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gay, lesbian, talk, men, week, greg, remember, sexual, song, walking, queer, relationship, internalized homophobia, houston, heterosexual relationship, listen, people, hold, told, bisexual

SPEAKERS

Brian Bradley, Scott Lewis, Jimmy Carper, [Introduction]

I [Introduction] 00:05
The following program contains language or images of a frank or sensitive nature that may be considered objectionable by some listener discretion is advised.

S Scott Lewis 00:19
You know what that means? You know who's here?

B Brian Bradley 00:25
They have to thank you, Scott.

S Scott Lewis 00:27
Brian Bradley, Brian Bradley and Scott Lewis. But more importantly, Brian Bradley and 93 the are the soapbox. Are you going to soapbox tonight?

B Brian Bradley 00:36
I got a couple of things. I'm going to talk about this pile of New York Times, Washington Post LA Times. We'll get there. I'm sure there's someone to to scream and holler at. And we have a counselor standing by just in case.

S Scott Lewis 00:51
Just in case you need quick therapy.

B Brian Bradley 00:56
I'm afraid we're not going to be able to fulfill your needs though. Are we? Give me that back.

S Scott Lewis 01:00
Oh, goody room after hours.

B Brian Bradley 01:07
One Oh 4.1

S Scott Lewis 01:11
You're listening to after hours? Mary You say it in the in the opening? Whoa, if it's it must be midnight on Saturday night because you're listening to after hours. Right there in the middle of Gloria Gaynor.

J Jimmy Carper 01:22
Most people are like you and they don't listen to it.

S Scott Lewis 01:25
Don't listen to you either.

J Jimmy Carper 01:26
Alright, no, I know.

S Scott Lewis 01:29
Anyway, what

J Jimmy Carper 01:30
have we got tonight?

B Brian Bradley 01:31

B Brian Bradley 01:31

Same thing you had last week. Penicillin didn't work. Heal the cat. Did you see Rush Limbaugh the other night when he had last night socks the cat in the White House. The People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals were in a big uproar about it. But that's one of the things I wanted to talk about tonight is that or fact, it seems as if k h o u channel 11 In their infinite wisdom has decided to drop the Rush Limbaugh program in the Houston market. And I'm just greatly disappointed. I watch him every night. It's actually very scary. Now they're getting a lot of calls from the other side. Well, that's why we need to say folks you need to call Kaicho you channel 11 They have it part of their menu that you can leave a program or comment on tape and just say hey, thanks for you know, given rush, the bum's rush,

S Scott Lewis 02:30

you may not can call channel 11 and get a menu

B Brian Bradley 02:33

once you've learned dial the phone. Don't Quit talking about menus and eaten as much as you do. You're gonna be as big as rush. You're already as ugly as it is.

S Scott Lewis 02:43

But at least I have hair left. Well,

B Brian Bradley 02:45

I got it to the bag.

S Scott Lewis 02:48

What are we doing tonight?

B Brian Bradley 02:50

I don't know. I'm going to sit over here and watch you interview this young man. And that's my notes. Maybe you should make your own. Get your hands out here. You want to introduce Greg?

S Scott Lewis 03:01

We have Greg case on do i pronounce that correctly?

B

Brian Bradley 03:06

And he doesn't have a microphone, Jimmy.

S

Scott Lewis 03:08

Well, he doesn't need one yet. Okay, Greg, case ons from the Montrose Counseling Center. And we're going to talk about issues that are important to gays and lesbians, relationships, self hate addictions. How much of this is because of the society's oppression that we feel growing up as teenagers knowing we're different and, and so forth? So and we're going to take some phone calls today looks great,

B

Brian Bradley 03:31

but I want to know, will he be able to tell us which shoes to wear with white dress? You said

S

Scott Lewis 03:39

that it's advice that you need because I've seen you but together so

B

Brian Bradley 03:43

well with black? I didn't know there was such opposition

S

Scott Lewis 03:49

if Queer Nation was still around. I think the fashion police affinity group would have protested you.

B

Brian Bradley 03:54

That's okay. I could have handled it. What else

S

Scott Lewis 03:57

are we doing? We're

B

Brian Bradley 03:59

gonna give away some tickets tonight to see a new play called the Doppler effect is playing at curtains. And we'll tell you all about that when the time comes. answer that phone before

S

Scott Lewis 04:09

I can answer that phone. We also have a real interesting interview that you did a couple of weeks ago with some people in your age group.

