonstrate normal heterosexual values." End quote. 150 activists joined the latest demonstration on August 11 outside Cracker Barrel's Nashville, Tennessee headquarters.

- In downtown Lancaster, Pennsylvania about 60 members of the Ku Klux Klan marched to protest the city's anti-discrimination protections for gays and lesbians. Hundreds of multiracial counter-demonstrators included 30 members of Queer Nation New York. More than 300 police in riot gear made a total of six disorderly conduct arrests and were able to prevent any violence. Among those arrested were the National Klan leader, Imperial Wizard James Farrands, and five of the counter-demonstrators.

- And finally, from our queer heroes file, the following item was reported in the US tabloid, *The Globe*. A gay man bravely battled hurricane force winds and mountainous seas for 15 frantic hours to rescue women and children from a doomed cruise liner while its cowardly captain and crew jumped ship. Kevin Ellis, a performer on the cruise ship, refused to leave the crippled Oceanus until everyone was safe.

- Now that's a man worth cruising.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- That's *Newswrap* for the week ending September 7, 1991. Find out what's happening in your area. An informed community is a strong community.

- *Newswrap* is compiled and written by Cindy Friedman. For *This Way Out*, I'm Mark Saccomano.

- And I'm Cindy Friedman.

- Up next, with a commentary on the homophobic and racist elements of a mass murder case which has made shocking headlines in the US, here is Amber Ault.

- By now, the media has familiarized most of us with the details of Jeffrey Dahmer's crimes in the Midwest. We know about the murders, the mutilations, and the strong indications that Dahmer's antipathy toward gays and people of color served as the driving force in the creation of this carnage.

In the aftermath, we turn to psychology. We look for idiosyncratic explanations for why and how Dahmer slipped over the edge. We begin to scrutinize the killer's past, his family life, his school life, his work life.

We seem to believe that if we look closely enough, we will find that twisted moment behind the pathology. And when we do, we will feel confident again of our own sanity. Better yet, we will feel absolved.

Certainly, anyone capable of engineering such grotesque slaughter suffers from some emotional disturbance. But emotional disturbances often reflect and express the cultural milieus in which they occur. This seems especially true in the case of hate crimes, crimes motivated by bigotry, anti-Semitism, sexism, and homophobia.

Jeffrey Dahmer grew up in a culture which propagates the hatred of gay men and lesbians, a culture which condones white fear and hatred of people of color. We must examine this cultural context in the search for ultimate explanations of Mr. Dahmer's calculated killing.

Situated in a broader society, with hate crimes on the rise, in which the Department of Justice regards gays as the most common victims of bias crime, Jeffrey Dahmer's actions seem less the bizarre, nearly inconceivable stuff of horror films and more like common prejudice carried to an outrageous extreme. Mr. Dahmer knew his hatred reflected his culture's prejudices. And he used that knowledge to his advantage.

When neighbors reported an adolescent Laotian man running from Mr. Dahmer's apartment naked and bleeding, Mr. Dahmer told a fabrication about a lover's quarrel to the police officers who responded. Would police have ignored either a grown woman or a 14-year-old girl in a parallel situation? Would police have ignored a young white male?

Mr. Dahmer, apparently, easily predicted the influence of cultural prejudices on the police. They did ignore this incident. As Dahmer suspected, a gay lover's quarrel, even though it left one lover naked, bleeding, and trying to escape, seemed of no consequence to the officers.

The young man's remains were identified as those of Konerak Sinthasomphone. And the Milwaukee Police Department has suspended the officers who might have prevented his murder and the three others Mr. Dahmer appears to have committed since.

Whether Jeffrey Dahmer is a gay man lashing out against his own stigmatized sexuality or a heterosexual man channeling his frustrations into violence against carefully selected targets, he did not invent the hatred of homosexuals nor that of ethnic minorities. He learned it.

Who shall we hold accountable then? Certainly, we must hold Jeffrey Dahmer responsible for his actions. So also must we hold accountable those individuals and institutions which support such action or which fail to counteract it.

Every member of the clergy who ever stood before a congregation and condemned homosexuality or homosexuals must be held accountable. Every legislator who votes against the civil rights of ethnic minorities, gays and lesbians must be held accountable. Every officer who ignores hate violence, every teacher who allows children to use "fag" as an epithet, every parent who teaches racial superiority and the hatred of difference to a child, and every gay man and lesbian who supports homophobia by remaining invisible must be held accountable.

