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gay, people, lesbian, voted, endorse, krueger, caucus, supported, fact, married, hiv, bar, women, days, endorsement, senator, political, community, police, pat



00:01

But the issue here for me is the future of the church and whether it should survive, or whether it should surely and deservedly fail. Why love and inclusion continue to be shouted from every pulpit prayer book and hymnal, when the doors of the church have been shut and barred by bigotry and intolerance. The issue for me is whether people who belong to this denomination and to the Christian church what their response is going to be, will they be Christians, or will they be Christ like,



00:32

we believe that membership in the Presbyterian Church must mean total



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inclusion, denial of leadership rights to a group of people



00:41

based upon diversity of



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thinking, without regard to the Content of Character is overtly discriminatory? And is a violation of all the heritage



00:51

and precepts of the Presbyterian Church USA.





00:56

As difficult as her journey has been, it would have been impossible without the support of her partner, Susan Grammer,



01:02

oh my gosh, there have been over the past two years really shearing forces on our relationship, because we're both committed to our love for one another, and even for the church, although it's been difficult, but our ways of living that out are very different. I just want it to be the pastor of a sleepy little church, and Susan has a passion for the issue. And justice. It's not that I don't we just do it differently. And so it's been hard to work out. But I thank God for her willingness to support me even though she would have done it very differently. She would have fought this and it was my choice not to and she has right down the line. Each step of the way. supported me in my decisions and helped me to work out what it was that I needed to do. And I'm very grateful for that oh Martha, Martha



02:12

low today than I did way back when Oh,



02:15

yeah. Oh, yeah. Isn't that good? That was Gladys Knight doing I will survive as a ballad. The one made famous back in the 70s by Gloria Gaynor,



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right going to disco. Scott, I talked to Lee Harrington tonight who's producing a play a gay play at the curtains theater. And we're going to give away two tickets to see performance of that play. But that might be a little bit. The way we're gonna give them way may be a little bit unorthodox. The winner is going to have to call Li and arrange to pick up the tickets and such as that.



02:51

Well, now we're gonna give away just to someone who calls now anyone we have a trivia question.



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Third caller, I figured anybody that's still up on their feet and can breathe and make a phone call after that song deserves two tickets. But the name of the play is the Doppler effect. And it's at curtains, which is located at 3722 Washington Avenue. And the phone number I've got here

somewhere, don't give



03:18

out the phone number because then everybody will call and say they want to,



03:22

if you want to, the winner will call us back. I'll give them the phone number for the tickets, but you know it is about it takes place in an art gallery in Houston. And it's an exhibit of a man's depiction of what his ex lover looked like. And it focuses on life art, food and sex. And when this exhibit opens up, who shows up but the ex lover, he shows up uninvited, and he's got a double salvation for the artist, if you will. He has a new wife and a new new religion. So it sounds like it'd be really interesting. So how do you want to give these tickets away? We'll just call five to the first person that calls



04:12

5265738. You know, I first met Lee when he was doing PS your cat is dead over at curtains, which was a great play. It was wonderful. I really enjoyed it. So I highly recommend I highly recommend least play. Oh, look at those phone lines light up. You know? You have a stack of papers, probably 50 million deep over there. What do you want to talk about first?



04:41

Oh, God, there's so much that went on in the news. In the last week of week Where's we're just as ubiquitous as we, you know, have learned to be. I guess the biggest story of the week has been all of the discussion in in such centering over the senatorial race that we're going to have on Saturday May the first To replace Lloyd Benson. Right now we have four Republicans, I won't name any of them that are going to oppose the present Senator Bob Krueger, who and Richard appointed to fill out the amount of time between Vincent leaving on inauguration day in May the first and Jose Gutierrez are the two Democratic candidates.



05:26

We have done a little feature story about this. And let's listen to that. And then come back and we'll talk about it because we had the opportunity to talk to Senator Krueger. So let's listen to this and see what he has to say and get some other opinions. Can gay lesbian Political Caucus? Outside the screening, Michael Crawford and I had the opportunity to speak to the Senator.