B

Brian Bradley 04:19

And they're still among the living unlike you got about two minutes. You want to tell them about what the interview is or do you only toot my own horn? Well, I've been I'm expert at not to be able to. We have Pat Hall, who is I believe, if I remember correctly, 68 years old. She's been out and about lesbian for a lot of that time. We have Duncan Allen and if I remember correctly, Duncan is 54 and Duncan had moved to New York just two weeks prior to the Stonewall riots and was interviewed by Walter Cronkite on CBS CBS bad to CBS national news As of the, during the riots, and actually, I believe that was one of the first positive stories that was ever done on the issue of homosexuality. And we also have one of my most favorite people in the world. Les Marsters, and he's a gentleman that lives here in Houston. A lot of people know and Lee is approaching 72. And they're going to talk to us about what it was like to be young and gay and in the closet now the closet some of the things that have changed drastically and yet, some of the things you know, that have remained the same. So he could enjoy it.

S

Scott Lewis 05:32

And because of at that interview, believe it or not people, Brian with a little long winded, we're going to have to do that in two parts. We're going to do that. Half of that this week. We'll do that about two o'clock and then we'll do about half of it. Nick the last half of it next week at two o'clock.

B

Brian Bradley 05:52

I really appreciated your help on it, too. You sat there in the room and didn't say anything the whole time.

S

Scott Lewis 05:56

Oh, like I couldn't get a word in edgewise with you.

B

Brian Bradley 06:00

It's why I gave you that screwdriver. What did you do with it?

S

Scott Lewis 06:03

I was I was figuring out why you're walking. You'll never see it again.

B

Brian Bradley 06:09

I don't want to keep it

S

Scott Lewis 06:17

also, we have Michael Crawford and I tracked down Senator Krueger on the streets of Houston last week, Senator Bob Krueger who was here seeking me gay lesbian political telling me I got him before you did. What you can have him I saw him. And we also have a we have a story on that. And we have a story on the Lesbian Gay rights lobby what it is, and they had an interesting guest, I ran into a fundraiser there. Mattress Mac and I talked to him for a couple of minutes.

B

Brian Bradley 06:49

I bet y'all had something in common, didn't you? Oh, and did he have his mattress crapped on his back? Also when you saw it?

S

Scott Lewis 06:57

Oh, no, no, I thought you were referring to the pig. Well,

B

Brian Bradley 07:05

I don't want to hurt you too early in the program.

S

Scott Lewis 07:07

We gotta get out of here. Jimmy has a queer music zone to do. So. I'm going to turn this over to you. And we'll be back with Greg talking about counseling issues, and how they affect gays and lesbians after the queer music zone.

J

Jimmy Carper 07:21

Whoa, okay. It is Jimmy with queer music zone on after hours a continuing tradition. Right here on KPFT. Houston. Howdy, howdy, howdy. We're gonna get right to it tonight. We've got an old favorite that I want to get into. It's called. There comes a time and it's done by the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles. So let's get to it. Yes, there comes a time by the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles that's on their diversity album. Next coming up on QMZ queering music zone, where of course we feature music by gay, lesbian and bisexual artists. I'm really excited about

doing music from artists that maybe you didn't know were gay and just came out and now you can hear their music and then all new way. And then that vein. We've got Elton John. I can remember when he was sort of straight sort of bisexual, and now he is out all the way. And he's doing a song from his album. Live in Australia. It's called your song. And I want to dedicate this to the new gay and lesbian show on KPFT lesbian and gay voices that can be heard every Friday night at 6pm running for two hours. They had the premiere show Friday night and let's hope it will be around for a very, very long time. And now your song Thank you. And thank you, John. Elton John. Mr. John. Wonder if that's really his last name, John. And thank you for lesbian and gay voices. They'll be around a long time. I know. Now to round out Q MC. I've got one that's you know, I always want to play openly gay lesbian or bisexual sexual artists and I thought, you know, there's gonna come a time when there's gonna be some song you want to play that's like on the fence. And what do I mean by on the fence? Well, I've got this great song. And it's written by Nona Hendryx, who we play all the time, she's bisexual, it, it's called, you turn me on, and it's on the Lebel album. Now, actually, known a Hendrix is singing in the background, but the lead is done by Patti LaBelle, but she's kind of an honorary gay or lesbian. We've always liked her. And this is a particularly great song. For any of you, any of you out there who maybe you're not in the relationship you thought you were going to be in. Or maybe the person you thought you were going to have a great future with just kind of gave you the old heave ho, so to speak. And, you know, there may have been times when you've dated somebody, and you knew they weren't for you. And then you just kind of said, sorry. And now maybe the shoes on the other foot, and if you weren't ready to leave them first. It can hurt a little bit. So this may be what you're feeling right now. Cheer up, it'll get better. Oh, yeah, you turned me on. That was Patti LaBelle. But the song was written by and had in the background Nona, Hendryx. Favorite bisexual artist. That's going to be it for key Wednesday, this week. This is Jimmy. And if you're still kind of hanging in there over the song, and if that special person has still left you down in the dumps, stay tuned immediately after this way out, which will be about a quarter of two. And we're gonna have something else that might help you in that direction. Until next week, Jimmy and QMZ.

