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SPEAKERS

Jimmy Carper, Harvey Milk



00:04

As president of the board as President of the Board of Supervisors, it is my duty to make this announcement both Mayor Moscone and supervisor Harvey Milk had been shot and killed we're not in Kansas anymore



Harvey Milk 01:18

we must destroy the Miss ones and shatter them we must continue to speak out and most importantly most importantly every gay person must come out I read the Koran out You must tell your immediate family you must tell your relatives you must tell your friends if indeed they are your friends, you must tell your name is you must tell the people you work with you must tell the people in the stories you shopping once they realize that we are indeed their children and we are indeed everywhere every myth every lie every innuendo will be destroyed once and for all. And I asked I asked people all over this country to do one thing come out



02:57

following program contains language or images of a blank or sensitive nature which may be considered objectionable by some listener discretion is advised.



03:27

Well, that's engineering goof up number one for the evening. Let me try that again. Let me try that one more time here.



03:42

The following program contains language or images of a phrase or a sensitive nature which

may be considered objectionable by some listener discretion is it by?

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Jimmy Carper 04:17

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 transgendered people and their friends. Hear it 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. They because of age job or frame of mind, that's okay, we're here for you too. So sit back, relax, and enjoy this week's edition of after hours.

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05:42

Hello, Houston in College Station and Galveston in the world, and welcome to the June 28 edition of after hours. I'm Jimmy, Jimmy Carper, I'll be your producer for the evening. And my special co host for this evening is a voice that you usually hear Monday nights from eight to 10 Jack Valinski.

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06:06

Well, I'm very pleased to be here. And actually we hijacked a segment on Thursday with Amy Goodman, about when the news came out about the Supreme Court decision. That's really what we're celebrating tonight. We really are. It's just incredible. I mean, to talk about what had happened after so many slow starts and false starts and reversals on overturning the sodomy law and people don't realize how basic that rule was against us. I mean, Amy was talking about some people who lost custody of their children because of that so and couldn't even see their children's and their children ended up being in custody of somebody who was a child abuser, rather than and, you know, we don't you know, sometimes in our own tight knit community, we don't always see that up. People

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06:51

didn't realize that. First of all, it was only a misdemeanor, right, but it was used against us to Absolutely. Gays and lesbians for becoming police officers because we're criminals to kick us out of our jobs because we're criminals to kick us out of our homes because we're criminals. And that has gone by the wayside

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07:17

well, as well Sue. Well, as we all know, Nina Totenberg, the God of the Supreme Court reporters on NPR, of course, we have our own Supreme Court reporter here at KPFT. And that's Ray Hill. And he is and you know, that's interesting. Two of our grand marshals have dealt with the

Supreme Court Ray Hill, and of course, Michel Katyn winning this case and no less winning it in Harris County is just unbelievable. I mean, the eyes of the world



07:46

media that's exactly what I was thinking the whole world is looking at Houston.



07:50

Absolutely. And you know, the the story about San Francisco over Castro, where they took the gay flag down and put up the US flag for a short time is an incredible statement. Yes. I mean, they sometimes look so down on us that we ranked number one in pollution that we sent George Bush to the White House, just to get rid of them. Yeah. So that whole tone that was set on Thursday, and you know, two days before the celebration and you know, people don't realize that we work all year for three hour parade. that three hour boat ride on Gilligan's Island. There you go. Um, and, and you know, a lot of people see me as as the face of pride, but it's not me, there are so many people involved. I mean, tonight, it probably took about 100 volunteers, and we didn't do everything right. But a lot of stuff was done. Right. And we are just the people behind the scenes who do this parade. It's the people you know, in the parade, who are the stars, what we do it for the people on the roads, Jack goes through this



08:48

routine.



08:49

I know. I know.



08:51

I know. I love Jack's modesty. It's badly misplaced. Jack is is a prime activist. I've been in this business, maybe a week or two longer than Jack. But let me tell you, I would trust Jack with any assignment of organizing and I can guarantee would have certain characteristics that would work like a charm. Among those is it would be absolutely inclusive. Nobody would be left out without any question at all. Nobody would be treated better than anyone else. It would be treated less or than anyone else. Jack Valinski Is I'm always I don't know what happened. Is it my Oh, it's in my head. I'm always just overwhelmed with Jack's ability and his capacity to keep a cool head in the face of various crises. I did see him run a while tonight. But you did but before we get too far on Jack Welch Yeah, I could spend the whole night. I