05:51

Okay. First question is why did you go to continue the ban on native allowing HIV positive people into the United States?



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I simply don't think we view it as a medical question. We simply don't have the medical facilities and funds to look after our own citizens. And I think we need to look after Americans with AIDS before we concern ourselves with other people who would want to come in with that disease. But



06:11

that's really not a question of finances, the question of, like, not discriminated against people. No, not many other countries do that, except for countries that are generally attacked for the human rights records. How do you how do you how can you support discriminated against people who are HIV positive?



06:28

It is very much a medical question certainly is to me, and it is 276 senators from United States who voted that way. I mean, if we other countries have national health care systems, we don't.



06:38

How do you explain the fact that you waffled on lifting the ban on gays in the military? I didn't want full I was very clear. You were you were very clear in the beginning and saying that you supported Bill Clinton in lifting the ban. But then after that you waffled on the



06:51

words they're not words, listen to my words, don't put words in my mouth. I indicated very clearly from the start that I was opposed to discrimination that I was opposed to screening tests, I've never engaged in the myself. I don't think that they should be engaged in by the military. I indicated also, from the start, that this was a matter that should be consulted and determined by the Joint Chiefs of Staff. And that's exactly what's being done and the 22 staff



07:12

have continuously said,



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what if we could just tell us how you would vote on the Gay Lesbian civil rights bill? Would you vote for it?



07:20

I don't know that. I don't know that. It's very simple. They would add gay gay, he



07:24

would just add gays and lesbians to the 1964 Civil Rights Act. In a meeting that many have described as a classic HGL PC debate, the membership of the caucus voted not to endorse the Senator. I spoke with Pat Gandy, who supported Senator Krueger's endorsement. longtime member of the gay lesbian Political Caucus,



07:45

met seven or seven years, eight years, something like that. Yeah. You were



07:49

very supportive of endorsing Senator Krueger tonight at in the caucus meeting, Senator Krueger was not endorsed. As matter of fact, no candidate in this race has been endorsed by the caucus at this time. How does that make you feel?



08:02

Well, I feel it was a big mistake on the part of the caucus, not to go ahead and endorse Senator Krueger screened with the screening committee of the caucus. And that's the first time it was a historic event. It was the first time that he's sitting United States senator has ever screened with a gay and lesbian group in the state of Texas. That's historic, and we turned our back on him that bad politics.



08:31

The arguments were that he waffled on the military ban. He voted against the gay lesbian community when it came to the HIV immigration bill. Are those not strong arguments in your mind?



08:44

Okay. Let's take the first one that he waffled on the military. That's simply not true. That's a complete misrepresentation of the facts, which I have found. Prior to the conference endorsement was rampant in this community. Senator Krueger supported that. How can we say they he voted against this? He voted with us because he voted with Clinton's delay of the situation until we could get a stronger position. It was a political decision to do that. And it was in fact in in our favor. I think it's very unfair to to characterize him as voting against us in that

situation since our own argument, national political organizations, we're asking him to do so. And the HIV immigration bill. All right, the HIV immigration bill that was a rider attached to the appropriations bill. The appropriations bill was one in which various health sorts of things were being passed. And in order to get those things passed, including \$600 million of AIDS funding in our To get those passed, it was necessary to put in the immigration rider. There are not a lot of people in this country that are in favor of letting unlimited immigration come into this country. I mean, that's not a vote against us. I'm a lesbian who just had an operation for breast cancer. Do I want unlimited immigration for by a foreigners to come into this country to access our health system? Well, I would love to be for that for humanitarian reasons, which I am for humanitarian reasons. But as a practical matter, we simply can't afford that. And that.



10:40

And finally, how do you think this is going to affect the Gay Lesbian Political Caucus? They didn't endorse them? What if he goes ahead and wins the election? What is that going to do to the power of the endorsement?