B

Brian Bradley 12:40

testing 1212 Our Ogden do the emergency broadcast thing that y'all never let me do.

S

Scott Lewis 12:46

That's because it's stupid. And we have a cassette for that. But I think they're hiring over there where they make those tapes.

B

Brian Bradley 12:52

This is a test, a test for the Emergency Broadcast System.

S

Scott Lewis 12:56

You're testing to buy or you're testing.

B

Brian Bradley 13:00

Okay, it's a payback. Well, I seem to be a bit off scheduled. I thought we were going to go to Greg earlier. Are we going to go to Greg now? Yes. Okay. I'll be in the here in the present now.

S

Scott Lewis 13:16

It's about time.

B

Brian Bradley 13:18

We'll take you back a few years later in the program. And we'll ask Jimmy to play a song for

S

Scott Lewis 13:24

us. With us now is Greg case on and you? What is your top Greg, you work at the at the Montrose Counseling Center? Yes, I do. And what's your title?



13:36

I'm a mental health educator. I'm actually a therapist, but I actually do go out in the community and speak to people in the community about gay and lesbian issues. Specifically,

S

Scott Lewis 13:45

I want us to start tonight, basically, at the beginning, I want to talk about gay and lesbian issues, and mental health. And I want to start at the beginning, from the first realization that your sexual orientation is not, quote unquote, normal that you're different. I believe it that you just realize that you're different, or that you know that your attraction is to the opposite sex because I've heard different people realizing it in different ways. What does that realization do to you at the very beginning and how it affects you later in life?



14:17

Well, it may be the scariest moment in your entire life. From the moment they say you're four years old, or five, or six, which a lot of people report and you realize you're different. You start thinking, Oh, no, what's wrong with me? And you don't know why a lot of people will say they don't know why they're different. They just know that they're different at that age, they can't really identify it. It isn't so much a sexual thing at that age. It's just a different feeling. And they don't know how to put it into words or to articulate it. And so it starts that's probably the beginning of the isolation and the fear that sets us apart because we don't have a community support.

S

Scott Lewis 14:56

When you come okay, you come to that realization that you're different that are Like, then you get into your teenage years, when all those things start happening, you're supposed to start dating someone of the opposite sex. You, you go to dances, the focus is on romance and things. And yet you're not comfortable in that, how does that affect you and your and your interaction with other people?

P

15:21

Well, you know, that's just, that's just that we are immediately thrust into that mold that we have to be a certain way in a certain way as heterosexual. And we have to follow these heterosexual relationships. And you know, you're different. And maybe by that time, you've identified that your feelings are actual sexual, actually sexual, especially since you've gone through puberty, and you're in your teenage years. And, and it's very hard when you're going to the dances, you're taking the girls out, and you're going home with them and kissing them, it's not sincere. You're trying to hide your secret from everybody, including your date, including your parents, including all your friends, so that you can remain in your peer group and feel comfortable. It's really a very scary time, I always I've talked to a lot of people who say, they would have liked nothing more than to go to a prom with someone of their same sex, or to have been able to start those dating experiences early those dating experiences where all you do is hold hands and kiss and go to a movie and giggle and pass notes in class. But we don't even get to do that.

B

Brian Bradley 16:26

How do you teach someone as an adult to recapture what they lost as a child? Or do you advise them to deal with today and not go back to yesterday and try to be a kid?

P

16:40

Well, it's headed, you're right on both ends, actually, because we do have to deal with today. And we do have to take hold of what's going on right now. But there is a part of us that are the kid that we missed, that needs to be nurtured and needs to be taken care of. And that we do need to go back to that time, or go back in some way and start treating ourselves right the childhood we may have missed, we need to start to get back again. And I don't know, you would have to know the individual person on what you feel like you've missed to go back and get. But if you miss passing the note, if you miss just going out and holding hands, maybe that's something you need to start doing a little bit with some of your friends or some of the people that you're interested in, hold off on maybe sexual relationships for a while and and just hold hands or going to a dance together, doing something like that.

