

NARRATOR: The following program contains language or images of a plant or sensitive nature, which may be considered objectionable by some. Listener discretion is advised.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

WOMAN 1: (SINGING) After Hours. After Hours.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yes. You've tuned in to After Hours, Queer Radio With Attitude, right here on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of After Hours is ready to bring you news, interviews, dialogue, and music geared for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people, and their friends. Hear at After Hours we may be diverse, but we have one thing in common. We are all out of the closet and urge everyone to come out of their closets.

That means standing up for yourself, taking responsibility for your own life, and being proud of who you are. Realistically, we know not everyone can do that because of age, job, or frame of mind. That's OK. We're here for you too. So sit back, relax, and enjoy this week's edition of After Hours.

Hello Houston, and College Station, and Sarasota, Florida, and all of New Hampshire, and the world, and welcome to After Hours, Queer Radio With Attitude. This is the November 3rd edition. I'm Jimmy Carper. And in about three minutes we're going to have Gigi from BiNet. The BiNet segment is the first segment this week. And on the second half of the show we've got a brand new segment where we have Chris Harrison one month, and Big Roy McCarthy another month.

And this is big Roy's month. We're going to be talking about proposition two. We've got a whole slew of people who have come in to talk about that. And this is the city proposition two, which of course, we want everyone to vote against. Now, before we get into that, I want to talk about the music you heard because right at the beginning it was Horse. Yes, Horse, who's been here twice. The wonderful singer from Scotland.

She has a brand new CD out called *Hindsight, It's a Wonderful Thing*. And that was-- the song that you heard was called "Starfish." It seems that Horse and her partner of quite a few years have had a child. And that was a song that Horse wrote for her little daughter. That's on her brand new CD. And in the weeks coming you'll hear more about that.

Second, Dani Lenintz-- Linnetz-- OK-- from her CD *The Milk*, that was called "Fallback" And that is important because Lavender Lounge is pleased to announce the November Texas tour of the Diva bands consisting of the wonderfully talented Roberta Donet, Christine LeDoux and Dani Linnetz. This comes from our good friend Christy Claxton. And she says I've asked them to send you their music and press kits for review. They'll be performing in several Texas towns.

But in Houston they're going to be here on November 16 at the River Cafe. The show starts at 8:00 PM. And you know these Lavender Lounge shows so you better get your tickets early. And you can do that by getting online at Christy Claxton, see C-H-R-I-S-T-Y C-L-A-X-T-O-N. christyclaxton.com/lavenderlounge.html. You will probably get it if you just go to christyclaxton.com. Let's see it's 14 and 1/2 minutes after the hour. And you might as well bring on the first segment.

GIGI RAVEN Hello.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Hello, how are you doing?

GIGI RAVEN I'm doing good.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Behind me-- behind me is--

RAY HILL: The grandmother.

JIMMY CARPER: The grandmother, yes. Ray Hill, who's going to be here on the second half of the show, I hear.

RAY HILL: I understand.

JIMMY CARPER: Uh-huh.

GIGI RAVEN Uh-huh.

WILBUR:

RAY HILL: But I thought I would bring you my plug.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yes. Yes. Yes. Yes. Yes. I'm glad you did. Because Ray has a new song for the prison program. And we'll be playing that in the middle of your segment.

GIGI RAVEN Oh, OK.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Good. I'm glad. Thank you, Ray.

GIGI RAVEN Yeah.

WILBUR:

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, so it's BiNet month.

GIGI RAVEN Yes.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: How are you doing?

GIGI RAVEN Oh, doing good. And you know tonight I thought I'd talk a little bit about some of the bisexual-- what it is to be

WILBUR: bisexual?

JIMMY CARPER: What is it to be bisexual because I mean, it's-- I know a lot of people who I think are Bi but they don't say-- they don't think they're Bi.

GIGI RAVEN Well, it's such a difficult thing because-- well, sex is such a complex set of things.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Right.

GIGI RAVEN It's not as simple as one might think.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Unfortunately not.

GIGI RAVEN And I was thinking back earlier this evening about when I first started coming to terms with sexuality and I

WILBUR: realized that wow, I like boys, I like girls. I like penises. I like those fleshy folds.