Jimmy Carper 10:01

do want to say that I want to introduce you. For those who don't know, daddy Ray Hill. Right

here in our studio. We've got a whole bunch of folks in the studio because pride night, I just invite everybody in. And let's talk about the parade and how much fun you had and what the floats look like and all of that kind of stuff. But tonight is extra special, because we are celebrating our freedom and



10:27

and our 25th anniversary and our 25th anniversary, which reflects the history and of course, you being one of the Grand Marshal. Yes, we're on the first float that was in celebration of the 25th anniversary and the grand marshals and, you know, is really incredible. A good friend of mine, Troy Christiansen did a documentary on you, all we know about is wonder which played I mean, playing on access TV, which was really, really incredible. You know, it just just so fabulous that what he did, and it's not like they've had a lot of special effects, but what the stories had told of where we came from and, and Larry binaries, who was one of the founders of the Pride Parade, was here as a judge today,



11:14

and doesn't he look hot with that bald head going



11:17

actually, actually, he's aged so much less than the rest of it sounds not fair. And



11:23

I knew glary and 30 years ago, and he hasn't really changed. Larry



11:28

boundaries is the Throw Down person of color. I mean, I passed him off as black I pass him off as mulatto passed him off as Mexican. I mean, he you, you could pass him off with any person of color, and he will adapt very well. He is one of the founders of gay Hispanic Caucus and he doesn't speak a word of Spanish.



11:53

And those, those of us who know him, it's Larry back badnera Neris, east of the Sabine Ryrie binaries west of the Seville when



12:02

he came to us, and he decided to get French it up. And it might be a little up market. But when

he answered the telephone, his mother might call it's Larry, back narrows. Yeah, but but but Larry is wonderful, wonderful. He was a creature who, before we had parades and anything Larry binaries used to come up to me before or after marches and saying, you're doing it all wrong. This is really screwed up. And, of course, my response to that is he will do it yourself. And so and 19 and 79. He was we were all got kind of kind of high on 1978, which is the 25th year ago that we celebrate this year, because we had town meeting. We got out together, we took a look at one another. And most of us liked very much what we saw because gay and lesbian people were not unlikable people, they were professional people. They were good people. They were capable people. And we didn't know that before 1978 in the macrocosm, I was riding on the grand marshals float down the line with pokey Anderson and I love pokey Pokey, and I have allied and fought over so many issues over the years. But she's she just wonderful reservoir of knowledge. And she said, there was a meeting one time where 10 or 12 of us got together and we were hoping there might be 75 lesbians. Well, there were 75 lesbians on motorcycles. And

13:43

that's one of the things we're really proud of the fact that the brain has all this diversity. I'm sorry, this diversity that that we have. And you know, we've become a lot more professional. Thanks for all the hard work of a lot of people. But we've also tried to keep the grassroots the fact that we still keep the fees relatively low for the nonprofit. Yes,

14:03

that's right. That's right. Those of us who are part of nonprofits really, really thank you for that.

14:13

And I know the judges, as I said, Larry binaries was one of the judges along with my co host. Yeah, Joan Devlin. Yeah. And Carol Wyatt, Pam Ziggler, I believe of Red Bull. And, and Brenda Thomas, of course, these awards are going to be given out tomorrow tomorrow at Oh, which is the new Pacific street and on Pacific Street to 5pm. The party starts at four but 5pm We make the public announcement. And honestly, I don't know who won. I mean, I have it in my pocket, but I don't know who won because I didn't really look at and that's the thing. It's not the people in the pride committee that they've actually awards. And also I do have to make the statement to is that there is nobody in the pride committee that writes down and convertible. In the parade. We're All working it in at the end, right? We get to jump on the float. The people who are down there, so a lot of us are working but but you know, the incredible thing was the focus today. I mean, I was talking to a reporter from the LA Times today, it was pretty incredible. And and of course, you know, it's so wonderful to be able to talk to somebody outside of Houston, who's reported because they don't know the stories. Yes, they don't know the stories of 1984 how we lost the election 81% to 19%. They don't know the fact that KPFT was bombed off the air in 1970 by the Klan twice. And, you know, the resources, just as we were talking Thursday on the air here with with Amy that, you know, through so much of this stuff KPFT has been

fighting the the battles, and we've been able to come here and access the airwaves and talk about things like this, like we're sitting around in a living room and doing it and you know, sometimes KPFT is dysfunctional, as we know,



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like any family.