Racial and sexual minorities suffer discrimination, harassment, and violence every day. And Jeffrey Dahmer's bloodletting merely reflects the wider pattern, albeit in a mirror which makes the process more available than usual to the naked eye. Distancing ourselves from culpability is the only thing to be gained from sifting through the rubble of Mr. Dahmer's life, looking for some scrap that will allow us to explain so specific a hatred, so great a rage.

We must examine our own lives. We must inspect our social beliefs and practices. For Jeffrey Dahmer's actions are at least as much a product of his culture as of his individual psychopathology, probably more. With a comment on anti-gay violence, I'm Amber Ault in Columbus, Ohio for *This Way Out*.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- You're listening to *This Way Out*, the international lesbian and gay radio magazine. With Greg Gordon, I'm Lucia Chapelle.

[MUSIC - BEN E. KING, "STAND BY ME"]

- Statistically, there are probably 250,000 gay and lesbian people in the state of Iowa. Adding friends and families to that figure, many Iowans have a stake in the state's position on gay rights. 200 people gathered in Iowa City last week for the first All Iowa Lesbian Gay Rights Assembly. The main focus of discussion was the Iowa gay rights bill to be introduced for the third time in the next legislative session. Julie Englander and Nancy Hagan prepared this report.

- We will not rest until no young person has to contemplate suicide because they have discovered their sexual orientation.

- Iowa gay rights lobbyist Michael Current.

- We will not rest until no Iowa citizen need ever again fear the loss of a job, or a place to live, or any other privilege of civilized coexistence just because they happen to be gay. That in short, we will not rest until full civil rights protections for gay, lesbian, and bisexual people are signed into Iowa law.

- A gay civil rights bill at both the state and federal levels would provide protection from discrimination for gay people in the areas of employment, housing, education, and credit. The bill takes no position on homosexuality, but simply states that the basic needs of life should be available to all. Proponents of the gay rights bill say the bill is necessary because often a person's sexual orientation is used to incriminate them in cases of litigation. For example, half of the states in the country mandate sodomy laws. But those statutes are never enforced. University of Iowa professor of law Pat Kane.

- So why, if these statutes are never enforced, why spend so much effort and time challenging them? Well, here's why. Consider a lesbian mother fighting for custody of her child. And the lawyer on the other side gets up and says, your Honor, how can this woman be fit as a parent? She's a criminal under the laws passed by our own legislature.

A schoolteacher loses his job because he's gay. He fights for reinstatement. And the school board says, but you're a criminal in this state. The reason why we challenge sodomy statutes is that if legislatures can criminalize us for the most private and intimate expressions of who we are, then as a practical matter, we can't count on much legal protection in the rest of our lives.

- Although there have been a number of decisions made in favor of gays and lesbians in the lower courts, the cases are defeated when they get to the Supreme Court.

- Now here's what I think is a political matter. So long as we can avoid the US Supreme Court, we will continue to win some cases for some plaintiffs in the discrimination area. But the victories will be few. And if they are won under the United States Constitution, they run the risk of loss at the Supreme Court level. For this reason, we need a gay rights, anti-discrimination bill, preferably one that will protect all lesbian and gay Americans.

The federal gay and lesbian civil rights bill has been reintroduced to each congressional session since its introduction in 1975 by former representative Bella Abzug. Last August, the bill was referred to the Judiciary Committee in both the House and Senate, but no action is scheduled. At the state level, the bill was introduced three years ago to the Iowa house by Representative Tom Yocum of Dubuque. Each year the Bill passed in the House but died in the Senate.

Last legislative session, Jean Lloyd-Jones, Democrat from Iowa City, presented the bill to the Iowa Senate, along with co-sponsors Democrats Elaine Szymoniak of Des Moines, Ralph Rosenberg of Ames, and Republican Jim Lind of Waterloo. Jean Lloyd-Jones says she encountered attitudes of opposition ranging from strident to noncommittal. What surprised Lloyd-Jones the most was her experience with the Iowa Civil Rights Commission.

- To my astonishment, one of the members of this commission spoke out angrily against the idea and didn't even want me to make my presentation. He interrupted me repeatedly and asked, why don't you just set up a program and send them off to be cured?

It was very depressing that morning when we talked to the Civil Rights Commission. And they wouldn't vote. They wouldn't take a vote on it. So it isn't just legislators that need to be educated, unfortunately.

Lloyd-Jones adds that if the bill were to pass the Iowa legislature, it would need the governor's signature. To date, Terry Branstad has not indicated he'd be willing to sign the bill.