JIMMY CARPER: And that can be kind of confusing because society tells you you're supposed to like one.

GIGI RAVEN One or the other.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Well actually society tells you you're only supposed to like one.

GIGI RAVEN Yeah.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: But if you get down into their layers of society you find out, oh, well, a lot of people like another. Like the same. But what happens when you like both? You may start out feeling that you're kind of weird.

GIGI RAVEN Yeah. And I was thinking about it because I went through kind of a bit of turmoil at first coming to grips because I

WILBUR: didn't even have a name for this thing. It's like, well, I know there's gays and I know there's straights, but what am I? And I think it kind of led to some of the myths surrounding bisexuality.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, and they're so many.

GIGI RAVEN Oh, yes. It's like-- because I knew I was attracted to both. But people kept saying, well, just make up your mind.

WILBUR:

[LAUGHTER]

What is it that you-- pick one and live with it. And it's like, well, I have picked one. It just happens to be both. I don't know. It's kind of one of those strange things.

JIMMY CARPER: Because it's almost difficult to define desire.

GIGI RAVEN Yeah, well, I think that's what leads into it. Because one of the things I discovered was that there's something

WILBUR: magic that happens. You're walking down the street, and all of a sudden one person out of the crowd stands out and makes you all weak kneed and ooh.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

GIGI RAVEN And as things kind of start moving and all of a sudden touches become tingly, and wonderful, and magical. And

WILBUR: all of a sudden, there's that attraction. And what is it that attracts us to another person? It's so elusive sometimes. But it's there and we know when it's there.

JIMMY CARPER: Sometimes.

GIGI RAVEN Sometimes, yes. And so that's become very complex because there's different forms of how we love one another.
WILBUR: We're brought up with this concept and I've even seen it in the gay community of romantic love. You're supposed to meet someone, fall madly in love, and that's the person for the rest of your life.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah. Yeah, I know.

GIGI RAVEN That didn't quite fit me. Strangely enough. I mean I really did try monogamy once with a woman and once with a
WILBUR: man. And both times it failed miserably. I think, a matter of timing came out. It seems once I fell in love and things got really hot and going, all of a sudden a week or two down the road I met someone else and wow.

JIMMY CARPER: You were diverted.

GIGI RAVEN And it wasn't the-- in our society we're taught to compare, and to get the best, and rank order, and this, and that.
WILBUR: And it's like, how do you rank order love with one person versus love with another person. They're so totally different. I mean, each person I made love with is-- it's been a unique experience.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, a straight person or a gay person could say that.

GIGI RAVEN Oh, yes.
WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: It's just that--

GIGI RAVEN I'm not saying that it's exclusive--
WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: What you're talking about is different sexes.

GIGI RAVEN Yeah. And sometimes I'd fall in love with the boyfriend, and sometimes with the girlfriend, and sometimes both
WILBUR: once.

JIMMY CARPER: Have you ever fallen in love with two women at once or two men at once?

GIGI RAVEN Yes, definitely.
WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, you fall in love a lot.

GIGI RAVEN Uh-huh. Well, I mean, it depends how you define love. I mean, I guess, if you mean in the sense of picking one
WILBUR: forever and ever, that's never happened to me. But when you--

JIMMY CARPER: Wait a minute. You have a wonderful long standing relationship with J.

GIGI RAVEN Oh, yes. And with Bill.
WILBUR:

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, but--

GIGI RAVEN Well, Bill's been around for 25 years.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: That's true-- but I mean, I don't mean-- oh, we're talking about being exclusive with someone?

GIGI RAVEN Yes.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

GIGI RAVEN And that's what I had problems with. It's like I can't pick one person, and fall in love, and commit myself to one

WILBUR: person forever and ever.

JIMMY CARPER: Exclusively.

GIGI RAVEN Exclusively.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Right. So it seems as though--

GIGI RAVEN Although some bisexuals can.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

GIGI RAVEN I mean, some are into monogamy.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: I think most.

GIGI RAVEN Most. Many.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: But perhaps you were falling in love with people who wanted monogamy.

GIGI RAVEN Only early on. I think later I became upfront about it and scared off the monogamous ones.

WILBUR:

[LAUGHTER]

They kind of realized real quick.