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But you know, the reality is, is they don't come in here and tell us what to do, when to do it, usually because they're so busy fighting with each other. But the reality is, is were we able to come in here and do our shows, and talk to people in the community. And I feel very fortunate that we have this opportunity to do this. Is this really incredible? And I don't know if some people realize, but there was a couple years that we actually broadcast the parade live on KPBS. We



16:22

did. I did that one year. I have those tapes. And



16:24

yeah, so it was just incredible.



16:29

You know, it was a blow by blow as things came down the street, you know? Well, so, so to speak.



16:35

Well, you know, we hope that that now this year, it was actually videotaped. Yes. And last year, the person who videotaped it passed away. Yes. So we got the tapes. And we were in Troy, Christian was able to edit it. So but we didn't get it out. So late this year, we hope to have it much closer. But we also plan to, to broadcast on public access. And you know, that sometimes people you know, look at our community and say, we can't get along. We don't do anything. But it's amazing sometimes how we do. I mean, when Troy did the documentary on the grand marshals, and Ray saw it that night, he took it home and watched it. And then he went over to access and basically handed them to see the DVD and says here play it. And they say well, you can't do that you're not a producer. And and Ray Hill says Well, let me get my throw down producer. And within I think 24 hours, it was still



17:24

within within 20 minutes, they had found map producers Yes, yes.



17:28

Sure. Which which was Dennis feathers who was, you know, part of No,



17:32

actually they found me another one and I interpolated Dennis. Okay. Okay. But the thing about it is that within this community, and I'm talking about the gay and lesbian community, and transgendered and bisexual community, of course, but I'm also talking about within this KPFT community, which is inclusive as well, gay people, lesbian women, transgendered people of any variety that comes forward, bisexuals and slash EQ, sexuals, and embarrassed actuals. We've got that, but let me tell you about Public Radio, Public Radio. We you notice, if you're listening tonight, and I hope a lot of people are listening tonight because you knew this was Pride Week. And you knew that after ours was on the air, and you knew that we were going to be talking about something that you may have missed at home? Well, we have been bringing you what you have missed at home for a good many years. I was active in the community of this radio station in 19 and 68. We did not turn on the electricity to the tower until 1970. I am one of the co founders. And the reason I'm one of the co founders is that the real co founders if you if you count co founders to that was Larry Lee and Don Gardner. And the real co founders came forward and recruited me because I had just got through doing a television show about gay and lesbian people. And they wanted some open gay and lesbian people here because that's the kind of programming this station was intended to do. And our sister stations in San Francisco and New York and Los Angeles at the time. We have since added a sister station in Washington DC seeks out people that have not as much voice in other media as the majority. And guess who that was in 1968 in 1970. And guess who to a large degree that is now yes. What you're hearing here is the solid gold of Bill, people sharing their excitement. And this week, it's two things. It's Pride Week, which was so phenomenally successful. And it was the decision by the United States Supreme Court, which surpassed anything we any of us could have anticipated. And I'm the watcher. So I know that. Well, I



20:19

thought you had it pretty close right on. Well,



20:21

I call the vote, but I didn't I missed it. I thought we were going, the decision was going to read equal justice. And I knew that we had six votes on equal justice. But the decision was on privacy, which we only had five votes. And privacy is a much more important issue, because this is the first expansion of the definite legal definition of privacy since Roe v. Wade.



20:50

But you know, it's so interesting, the fact that we got that privacy thing, and that's usually what the Republican stand for. But But getting back to KPFT,



20:58

back to KPFT. Since we don't have commercials, and this radio program has a goal, just like every other radio program of KPFT. To bring in listener support, I want to prevail on you. I mean, the goal tonight is like 360 bucks. And not I raised that in the first 15 minutes of the prison show. Just yesterday. Of course, I started a little earlier, and I played to a little larger audience,