10:52

Well, it'll be a cold day in July before any of them will ever access Senator Kruger's office. I think it's a colossal political blunder. And I think the leadership of the caucus was showed showed less than courageous nor intelligent action in just letting it happen, and letting the gross lies. Take over. That did.



11:20

Thanks a lot, Pat. I appreciate it.



11:21

You're welcome. Thank you.



11:25

And on the other side of the issue with HCI, PC president, Chris bacon, how do you feel about the argument that he waffled on the military man?



11:35

Well, you know, Mr. Carew, would say that he's actually gone along with President Clinton. But the truth is, Mr. Krueger made a statement initially that he was on Clinton side. But later on, he said that he really felt that this was an issue for the military, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff to decide. And I think that was very alarming to people in our community. I think we were willing to go with a compromise to let the Senate look into it and for there to be hearings. But the idea

of letting letting the fox basically make the decision where we already know what their views are really was not palpable to our community. And I think that the fact that Krueger changed his views almost overnight, I was very distressing to our community.



12:16

What about the HIV immigration bill?



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The HIV immigration bill was particularly distressing. In fact, I think a lot of people don't realize this, there were actually two bills involving excluding people with HIV. What this bill in effect, does it exclude aliens with HIV from coming into this country and it also applies to tourists. A lot of people say that there's an exception in the bill for tourists, but All there is is there's an exception for testing tourists. But if there was a tourist who is known to be HIV infected, as a matter of law, they really are not allowed into this country. When I said there was two bills. And what made this particularly distressing was Senator Kennedy tried to put forth a another bill, which would have delayed the decision for 90 days in order for people to study and 42 senators voted in favor of that bill, and it would have at least been an in between measure. Krueger voted against that bill. So you know, when they say that Krueger voted with a lot of other Democrats, he voted wrong on both bills. He voted with Phil Gramm both times there were some Democrats had voted to delay it. And when that didn't work, then they went ahead and voted with majority. So Kruger's vote was really unforgivable on that issue. And I think what was particularly distressing is when we've talked to Krueger, and I've had an opportunity to talk to him twice, he's really made no apologies for that he really believes he's done the right thing, even though he's not very conversant on the issue. This is why I don't know a whole lot about it. Well, if he doesn't know a whole lot about it, I think he really owes it to us to be briefed much more thoroughly on issues before he votes on.



13:46

People on the other side, say that by the caucus not endorsing Senator Krueger, they're doing themselves a disservice. And that Senator Kruger's office isn't going to be available to phone calls from caucus members anymore, and that you've alienated him and possibly endanger the power or the appearance of power that the caucus endorsement has. How do you feel about that?



14:09

Well, I think that his office not being accessible, that's somewhat laughable. I'm the president of the largest gay and lesbian organization in the state of Texas. I made probably 30 phone calls in the month of February both to his campaign to his Washington staff, and I couldn't get a response. My calls went unanswered, and it was only when Finally a word was sent to Senator Krueger that we might go ahead and endorse. Mr. Maddix, because Mr. Matic still had not left the race that we were invited to New Braunfels to visit with him. We haven't really had much access so I don't know what we're giving up. By not endorsing



14:49

any you don't think it's gonna hurt the credibility of the caucus with other candidates. If he goes if he wins the race and you didn't endorse him?



14:55

Well, you know, I think And very often the caucuses in the past endorse people because the person would wink at us and say, you know from afar Well, yeah, I'm sort of with you. I think we've come of age now. And I think we we we need to be far more principled and not content, just have crumbs thrown our way. It's not good enough for some gay or lesbian person on a senator staff say, Well, you know, he really does care about you. That's not going to cut it anymore. I think the the only argument that I've heard at this point, which I think is a good argument in favor of of endorsing Krueger, is the fact that the alternative could be terrible. And we could end up with another Republican, like Phil Gramm. At this point, however, there is no Republican that is likely to win without going to run off. At this point, no Republican is even close to getting a total of 20 or 30%. I think that when faced with a runoff, and it's Krueger versus Satan, well, at that point, you know, the caucus may come back and may reconsider his decision. And I think at that point, the message will be sent to Kroger that, you know, we're giving it to you because you're going up against an incredibly unacceptable candidate, but he will know that he did not get the endorsement, because we love them or because we're funding them. In fact, I think he will understand that we're not easily bought, stuck.