S

Scott Lewis 17:30

Don't do you find it? Are we taught by this wrong and attitude from the outside that you're wrong? And you're bad? Are we taught not to want to hold our lovers hands not to you know, do

you find that, that the people that you're seeing are only sexual because that's what we're told we are only sexual?



17:54

Well, yeah, we are told we're only sexual by a segment of society. And, and we're taught probably not to hold hands in a very inadvertent way. We're not giving any models. We're not given any kind of thing on the media that shows two men holding hands. We don't know anyone two men who hold hands, we don't see them walking down the street holding hands. We you know, we live out in the suburbs, we go to the movies, you don't see two men in the back making out. We just don't have any models. So we don't know. And that looks so weird. Can't all of us remember the first time we walked into a gay bar and saw two men dancing? And how weird that was? So



Scott Lewis 18:35

then, okay, you get through these things. And you get to a point where you realize it's time to come out. Coming out is a very long, hard process. A lot of people that listen to this show haven't come out yet. You know, a lot of them are still at home. What do you say to someone in that situation that's still at home, they realize where they're at. And they're ready to take that step. What can you say to them?



19:04

Well, I'd say that coming out first, it probably starts from the moment you realize that you're different and that in fact, you're gay. And maybe it's a whole lifelong process. Because we have this thing which we all know so well called internalized homophobia or fear of this what society's basically instilled in us that we're bad and we're wrong for being who we are. And we turn that on ourselves. We're afraid to say to other people that we're gay and lesbian because they'll reject us, they'll hurt us. And in fact, that may be true. What I would say to some people is, wherever you are in this process is to take it one step at a time. Don't push things. Don't think that you have to do anything. You don't have to tell your parents now you don't have to tell your friends. But what you need to do is to take realize where you are in this process and and realize that it's time maybe to take another step in the process, whatever that step is. For some people's just buying a gay or lesbian magazine, because they've never bought one before picking up twit, somewhere at a location or listening to this show is probably a big step a lot of people have made because they're turning in the radios. And you know, who knows who's gonna walk in the room, or what's going to happen. So those are all steps that you can take. And gradually, you'll keep walking and walking until you finally come to a point where you're on the radio talking openly to other people about being gay and lesbian.



Brian Bradley 20:33

I think one of the most important things that I remember as a very young child, and I often say I've never been in the closet, because it just grew up so differently than most of my gay or lesbian contemporaries. It was real clear to me when I was very young, that I needed to

separate my feelings from what other people made me feel, you know, there's so much shame and so much guilt. I can remember being a young boy playing with other young boys. And I didn't think anything about it, it was nothing to it. But I was told you can't do that, you know, because that's not right. And we get confused. And it was even more confusing, because my mother would say, yeah, it is all right. But all the other parents didn't. So maybe we can help people in the coming out process to realize their feelings are one thing. And what they're told by other people that they turn into their shame is a completely different thing, right.



21:29

And it's so hard to do with children. And that's where the process starts. Because children believe that that everybody's feelings, relates to them, you're sort of when you're a child, you believe that you're kind of what they call egocentric, and that the world revolves around you. And if the people are saying negative things, you start to believe that they're very real.



Scott Lewis 21:52

Later in life, these things obviously have an impact on on us for the rest of our lives. All these things that were told, Brian being told by everyone that they did not all right, that he's playing with, you know, boys in the way he that he is. It creates problems for for many people in dealing later with, with these relationships, and so forth. What kind of issues does this cause for people in their later life,



22:27

you might be pointing internalized homophobia, which is when the self hatred and hurt that we're not as good as other people, it creates so many problems. And in fact, one of the biggest problems it creates is, is that you don't want to talk to other people about what's going on inside of you, you don't want to express your feelings, you create this generalized fear of ever telling anyone what's going on. And you start to create a second level, which is a facade of how you're operating on gun going to work and doing good. And I talk about my girlfriend who I never see because she lives in another state or whatever. And then you've got all these internalized sexual feelings that are going on, really, and then then it depends on where you are in the coming out process it say you're, you're a gay man or lesbian in a relationship. And with another gay man or lesbian, one of the same sex of course, and, and you're in the relationship and the relationship can suffer serious strains, just because one person is more out than the other person. And the person who's not as out is very fearful that they will be brought out by the other person, or that somehow the relationship is just a representative of what they're trying to hide, which is their sexuality.



Scott Lewis 23:43

Why are physical looks so important to gay men?