21:27

the overnight shows don't just they don't they don't come



21:31

down here and beat you to death with high gold. But somebody needs to go to the telephone, and call 713-526-5738. That's 713-526-5738. Now there are people out there that spell better than they count. And for you, it's 71352 6k P F T. And we would like for you to do that. So that we can reach our goal. And get on with all of this exciting talk. For some of you, the whole thing, 360 bucks, hey, you can do that without a sweat. If you don't want to do it in one chunk, you can put it on a credit card interest, or you can do it that way thing. Or you can you can make an arrangement with a volunteer that answered the telephone, to have it withdrawn from your bank account or some other way so that it doesn't hit you all at once. But we're talking about basically, less than coffee money, you're gonna spend that much money and coffee in the next year. You're getting I mean, I mean, if you if you go to star buckles, or whatever the name of those places are its tax ID, what are you wherever you go, you're going to spend a lot more money than that than 360 bucks. All right. So a year. So we're asking you to make a pledge. And you call and a volunteer says What's your name? What's your dress? How much would you like to pledge, and we'll send you a statement with an envelope, and you can put a check in it. Or you can give them a credit card number. Our folks are very trustworthy. Yes. And, but But you know, I'm as I'm, I'm not a real flush person. I mean, granted, my career has been to create a movement for change. And that's working out real well this week. And I'm a listener subscriber to KPFT in Houston. And I don't subscribe for the prison show. Because that you can take for granted, I go to the prison show, because that's where I volunteer my time. I subscribe for other programs, frequently music programs on KPFT. And I would like for you to do the same things that I do, and support this form of media. We live in a time when all kinds of international conglomerates are becoming monopolistic about the media, trying to find an alternative voice about the recent war. And I don't say the recent past war because people are still dying. But you wouldn't know it if you didn't listen to KPFT. It is reported in general media as an incident. But then Amy Goodman will tell you the next morning how many people died and what the circumstances were. Or is that alternative voice? Well, it is right here.



21:30



24:39

Do we have somebody to thank



24:41

we have two people to thank actually, Jim gave us a nice pledge and John actually was gonna give one pledge and then upped it because he wanted to get a cap. So we're happy about that we can



24:58

it'll keep that bald spot. bought from turning red,



25:02

which I should have done today.



25:04

No, actually, yours is red today. So it's mine a little pink and, but that's the way it works. And as we talk about things, some of you are going to be motivated and give us a call, we got little goodies I mean, if you give 35 bucks or more, or if you're a senior citizen or a student 25 bucks, you get to vote in our election, we'll send you a membership card, right, we're going to elect a board of directors here, one of these days, as soon as our good friend and his fetters figured out how to make that work. If you want to hit us with 75 bucks, hey, we got a sneak red t shirt that will throw on you that will make your heart warm and nice. And as you go up the scale, you get all kinds of goodies. And matter of fact, if you get way on up there, and you make a sacrificial gift KPFT as one of my listeners did last night prison show, then they'll give you a call and just negotiate all kinds of things to suit your special needs. But what you're paying for my friend is not the goodies. I mean, we are not the shopping bag radio station. We are Pacifica and you're listening to after hours. And this is vital stuff. And Jimmy and before him, the host of the program used to say, well, you know, you're sitting in your closet and you're listening to this radio button is turned down so your mother can't hear. And that's literally true.



Jimmy Carper 26:34

And in fact, it's to the point now, where I have one of my assistant producers on this show was one of those kids who was sitting and listening to this show in his closet. And



26:47

you know where there's another kid we're going to have home soon. Yes, my Williams. Oh, we'll be home soon. No kidding. Mike Williams, who will be home soon? And let me tell you, can I tell the story of Mike Williams? Sure. When Mike Williams was just a kid. I mean, just a kid before

the age of consent, he and another kid before the age of consent. Were you know, having a circle jerk in the woods behind the trailer park? Yeah. Channelview. I mean, that's what kids do. What kid doesn't do that? Everybody



27:21

almost don't want to hear about that. But they know their kids are doing it. Yes.



27:25

Michael was doing that. And, and and, and he was a little bit older, but not significantly older than his partner. And everybody had a wonderful time, except the mother of Mike's friend. And so they both the kids had been in little trouble. And they had the same probation officer. Oh, so they reported it to the police. And they'd gotten back to the probation officer and the probation officer looked at her file and T 21. Mike says, I mean, cromac have a lot of trouble southern kid, but are having trouble with mine. And so she didn't do enough to it. So they screamed in jail. And the sheriff actually came out and interviewed him and say, lady, that's kind of what kids do. That's not a big deal. And so but they insisted, and they went in, they found a pastor that had some friends and political places. And so when Mike turned into adulthood, he was charged with sexual abuse of a minor. And you say, well, that's gonna be problem, we'll get that straightened out. So they went to court. The court took a good long look at it and said, Well, you're here and why don't you take a probation and we won't have to have a trial. So we took a probation, a deferred adjudication, probation. So they when it was over, it would be go away. But you still had that political influence stuff going? And so a year later, when Mike was a little older, they said, Oh, you didn't report to probation officer every Monday or every third Monday of the month, like your brother's easy? Well, I did. I mean, there was one time that I called and said, I was going to miss a meeting, but I came the next day and, and they said, Well, you didn't pay all your fees, and but I did pay all my fees. I mean, I'm not behind on my fees and and go can you produce the receipts? Well, no, we didn't keep them. And so they violated him and sent him to prison for eight years. And then they have been repeatedly denying him parole because of the nature and the seriousness of the crime.