16:20

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16:32

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16:37

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16:37

Washington, DC, four days of lobbying, celebration protests and remembrance. It was the largest civil rights demonstration in the history of this country. On April 25 1993, we will march again, this is Deborah Belle, the National organizer of the 1993 march on Washington for lesbian, gay and bi equal rights and liberation. Join us in the nation's capitol as we take a stand against discrimination and make a call for justice to find out more call 1-800-832-2889.



17:29

Music politics and the underground culture. It's all that in a bag of chips when you tune it, Steve Bob, the political Hip Hop magazine for the radio every Thursday morning at 1am hosted and produced by the renegade chive collective | KPFT 90.1 FM World Radio



17:55

and we're back.



17:57

Okay, well, the Battle of the raging Democrats goes on. I think it's real nice and healthy, that we have varying opinions in the in the community about a candidate. And it's showing that we are much more diverse than people assign us to. And it's just great. Everybody else needs to make up their own mind vote for who they feel most comfortable with. And make sure that that candidate carries out his or her promises. So the debate continues. And I think Pat and Chris carried it very well. It was interesting spending three hours with the senator. And he's got a lot of work to do.



18:37

We had you, we both had, but I



18:40

just got that sock out of your mouth.



18:43

You talked to some really neat guys, people not to be sexist by saying guys a few weeks ago about what it was like to grow up gay and lesbian 40 5060 years ago, which is an experience that I can't even begin to understand and is far off.



19:06

Are you implying that I do for you, or



19:09

any of us to know what it was like to be gay or lesbian in the 30s. And so we're gonna actually was



19:17

sort of fun riding those dinosaurs to the disco. So we're gonna hear that first part of the interview tonight.



19:25

We're gonna hear half of it tonight. And then next week, we'll do the second half of it.



19:28

All right. I like to have three guests with us who are a set of fun people to be around but somebody I think that we all can learn a lot from focus of tonight's interview is going to be on the older segment of the gay and lesbian community. And you mean people like yourself? Yes. Count we have four We're in not three. Okay? You won't reach any of our ages if you keep that up. But first, we have Duncan Allen with us and Duncan is 54. And then Les Marsters, and Lee is 71. And then we have Pat Hall and Pat is 67. And I've just learned that all three of them though they've not lived all their lives here in Houston are native Houstonians. So I think we've got some rare birds here in these individuals. And hopefully we can learn something from them. Can y'all first just talk to me about what it was like to be real young, some years ago, and realize that you were gay? What constraints? Did you have own? You know, how did society view you? You know, how did you feel about yourself?



20:49

I can tell you that. First of all, I've been gay since I was 14. And unfortunately, we didn't have all the freedom to find out about gay life. As matter of fact. I'll jump a few years when I was in college. And of course, I was in love with women. And unfortunately, they told me I couldn't be in love with the woman. So I'm very well, I must be a man. It all resulted, I won't go into all the gory details resulted in the gave me shock treatments. Well, shock treatments. Didn't make me forget my lover. They made me forget some other things, but not my sexuality. So it was not only the only thing it did was give me a terrible guilt complex, that I had this some dread disease that everybody thought that I had. Because I was in love with a woman. And I was still in love with one. And at my age, I'm still in love with the way it was terrible. The way that society looked upon you and the doctors, I mean, you didn't go anyplace. So I would say that when we found another person that was just like us. That was odd in those days, because we we had to find our own network of people.



22:12

How did people learn that you are more or lesbian, Pam? And was this something that they found out despite your efforts? Or was it something that you were strong enough at that point to put forth on your own or



22:23

No, believe it or not, I didn't do that until my late 30s came out. I ended up marrying a man because that was what she's supposed to do. I had children. That was what she was supposed to do. Now, I always loved a woman on the side. As did many other people that married you had a lot of gay people that got married, because their job required you couldn't if you were a single male or single female. They looked down on you. So you had to get married.