JIMMY CARPER: So what is it about your relationship with J that has stood the test of time for so long and it hasn't with others?

GIGI RAVEN Well, it has with a few others. But--

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Well, yeah. But I mean, like Bill is a person that and see maybe once a year.

GIGI RAVEN Yeah.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: J, you live with.

GIGI RAVEN True. Different types of relationships. Once again, it gets back to this notion of what is it to love another person
WILBUR: and how do we define it. The love I have with J is so totally different from the love I have for many of my other lovers.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

GIGI RAVEN And vise versa. I get something different from each relationship. And it's not something I can compare one to the
WILBUR: other and say, oh, this is better or this is worse. They're just different. It's kind of like-- if you were to be put on a steady diet of steak, nothing else, all your life.

[LAUGHTER]

At least that's how I see it. Pretty soon you get sick and tired of steak.

JIMMY CARPER: You're doing this anthology but not anthology-- analogy and it comes to mind that animals like the same food all the time.

GIGI RAVEN What animals?

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Dogs.

GIGI RAVEN Really?

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

GIGI RAVEN Like what?

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Dogs and cats are very contented having the same food day in and day out.

GIGI RAVEN Is that why they sit under the table and give you that look.

WILBUR:

[LAUGHTER]

I think that's forced behavior.

JIMMY CARPER: You think so.

GIGI RAVEN Enforced behavior. Yes, we do like-- I mean, we have certain favorites, no doubt about that when we choose. But
WILBUR: to deny ourselves-- and I guess this is where I came to grips with it for myself. Is that to deny myself experience only hurts myself.

JIMMY CARPER: Can you sum this up by saying that you don't think that there is one person out there who can fill all of your needs and desires?

GIGI RAVEN Definitely.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

GIGI RAVEN It's like-- and it's not just about needs and desires, I don't think.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: And the same that you don't think you can be everything to another person.

GIGI RAVEN Yeah. I think part of it is that I look at loving relationships as a way of sharing something very special. It gets

WILBUR: back to that attraction thing. In the past I had problems with this. It's like I'm out with the friend and all of a sudden, I feel that kind of interest.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

GIGI RAVEN And it's mutual, I notice. And all of a sudden, oops, I was supposed to be with so-and-so, monogamously. I don't

WILBUR: think this is working so good. And so I say, no. And turn it down. And I think what a loss.

JIMMY CARPER: Is there an etiquette to all of this?

GIGI RAVEN Etiquette?

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Well, if you're at a function with J and somebody says, hey, come home with me.

GIGI RAVEN Basically, it's kind of a thing of when it's there we talk about it. And in fact, we'll be sitting together and J will

WILBUR: sometimes go, ooh, he's cute. Or I'll say, ooh, she's cute or he's cute. And J goes, oh, go for it, girl.

[LAUGHTER]

Go have fun. See you in the morning.

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

GIGI RAVEN So I guess in that sense there is etiquette.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: How long did it take you to come-- you and J to come to this kind of understanding?

GIGI RAVEN Oh, we started out pretty much from the beginning. because like I said, for years and years I've been open about

WILBUR: being not only bisexual but polyamorous. And she knows-- she used to know that. Well, even when we first started dating I'd be going out to the bars and meeting guys, and/or hanging around, and meeting people, and have love interest. Or going to the baths or the same-- when I went to San Francisco, going to the sex clubs. So she knew walking into it.

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

GIGI RAVEN And she also understood that. And I think that's the other illusion is that there's no commitment when one's

WILBUR: polyamorous.

JIMMY CARPER: What do you mean by commitment?

GIGI RAVEN J and I are very committed to each other. Our commitment is based on love, trust, compassion, being there for
WILBUR: one another. All the things anybody else-- well, most relationships value as part of a relationship and are committed to. The only difference is our commitment isn't based on who's plumbing goes where. And so it's been a lot freer.

JIMMY CARPER: OK. I can-- I'm just-- I'm maybe playing a little devil's advocate here because I'm thinking, OK, I can understand that she would let you run out with the boys. But what if you find an interest with another woman?