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But it's a frame up. It's



29:49

was never it should never have been litigated. Now, the repeal of 2106 would not have had any effect on this case. Right. And



29:59

I really think that, you know, where are we celebrated tonight's we had an incredible celebration. But Monday morning we need to continue the fight. Oh yes. And the fight is in so

many fronts the fight is an discrimination and we can still not find without any reason. There

many ironies, the right is on discrimination and we can still get fired. without any reason. There are so many other universal issues such as health care, that affects everybody. There is all types of issues that we you know, we can't get complacent. I mean, if you look at what's going on in this White House right now, they're turning back everything in the past 40 years that we all fought for in the progressive community. But



30:35

Mike is going to join us soon. And he's going to be afraid he's going to have all kinds of scars left on his emotion, bad moods experience in prison. Sure. And that's going to be difficult for us to manage. And we're going to have to manage it better than we have managed such things in the past. But my point is that the war is not over. Absolutely, until that sort of thing. Any gay or lesbian or transgendered person. The other issue, of course, is the violence. One of the things that always happens, I noticed that the religious demonstrators against our Pride celebrations this year, were a little more numerous. Yeah, about twice as much. And I suspect that the reason that is true, is because they're really upset about our recent victory. Sure, the same victory that we celebrate, angers people, and it is right now that our vulnerability to their anger is heightened. So I would encourage everybody, number one, to be very, very alert, and report anything that looks suspicious, because the police are now interested in that sort of thing. There was a time when they weren't. But those times like other things have passed. Your safety is important to me, and my safety is important to you. So be careful where you go. Stay alert, you know, the same advice we give women to protect themselves and to predatory soil that see them as weak and vulnerable. is true of us. I mean, Jack's one of the stories I read about duck this week, said his whistle is shrill. And there was a time when we all had whistles. And you might think about getting a whistle, to attract attention in case something comes up that you need to do that. And



32:33

I also remember Sue Lovell getting in front of the rally and City Hall on Thursday evening saying don't ever give Ray hill a line because he's going to steal it.



32:44

Actually, actually, I asked Sue, we were but we were both testifying today on the redress districting issue. Yes. Which was very important to the important issue, because after the proposed redistricting plan, the Montrose will be represented by John Culbertson.



33:01

Right. Oh, my God, and Chris Bell probably won't have an all and Chris



33:04

Bell won't have an office and others won't have an office. But that but the deal is is I said, Look, right now I'm represented by Sheila Jackson Lee. I'm represented from Garnett Coleman. I'm

represented by Ada Edwards. I'm represented by Rodney Ellis. I'm represented by L. Franco Lee, and if you take those people and me, I'm the one with the lightest complexion. I've always been white, but I will never be quite enough to be represented by John Culbertson.

33:35

Sort of a side story. I think Sheila's a little upset with me because she showed up late for the parade and she had a wait. She couldn't just join the parade and another parade. Ooh. Yeah.

33:46

Well, I know you're getting the Pride Parade. Folks are getting a little bit stressed about

33:52

Well, everybody else has to show up and

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I want him three. Yes, that's number seven. We need your seven

34:00

three jam KPFT Yes.

34:03

Yeah.

34:04

So when time jam got

34:05

a studio full of people Stephens here with his his various

34:11

parents and I want to listen to PFLAG folks. Yeah, even experiencing we've



34:15

got some HATCH folks in the lobby. We've got three lawyers that were making weight. Now now, I love that and I've never said is that poetic justice or what? No, no, these are good guys. Short blue pan. Yes, yes. We have a pan. Another



34:32

chair. There are three jurors here in the three,



34:36

four chairs. Four chairs. bring that one up four mics.



34:40

Listen, you can just tuck these mics will pick up anything.



34:45

At least they'll pick up enough. Yeah. Stephen.



34:48

Yes. Would you introduce your parents to the audience?