22:54

Did you find that people that knew you were a lesbian okayed it so long as you were quiet about it and gave the pretense of having the husband and perhaps children? You know, I think a lot of times Americans are more concerned with the facade and the substance.



23:10

That's, that's it, you say? Well, first of all, by the time I came out, I knew that was me and five other women.



23:18

Does that include Radcliffe? Now, Lee, you and Pat are more similar in age than you are with Duncan, do you have similar experiences from your year? Well,



23:33

I certainly grew up in a very straightforward, very straight world. And I was always I was I had always had a little classmate girl that I was in love with. I had funny feelings, and you know, kind of got together the boys every once in a while, but that was kind of boys will be boys, you know, and you get married, all that goes aside. But I was married for 20 years. And about three quarters of that was very good. But I had



24:03

was that the side part there was



24:06

all kinds of little things, but had to be four, four o'clock in the afternoon, but I had to be home. Already fine, but that kind of thing fell apart after a while. And much psychiatry. And then one day, I realized I ain't gonna change, you know, I'm just not going to change. And I had many girlfriends and boyfriends. And today it's, I'm very happy I'm saying and I'm very happy and settled and comfortable with my orientation. I'm comfortable with it. And my friends are

comfortable with it. I have a lot of straight friends and they understand that very well. And, but it was very difficult from time to time. That Terry Irie because I nearly always work for myself I was an independent landscape contractor. But they used to go down to Conoco and fire every man over about 30 If you weren't married 35 If you weren't married, did you have any excuses? Is it we're lightening up the force?



25:22

As if it weren't loud enough? Yeah.



25:24

And they would, they would sweep through to Aladdin, and lesbian women. Were a lot of them. Also, right, go, they just didn't eat, you know, it, it was very bad. All it



25:39

took was this suspicion of being gay or lesbian, I would imagine. And not, a lot



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of times, they didn't document anything. But, you know, if you're, if you're 40 years old and not married, there's something wrong with you. And so that's what I was talking about. She had to get married, as expected,



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when the rest of our culture was geared to be against you also, economically and otherwise, as an unmarried woman, hopefully, well,



26:06

I was, I was fortunate because after I got married, we moved to California. So out there, women had a little more freedom, and I don't want to get on the feminist angle. But women had little more freedom so that I, I was allowed to be a woman executive in the corporate world. So from age 27, I still always got to be an administrative, which, if I had been in Houston, Texas, that would not have been allowed. But I was in California. So that sort of stiffen my backbone, you know, that I could make my own decisions. And because I could run a business, why couldn't I run my own life?



26:46

Another year was this, would this have been 27 and entered the



26:52

workforce? I was born in 1925. So that was what 1952.



27:00

Were supposed to have been baking cookies and keeping the home fires burning? Well, you were an executive,



27:05

let me tell you something, I could keep house, I could do all that stuff. I could go shopping, I could entertain, and still be an executive, I wasn't tied down to just one job. I mean, women are very capable people.



27:23

That takes me back to something I thought just a moment ago, I was wondering how you would have defined or described yourself, you know, let's say 50 years ago, would Did you you know, speak to yourself and say I am a lesbian? I am gay? Or was it generally first, you know, I'm a bad person. I'm not an integral part of society. You know, women can't define themselves as able to be the executive and the mother and the home, you know, keeper or whatever. Someone else is always defining us. For us. How did you define yourself when you were younger,



27:59

I felt somewhat guilty. And I went into therapy thinking that probably could be changed. And you know, that doesn't happen, you can't change, you can readjust and even have some fairly happy marriages, with with the opposite sex with understanding. But then finally, is all that it goes away and you couldn't be you're always afraid that you could lose a contract or a job or something like that if the word got out. But the word got out and nothing happened. I did a good job. It didn't go away.