Accomplishments have been made in the area of gay rights in Iowa. During the last legislative session, the collection, compilation, and dissemination of statistics on hate crimes by the Iowa Department of Public Safety was jeopardized due to budget cuts. However, the budget that was finally signed into law contains specific language mandating those services continue.

In the area of HIV and AIDS, gay rights lobbyists stopped five separate bills designed to alter the test, consent, and confidentiality statute. Prior to 1991, the Iowa legislature had never approved any money for HIV and AIDS treatment and services. In fact, Iowa is only one of eight states which does not provide state money for AIDS.

Iowa gay rights lobbyist Michael Current says that this year, in the tightest budget year in recent Iowa history, lobbyists pushed through more than \$120,000 to fund HIV and AIDS treatment and services. But Current says winning approval in the legislature wasn't enough.

- Governor Terry Branstad does not get it yet when it comes to AIDS. And he vetoed that funding.

- Iowa gay rights lobbyist Michael Current, one of several speakers at the All Iowa Lesbian-Gay Rights Assembly. The culmination of the two day assembly was the draft of the State of Iowa Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Rights Resolution, which will be submitted with the Iowa gay rights bill next legislative session. The drafting of the resolution inspired several poignant moments of emotion.

- I just want to say that I am really feeling a sense of privilege and pride being here. I've taken a good bit of bashing about being in the minority [LAUGHS] as a heterosexual friend. I love it. I don't mind.

It's an emotional thing for me. It's not gay issues, lesbian issues, bisexual issues. It's people issues. And none of us can remain untouched. It's impossible.

- And finally, I'm asking you personally to help me. I've been a lifelong resident of Iowa. I've been both blessed and cursed with a strong back, a fierce work ethic, and a working class pride about having earned everything I have.

My physical strength is beginning to fail me. My financial resources are rapidly disappearing. My seemingly boundless energy has begun to reach its limits.

I have fought for AIDS education and services for the past seven years. I am now asking you to fight for them for me. I am asking you to help me to ask for help and yet retain my deep sense of pride and dignity. As a person with AIDS, I am asking you to love me, to support me, and to care for me.

- Not less, but more, I will speak out and call out homophobia, heterosexism, racism, ageism, classism, ableism, or any other oppressive behavior that leaves any human being feeling, or places them as, inferior to any other human being. And I will call these things out not only when I see them in others, but I will call them out when I see them in myself.

I've learned over the years that when we move to those isolated places, that movements happen. Not only when one person says that's not OK. I have to tell you that's not OK.

That movements happen when now one person says that's not OK and says to the next person, I know you know it's not OK, too, when you stand by me.

[MUSIC - BEN E. KING, "STAND BY ME"]

[INAUDIBLE], will you stand by me? Come up here. Tim Meyer, will you stand by me? Let's go down here.

- And in Iowa City, I'm Julie Englander with co-producer Nancy Hagan for *This Way Out*.

- Thanks for tuning into *This Way Out*, the international lesbian and gay radio magazine. This week, Cindy Friedman, Mark Saccomano, Matt Binder, Amber Ault, Julie Englander, and Nancy Hagan contributed program material. Thanks also to Karen Kasler and Mike Alkalay.

- The Rolling Stones and Ben E. King performs--

--some of the music you heard. And Kim Wilson composed and performed our theme music.

- *This Way Out* is brought to you each week by a staff of community volunteers. And it's sustained by financial support from the community. Funding for satellite distribution and some expenses has been provided by the Paul Rapoport Foundation and The Funding Exchange.

- Audio cassettes of *This Way Out* programs are available by mail, individually or by subscription. Please write to us for more information.

- Or with any comments, suggestions or questions you might have, or just to let us know you're out there listening. Write to *This Way Out*, Post Office Box 38327, Los Angeles, California, 90038.

- *This Way Out* is produced by Greg Gordon--

- And Lucia Chapelle. And we thank you for listening on KGNU Boulder--

- WWUH West Hartford--

- And 2SER Sydney--

- Among others--

- And for supporting this local community radio station.

- Please do stay tuned, y'all.

- Yeah, I'm sorry. I cut them off.

- Oh, well. Is it over?

- Yeah, I told you it was over.

- Well, I was doing some production work. And I was doing other things. And I just kind of like shut it off. I guess we're done with this.

- Well.

- So what else is going on?

- Well, we've got someone holding on line one.

- Is who is--