34:52

This is these microphones feel weird. There's a headphone Stephen. Yeah, headphones microphones in front of me. My wonderful mother Linda is here beside or went over in my wonderful dad Mike is sitting next to me. They helped. Will they build the PFLAG float this year? Built it last year. Excellent float, Marcel Barcellos. Dad and my brother in law. My new brother in law a year. They got married last year, my sister and dad built most of it. And then in between working when I'm off, I drove down and helped them. But we've



35:29

had some tremendous support this year, with all the PFLAG with all the PFLAG parents and we've had quite a few people helping us along the way. And we could not have done it without them. So and what a fantastic parade. We're thrilled that the Supreme Court ruling came down during Gay Pride Month. Oh, perfect. I mastic one day off the anniversary of Stonewall. Yes,

yes. We are rolling. And we have a lot of work ahead of us. Still, but crucial beginning and a wonderful loss. It is wonderful Gay Pride Month. What a reason to celebrate this evening. So I'm elated as a member of PFLAG. And as a PFLAG Mom, I am very delighted for my son and for all the GLBT kids. Well, let me tell you I love dearly over



36:26

the last months and years that Steven has been hanging out here. And I certainly have encouraged. The audience has really got to know you through him. Cuz he talks about how supportive both of you are and things you do together and what you're doing when people PFLAG. And that, listen, when I was 17 years old, my parents found out I was a gay, they kicked me out of the house and they never looked back. And there are a lot of stories like mine out there. And to hear about supportive parents for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people is just, it can be overwhelming. It's it's something that I can't Well, comprehend.



37:16

PFLAG is a wonderful organization. I can't say enough about PFLAG. PFLAG helped us personally. And we're just trying to do everything we can to make the world a better place for these young people. Yeah. Who dearly, you know, they we love them. And and I'm trying to do everything I can to make the world a better place for them really saw



37:42

that, that what Jimmy was saying tonight is when all the other organizations come through there certain groups that Yeah, but when PFLAG comes through, everybody stands up and just yells and so we thought Awesome. Yeah, that's what we tell new people that come in and PFLAG we tell him, you know, went to the Pride Parade way to walk down Westheimer. And everybody just gives a huge applause for you. Yeah.



38:07

It's this was my really hard gay pride parade. And each year, I was amazed at that my very first year I marched, I think, Steven, it was two months after I became involved in PFLAG. As a matter of fact, and I was just amazed at the outpouring of support for PFLAG who actually it was very emotional. I cried. The, the outpouring of love and support along the way, was just unbelievable. And it's very rewarding as a mother. And suno pointed out something to me about, she mentioned that the well and Fred and rosemary Wilson also the guy community has just been overwhelmingly supportive of them. And that's something that Mike and I have mentioned that we have met so many wonderful people in the gay community. So it's, it's, it's rewarding to us but at the same time, it's it's a gift that we have been given. With these these young people they give back to us too. So. So we're very, we're very happy to be here tonight. It's the first time that I've been able to, to come and support to be here with Steven and we're delighted to be here.



39:35

What was your reaction when you first found out he was gay?



39:41

That's actually I'm glad you asked. At first, I cried. At first I cried and I screamed, I cried. I didn't scream. I cried. And I cried for quite a while and that went on for several months. And then I I, as time went on the hurt actually, it took about a year. Yeah. Steven



40:10

well to tell the whole truth I was out did to them Oh, friend at work



40:15

to us he did not officially tell us that he wants to outed that



40:22

isn't that's traumatic on both sides.



40:24

Yes, I was at work and mom left me a message on my phone. I was working and Kima and they're like, mom or my mom was crying on the phone. Please come when you get off work. I know you're at work. Please come home. Please call me and I call her and she was like, Please tell me you're not gay. Please tell me you're not gay. I'm she is constant. She was asking me but this one was she was just in tears. I'm like, No, Mom. I'm not. I wasn't living at home at the time. And I'm like, I'm coming home. I walked in. And I was like, Mom, let's go to your room. I don't want to go to my mom. Let's go to your mom



40:57

knew what you were going to tell me and I I was avoiding it. I couldn't face it at that time. And it was it was very scary. It scared me frankly. It scared me and I didn't know how to cope with it told the



41:13

whole family all at once. About what two hours later dad? Yeah. Oh, well, family told everybody but



41:18

did Dad react?



41:22

You know, that's the second time he's lad



41:23

was in shock. But I think he was in shock initially.



41:31

It's really tougher on dads.