GIGI RAVEN Oh, she's all cool with that too.
WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

GIGI RAVEN Just like I am with her being with boys or girls. [LAUGHS] In fact, one of the cool things about this is that
WILBUR: sometimes one of us will meet someone. Go have a good fun time then come home and-- get home. And the next night go, ooh, guess what I discovered.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

GIGI RAVEN Let me share you with something new.
WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

GIGI RAVEN And it becomes much more open.
WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: I understand where you're going with this and you're talking about polyamory.

GIGI RAVEN Yeah.
WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Which you espouse and you have been espousing that for many, many years. But I also read the gay press and I see where relationships have problems with people maybe wanting to get to that point but their emotions get in the way, jealousy.

GIGI RAVEN Jealousy.
WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah. How do you overcome jealousy?

GIGI RAVEN I think for me and J we just-- because early on we both kind of felt twangs of it and we just sat down and talked
WILBUR: with one another. And said named what we were feeling.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

GIGI RAVEN And so kind of tried to identify what's the root of the cause of it. And I think for both of us what we discovered
WILBUR: was it wasn't so much that we were concerned about the other person being with someone else. It was a concern that we might lose each other over a third person.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

GIGI RAVEN And that's where the commitment came in so strongly. Once-- and we've shared our commitments and we've
WILBUR: reinforced them over the years and communicated about them. And whenever-- it hadn't come up in ages and ages, but when it did in the past we'd sit down and reaffirm our commitment that yes, I'm here for the long run. I believe in you, and I love you, and I care about you.

And I guess what happens in this is that all of a sudden we both kind of realize that, oh, we're not going to run away with somebody else. Our relationship is deeper than that. And I think one of the things polyamory did was being polyamorous, and being bisexual, and being so alternative in our lifestyle, it forced us to communicate a whole lot more than a lot of people will in relationships. And we opened up and shared things that-- well, I shared things with J that I've never shared with another human being before and she with me.

I think that's the power of-- I look at alternative lifestyles as a charting uncharted waters.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

GIGI RAVEN And so you start discovering and start learning as you go. And I think part of the things we've discovered was
WILBUR: that commitment is very important. And sharing-- communicating that commitment to each other daily sometimes if it's needed. But we do it sometimes verbally, sometimes non-verbally. It's like when J walks by and I kind of give her that look and go, oh a vision.

JIMMY CARPER: Uh-huh.

GIGI RAVEN She knows.
WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Well, I'm thinking that this is-- I mean, you're talking about sitting down and really communicating.

GIGI RAVEN Yeah.
WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: And this-- it sounds like that's the key to everything?

GIGI RAVEN I think so.
WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: And you're espousing this for polyamory and I'm thinking that--

GIGI RAVEN Well, I'm not saying that--
WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Why can't-- why couldn't a straight couple or a gay couple do the same thing?

GIGI RAVEN Yeah, I'm not saying that they can't. What I'm saying is that what polyamory did was that it kind of paved the
WILBUR: path that showed us that communication is so all important in any type of relationship.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

GIGI RAVEN But it's absolutely necessary if you're in an alternative lifestyle, whether it's polyamory, or homosexuality, or
WILBUR: bisexuality.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

GIGI RAVEN When you're outside the norm you have to communicate that much more with your partners.
WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Us queers have--

GIGI RAVEN --or partners.
WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: --had the ability to be able to create our own relationships.

GIGI RAVEN Uh-huh.
WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: And because of that, we were able to take all of these things into consideration. We don't follow a pattern in saying OK, we do this. We do that. We do that. And this is how we live our lives. And all of this-- this is kind of interesting since the second half of the show we're going to be talking about proposition 2--

GIGI RAVEN Yeah.
WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: The city proposition 2, which would give domestic partners benefits. Benefits that straight people, straight married people have. Benefits that straight unmarried couples who are living together have. It's a matter of equal benefits for equal work.

GIGI RAVEN Well, it's also about discrimination.
WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yes, of course. Yeah, that's the heart of it.

GIGI RAVEN Yeah.
WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: But I know that when it comes time to take advantage of these benefits that the city is going to have guidelines and saying, OK, you are in a same sex relationship and there are certain guidelines that you have to have. You have to have been together for a certain length of time and have the commitment to each other.