28:37

Landlords know little bit different. I had to be real strong. I had to have a very secure position before and even then, I'd say I work straight. Yeah, you did to Sure. I mean, because there was this thing over there. Even though there might be someone is suspicious that and all the guys hitting on me and I mean, I might not look like it now. But I mean, believe me.



28:44



29:04

I know what you mean.



29:05

And, of course, they get the slightest hint that you didn't desire men. They just thought you hadn't found them. You see,



29:15

they still think that way. Today.



29:19

The funnies funny, one of the funniest things I ever saw was an old boy driving around in a brand new pickup. It was over at all art RINs and he was out he was after he said if some of you girls I want to you'll change or something around if you know a real man. And he pulled up and he said that to one of the women that she came back and she kicked the side of his door and put a huge dent in it. Randy truck. What do you do that bar? He drove off. We never saw him again.



29:51

Duck Unhallowed were you Andre Duncan, I think had the honor and or maybe it's our honor that down Ken was the participant at Stonewall. How old were you at that time? 25 years ago? 19.



30:07

Yeah. I was like I was 3131. I just moved to New York that month. And was, had been promoted from a sales jobs and editorial job to marketing director's job and publishing company. And the ultimate goal, of course, was to get to the home office in New York. And also that was wonderful because I'd always love New York. I've been here many times on weekends and didn't realize you couldn't live on the salaries they paid in publishing. But that's another story. But Stonewall happened about two weeks after I got there, I believe it was. And I didn't know it was happening, because it was not my kind of bar. It was a leather bar. And I was very much into the coat and tie bars at that time. I went places like Uncle Charlie's to try to pick up cute little Wall Street tricks, you know, and very often did, because those were the pre aids days. And you know, there was no such thing as safe sex, obviously, in the 60s, several 69 As a matter of fact, and Stonewall happened, and I think it was the following Sunday, Frank Kennedy had been on the radio and on TV. He was the leading gay activist in New York at the time, professor at Columbia professor of physics, and he was announcing this spontaneous meeting in Central Park. Well, the meeting turned out to be almost 100,000 people, we just about overflowed Central Park. It was a first really organized or semi organized riot for gay rights. It didn't really erupt into riot, it was just a very exuberant,



31:32

can we just stop there? Just one second. And I want you to hear he said, a riot. He didn't say, you know, a church social. So you know, for folks that are out there thinking that they're inventing new ways of doing things. I beg to differ with you. They've been done before. Thank you.



31:49

It was peaceful. And yet it was also very spirited and exuberant. And it was the first time that I think a large group of gays have gotten together and then of their anger at the system, the fact that we were in fact repressed and the police summarily decided to write this bar and arrest as many as they could for no reason whatsoever. And the beauty of it was that the gays got so incensed during the ride at Stonewall. They actually took hostage the police who were there and kept them locked in the building for almost three days. Are you listening to G SWAT teams back then, but they actually had these poor, helpless police they've disarmed and and trapped him in the bar itself and kept I think for three days incarcerated, sending in pizzas and Cokes. Occasionally, the police finally reneged and said, Hey, what do you guys want? We said, well, we want you to stop harassing our bars and nightclubs, and so forth. But that was a momentous Sunday in Central Park, because I just felt someone tapped me on the shoulder. I turned around as Walter Cronkite and a guy beside him with a camera with a red light on. He said, Excuse me, sir, my interview, I said, Hell yes. Well,



32:50

good for you.



32:51

You didn't think about your job or your family.



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only been in New York, two weeks, my new job is marketing director for a major publishing company. And I thought to hell with them. Half people I worked with work. Yeah, I figure publishing is a very gay occupation. And so Walter interviewed me. I couldn't, I called him, Mr. Crockett at the time. You see,



33:09

he's Tony and also izany. Understanding right down here on the curve. So it's Dan Rather, I believe, yes. Oh, yes.