41:33

Well, yeah, it is. It's I couldn't understand because society has people placed into these stereotypes. Yeah, stereotypes of what's gay and what's not gay. Stephens been running the bulldozer since the time he was 12 years old. He's been, you know, running a crew and our office for years and years. You know, I mean, it's just kind of flabbergasted me. And I just couldn't believe it, that that was what was happening. But once we did realize that this was actually him and not something that he chose to do, then it all kind of fit together really easy. And



42:20

we went through the way your my uncle, your brother, mom's brother, got us hooked up with a Methodist minister, that I would see them with them on once a week, once a month, and they would see him on the opposite month. And they were telling when I wasn't there, they were telling them that I can turn straight, and a whole bunch he was trying to



42:42

he was encouraging us to become involved in the Exodus ministry as a matter of fact. And, and we did not you have to understand this was something that was brand new to us. And we at that time, we were not educated about the issue. And we thought well, and I kept asking, Steven, is there a possibility, you know, do you think you can change this and, and then as time went on, we realized this is not something this is an orientation. This is I believe, very strongly that Steven was born gay. Sure. And it's not something that can be easily changed. It's not something that can be changed in my opinion, I don't believe



43:23

I think this is just that people like Exodus I pad is really with bisexual people.



43:30

Right? And it's such a small minority of the gay minority.



43:36

Exactly, exactly. And I just don't believe that most guys can change. I don't believe that it's feasible.



43:44

No, I have been gay all of my life all my life. I don't remember. When I was four years old. I was playing doctor with a four year old boy down the street. came naturally and just that was it.



44:01

You know, I have to interject a just a touch of smartass here. I've always I've always said about Steven that you know he's a true among gay people. He's fairly unique. He can he can bake you a cake and fix the truck so they can get to you at the wedding.



44:22

Jimmy works the same way for trans



44:28

but I heard about that coffee that he made. Yeah, he's not going to live that



44:35

deep. Dig a hole in the backyard for that



44:39

about Chernobyl.



44:44

I've never seen Jimmy's face go like



44:46

that was very unique. Yeah, that was really



44:51

and he should know how to fix a good cup of coffee. So we'll have to work I don't like coffee. We'll have to work on that at



44:57

work a push the button



45:02

Okay, we got a lot of people where he is in the lobby, but I'm really glad that the two of you came on the air tonight and I know it's way past your bedtime.



45:11

We were delighted to be here. So wonderful opportunity for us. And we want to plug PFLAG also You bet. It's a great group of people. We love PFLAG and we want to encourage everyone to become involved in our group. We do a lot of important work. And our meeting is necessary words are first,



45:35

the first Sunday, every month. Give a phone number. A holiday



45:39

where I don't have it's at St. Paul's Methodist Church. Okay, South South man. Dance. Correct. Okay. Yep.



45:48

Yeah, we



45:49

don't have a phone number. It's PFLAG. houston.org. Okay,



45:53

we do have a phone number. And unfortunately, I don't have it in front of me. We do have a phone number. Stephen Kim. Oh,



46:01

yes. Rene,



46:02

we'll be right back. And if it if it's a holiday, we meet the second Sunday of the month. As a matter of fact, we are meeting the second Sunday of the month in July, July 4,



46:15

July 4, that number the helpline is 71346 P F, la G, which is 713-467-3524. Good. And that website is www dot PFLAG PFL. Ag houston.org Okay, great. So



46:35

Jimmy, if there's one more thing I wanted to say yes, please, if we can do it, any any surety because there was no thing I wanted, when we first got started was to hide and walk in on a shirt didn't want anybody to see me going to PFLAG. And now I'm driving the float we



46:57

we have come along very well. He just loved the gay community and we want to do anything we can to help out? Well,



47:05

that's why I always say, you know, when you're coming out to your parents, you know, you've had all your life to deal with. Okay. And now you're throwing this on your parents or in Stephens case it got thrown to you. And it takes a long time to get educated and used to the idea, right, and that's your son's future is going to be very different than you imagined. Right? Yes.



47:30

And things are improving quite a bit. They're improving quite a bit and the Supreme Court ruling is really helped very rigid



47:41

and this wonderful parade we just had shows how, you know,



47:46

how much more we 25th anniversary? How appropriate. Yes, thank you. Thank you for having us here.



47:53

We enjoyed it. Okay, I'm gonna go to a piece of music and see who's left out in the lobby. I hope the lawyers are still out there at least and, and HATCH, folks. So right here proud from the queers folk soundtrack by Heather small who herself is a lesbian.



48:31

Heather small from the queers folk soundtrack. And that was proud. I love that thing. I've I've got somebody online. Do I?



48:45

I don't know how to get in. Oh, okay.



48:47

Yeah, it's you answered it there. They have to call back. Okay. And we have to answer it in here. Okay, can you tell buddy that Sure. Okay. Oh, yeah. Okay, now I'm just all totally confused tonight and because of the parade that's got me all crazy. So I never did say hello to my MBBS out there tonight. All my men behind bars. These are the guys who who write to after hours and you know, we hear from you and you have questions and I mean, just like you know, like smiley and the green eyed devil That's That's my guy and the blue eyed devil. And we've got Randy and we've got the T man and we've got Wilson and countless others Paul that listen to this program when they can when they can and they they write a lot and they of course they write to the prison program to raise their but first of all before I get to Ray and I love holding up lawyers, it's just great. It's just Okay, well give me



50:02

a mic. Yeah, I was thinking about printing a catalog of those expect to be released recently then. And we could pass that among your friends and everybody could. Okay, wait.