23:50

That's a good question. You know, I used to work in West Hollywood before I came here. And that was something I probably had to deal with, with almost every client I saw. And I see it less here in Houston, which is nice. But I think that that's just something that is just inherent to men, as opposed to gay men. It's just sort of a male issue that we put pressure on whoever we're interested in sexually to look good. And that person wants to look good, because men look at that. Look at that much more important. Women may not be as physically physical look oriented, although many women are. I don't think it's as much of a female issue as it is a male issue.

B

Brian Bradley 24:36

Why would you think that is because women generally in my opinion, and I'm certainly no expert in anything that you hear tonight is, for me, at least is anecdotal. And anything that Greg may tell you is just generalized opinions of reps and not necessarily meant to be any form of therapy. I think women probably are less concerned about things that are not so important like looks than men are. Because they have more of a sense of comfort comfortableness with themselves.



25:09

That may be that may be I really don't know what the origins of it is. I know that a lot of women, as a lot of gay men feel the pressure from men in general to look good. And we don't see that happening. And straight men, they don't feel as much pressure to look good, because women are giving them that pressure.

B

Brian Bradley 25:26

And they generally don't either. You know, the something I thought about just a moment ago, I can remember when I was growing up and beginning to become sexual. And even before that, and I was identifying myself, I had to fight very hard to not speak, act and behave the way society told me I was supposed to as that dirty, despicable queer, you know, I had to be in drag. I had to, like, you know, black, women's music? Well, which I do. But you know, I heard from society, okay, all right. You're queer, and we hate you. But if you're gonna be one, this is what you have to look like. You have to want to wear makeup, and you have to want to wear a dress, and you can't you have to be. I don't hardly ever hear anymore. But you know, which one? Are you the man, man? Oh, yes. And I had to fight that real hard. Do you still find youth in 1993 having as much a rigid role to find for them?



26:28

Oh, sure. Because that's that hasn't gone away. We and I think a lot of it is because we've grown up and we've walked away from that. But people are still hearing especially out in the burbs, and especially in, you know, smaller towns, people are still hearing, Are You the man or the woman? Are you Why didn't you wear a dress? Oh, you're gay, then you must want to be an interior designer, you know, not that there's anything wrong with that, but that they they

assign certain professions, the whole thing. And it's really ridiculous because gays and lesbians are, of course, in every walk of life, do every sort of thing. And we see gay. Well, I remember once walking past a construction site full of guys. And they were whistling. And I thought wow, this is really a refreshing change.

B

Brian Bradley 27:10

I guess you did you feel sexually harassed? Oh, I was just so thrilled. We've come a long way.

S

Scott Lewis 27:21

Brian wants to walk down that street. I want to open this up and take some phone calls. If anybody's interested in asking a question of Greg. Our number is 526-573-8526 KPFT. Let's talk a little bit about relationships and how these earlier issues affect us when it comes time to get involved in a relationship. It was my experience that until I met this wonderful man. I always thought relationships and gay men were strictly sexual, because that's what I've always been taught. And then I met this wonderful man, that totally changed my attitude, because he really cared about me, and he loved me, and so forth. What issues are there? You know, like, for example, self hate and internalized homophobia? What does that do to a relationship?

i

28:19

Well, first of all, I'll just say that, you know, maybe sexuality, although that leads us into a relationship, it can't hold a relationship together. And it isn't the base of a relationship. Really, the base comes from a more intimate understanding. And it is that love and that, that unconditional love, in fact, we seek from other people that really holds it together. The self hate can make a blockage for that unconditional love. When you tell me that you love me, and you say, you know that, that you really care about what I do that you really enjoy my work, et cetera, et cetera. And I'm sitting here saying this is coming from a man, this is for me weird, because I've never had any role models. This is too strange. I'm supposed to be in a heterosexual relationship. Yet my natural body's telling me to go the other way. I start having all this inner turmoil, and I can't listen to what you're saying, which is what? I love you. I can't listen to that, because I have too many inner voices screaming at me.

B

Brian Bradley 29:22

Do you think a part of that also, that turning away from or that rejection of the person that you sought out in God also has to do with some little Damon in your head telling you, you can't be happy, you shouldn't be happy, because that's what we hear all the time. Gay, gay relationships are sexual in nature only.

i

29:45

And in fact, that's probably the most damaging thing and we hear it from our parents. Probably most of all, I just want you to be happy. That's why I don't want you to be gay. And in fact, it's the opposite. If we don't express what we really are inside of our inner selves we won't be

the opposite. If we don't express what we really are inside of our inner selves we won't be happy and and if



30:06

it