GIGI RAVEN Yeah.
WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: You as having that type of commitment with J an opposite sex partner. You can have those benefits right now if you work for the city.

GIGI RAVEN Yeah.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Even though you are not in a married situation.

GIGI RAVEN Right.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: I know how you feel about--

GIGI RAVEN Although wouldn't have them with my boyfriend.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Right. That's right. That's right. Like me. I can't have that if I worked for the city even though I've been with my lover for 23 years. It doesn't matter to the city because they don't recognize that yet.

GIGI RAVEN Yes.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: And it's kind of odd that with all of the breakup and divorce among city council people in the past several years, one of the most stable relationships is Annise Parker and her partner Kathy Hubbard.

GIGI RAVEN Yeah.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: So and you know it's just mind boggling, all of it.

GIGI RAVEN I think that it touches on one of the things that BiNet USA has been looking at. And that is that the form of

WILBUR: relationships isn't really what's important, it's the quality.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

GIGI RAVEN And that's what we've been talking about.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes. You've taken the pressure-- it sounds like you've taken the pressure off the sexual side of a relationship and focused more on the emotional side, which may be I'm of a certain age where-- [BURPS] excuse me-- where sex is not as important as it used to be. And I'm discovering that the emotional side of a relationship is infinitely more important.

GIGI RAVEN Well, I like both.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, I know. I knew you always will.

[LAUGHTER]

GIGI RAVEN Uh-huh. But it kind of gets back to this form versus qualities.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

GIGI RAVEN We've seen that with divorce rates and with the prescribed model that were all supposed to follow it doesn't work
WILBUR: for a lot of folks.

JIMMY CARPER: That's right. that's absolutely correct.

GIGI RAVEN And that's really the form.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

GIGI RAVEN We get so-- I mean, I see it every day. So many people get caught up in the form of relationships. What they're
WILBUR: supposed to be and what they're supposed to look like and how they're supposed to happen. And they really lose focus on the important parts.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, I know.

GIGI RAVEN Things like communication and touching, and the power of touch is just amazing.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: We all need it. And any psychologist will tell you that there is--

GIGI RAVEN Well, we live in such a sex negative touch deprived society.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: That human touch is absolutely essential to our psyche. Absolutely essential. From the moment we're born, we need it until the moment we're dead.

GIGI RAVEN Yeah. And--

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: No matter how much of a troll we end up we still need that sense of touch from another human being.

GIGI RAVEN Compassion.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

GIGI RAVEN The tenderness.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Uh-huh.

GIGI RAVEN And do you have some music?

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: I sure do. I've got a lot of music as a matter of fact. And one is a bisexual artist by the name of Jack Lukeman

GIGI RAVEN Oh, cool.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: I've played him before on your show. It's a song called "Boys and Girls," which is an "Ode to Ed Wood."

GIGI RAVEN Oh.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: But here's another one. That came from a CD single that I had. But I recently had the whole CD and several of the songs are male female but several of them are both, and this is one of them. It's called "Crazy" by Jack Lukeman from his CD *Metropolis Blue*. And then I'm going to follow that up with a brand new song that was written especially for Ray Hill and the prison program.

GIGI RAVEN Oh, cool.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: So you're hearing all of this wonderful stuff on After Hours, Queer Radio With Attitude on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station. We'll be right back.

RAY HILL: And more of those wonderful voices every Friday night on KPFT in Houston at 9:00 PM and a little news and maybe some politics. The prison show, KPFT Houston.

JIMMY CARPER: So a little bit of yeah-- a bit of politics.

GIGI RAVEN Oh, yeah.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Listen, when you're listening to the prison program-- when it comes on at 9:00, I'm telling you, you better put on your seat belt when Marta comes on because--

[LAUGHTER]

--she just tells it. She doesn't hold back.

GIGI RAVEN Oh, baby.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: I mean, if somebody is doing wrong she's got it out there.

GIGI RAVEN Yeah.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

GIGI RAVEN That's the way to do it.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Incredible. Incredible. And they do have wonderful guests and that second half is-- well, the whole song is about-- the guy who wrote the song listened to the prison program one time and the actual stories that he talks about are the stories he heard.

GIGI RAVEN Oh, wow.

WILBUR:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.