33:15

But Crockett was extremely friendly, and very supportive of what we're doing. He told me off camera. It's always a wonderful idea that we ought to do more of it, because we are an oppressed minority. And that by God, it's time we got our rights. Right. So Monday morning, I went into work with some fear and trepidation, only to be confronted by almost everybody was cries of oh my god, you're so brave, we can't believe you did the gong girlfriend. before the day was out, about half the editorial staff had come into my office and closed the door. So we're so glad to know we're not alone here. And by the end of the day, I discovered really about half the staff was in fact gay. But they weren't open about it. They were in the closet. And I was performed out of the closet. I hadn't really planned on being but I was very much out of the closet. And I was called in the president's office that afternoon, the President the company, thinking, Oh, my God, here goes the job. What do I do now? Well, no, not at all. He congratulated me told me it's wonderful that he supported me and he knew he had a lot of gay employees. And that he would always support our our willingness to demonstrate or do whatever we are, we wanted it for gay rights, a



34:14

clear example of of claiming what's rightfully ours, instead of waiting for it to be given to us, right? Talking about loneliness, or the realization that there were four other lesbians or five other lesbians in the world and stuff. Can you tell us about how it felt for you as youth to, to feel so isolated and alone and to not have publications and TV programs and radio programs and social groups, you know, I can remember and I'm considerably younger than any of you sitting here. I can remember isolation that I felt, but gosh, it couldn't be anything compared to what Charles was. I could get in the car and drive 70 miles, you know, out of my little North Mississippi town, y'all probably oftentimes couldn't do that because you didn't know were, you know,



35:02

I think one of the most marvelous feelings I ever had was when I walked into a gay bar and saw a whole room full of gays. They It was absolutely amazing. Now being a woman, I have to tell you, I'd never seen men dancing with each other. And I never seen me and guessing. So it took me back a little bit. Women that was fine. You understand?



35:27

No, I don't know. Yes, I do.



35:31

Anyway, it was it was like, Oh my God, there's more than me. You know, it really was great. We used to go to Galveston on the beach. And, of course, all those good looking gay young men with these and the strike wound was straight up and down in front of them, you don't wonder

why the men weren't looking at them, we, we all had our places to go down there with our picnics, because you not only didn't have a place to go until you found the first social event, which was the bars or a private party. And a lot of times, we didn't even know each other last name, because everything was so hidden. And if you didn't know where another one lived, that was a secret that people would come from all over the country. And Marian Panther, which many of you in the community will remember, had a card file so that they can come in, sort of like the Mormon religion so that if you come in and your name is known, or you know someone, then you could be accepted. We were pretty close society, we had to protect ourselves.



36:39

Sure. Suspicion was a big part of your life.



36:45

There used to be a bar called do that doesn't really, and I could never go at night ever. But sometimes I just sneak as you are married. Oh, yeah. Very inside of the front door, looking out. So everybody was dancing or whatever. She could punch the button. If she saw the police approaching it everybody sit down real quick dance or anything like that.



37:10

It's switch partners or something. You had to switch parties, wherever you



37:13

bet to just sit down. It's mostly do



37:17

speaking of being lonely, except realized and accepted the fact that I was gay my freshman year at Baylor, and I consequently went through four years of purgatory. You can imagine what a wasteland it was at Baylor. I really thought I was the only gay person on the campus of 5000 students. After I sort of adjusted psychologically to the fact that I really did like men and I had no interest in dating girls. I accepted that fact. And I was very happy that as part of my overall rebellion, I was a raging atheist at the time. Baylor, of course, is an extremely right wing religious hotbed of fundamentalist



37:48

psycho Christians. We were talking about earlier and



37:50



37:50

Right, exactly with a little sea. Yes, but I was a pretty outspoken atheist at the time. And so I wasn't real popular, because I've made no secret about the fact that I had no interest in girls and I was fairly safe to be around in the dormitory. But, you know, if I came in the room late at night, be careful.



38:10

This was early to mid 60s.



38:12

This was 1960 No, I'm sorry. 56. Yes, 56 months started labor and