50:15

I want to say thank you to a whole bunch of people. They have responded very, very generously. Paul gave him gave a nice pledge, and Paul supports us. Every every membership, Dr. William dropped off some cash. We're happy about that. As our sea gave us a really nice, really nice pledge also. And now this is this is to top it all off. I have two pledges from people from out of state. They are listening on their computers at W cubed kpft.org. First of all, is Kevin Harrell, who is a former programmer here and friend of mine. He's been listening now for months. Once he found out he could, and I've got a guy named Jordan who's in Jefferson, Texas. Across the border, okay, okay. Well, Kevin is he's he's in Memphis, but Jefferson, Texas now. That's



51:22

where's that? What's up North Texas?



51:26

That's just right by the state line.



51:28

And so you want us to mention, Eric, as well.



51:32

You got to do that in the microphone.



51:34

Jordan wants to mention Eric as well. Okay.



51:37

And Eric is? Oh, okay. His other half, I think.



51:41

Yeah. Oh, that's nice. That's nice.



51:44

See, the whole world is watching. Yes.



51:47

We have somebody on the line right now. And you'll be very happy especially right to here. Buddy. Are you there?



51:58

Yes. Hey, buddy. Is that absolutely in here? Hey, buddy.



52:06

You're listening to buddy Johnston, who is the originator of this show? September 6 1987. How long ago? Was that marriage? Too many years? Anyway,



52:19

yeah. Can you believe what happened at the Supreme Court?



52:23

Absolutely. Do you know that I have been babysitting this case? Those people called me I'm the guy that got the bondsman to get them out of jail. I mean, who do you call when you get arrested and use?



52:36

That's right. Maybe I'm calling I just wanted to find out how your parade went in Sanford in Houston. Oh



52:42

my god, more people than ever before. And last year, they had they had a figure of 100,000. And it was much more than that. This year.



52:49

We went over anything we've ever done by at least a third buddy.



52:54

And you said that Kevin Harrington was listening in Memphis in Memphis. Yeah. She tried to be monolithic King and Memphis.



53:04

Balcony go



53:10

well, you know the case was so successful. That Strom Thurmond died.



53:20

They told Strom Thurmond what had happened and he died. They were going to be having sex in the streets and he dropped dead. Jimmy, I just wanted to call I'm calling live from the Castro tonight is what's called the pink party. There's probably 250,000 people down here screaming and yelling. I had to get on blocks away. So tomorrow's our parade and we'll have probably half a million people. I mean, if you've had, I've been having great parades. But you haven't lived until you've had a parade in San Francisco. Well, jockeys and I want to the reason I wanted to call you this year's theme of the parade is you've got to give them hope. And in 1987, in 1987, when we came into KPFT all by ourselves, I remember baby my hand was shaking so hard that I couldn't cue the record now for you young uns. We used to play record records, right?



54:18

That's the same thing as CDs



54:27

I probably would have he would have loved what he saw the streets tonight. Harvey would have loved what's happening. It's because of him. And and just everybody that's listened to the show. If you've ever listened to the show, and you heard me on the radio with Jimmy, saying we're here workwear. Then you know what we're talking about.



54:47

But but if we began we began with your collage tonight. Yes. Which is one of the finest pieces of gay radio I have ever heard in my life coming

54:58

out of hiding by I'm Pamela Stanley out of Dallas.

55:02

And I just wanted to call and take a second because I knew it was marathon, too. I talked to Dwayne Bradley the other day and Dwayne said he was so proud. Because this is one this is the only show that Dwayne put on the air back in 1987. That's true. Yes, he did. We've, we've been there. And we've been there because of you. If you've been listening since 1987, and you haven't sent us a nickel girl, I'll get on a plane and fly that. If you have been listening, you know how important this is. And I just wanted to take a second to call you and let you know that this show has absolutely changed my life and the lives of many people all over this world, actually, because some of us have, unfortunately left Houston. But I'm so proud of you. And I'm so proud of Texas. Thank you. And I know that that there's a great big brick that's been disintegrated that will never come back to get us again. That's right.

56:03

We're strong.

56:11

We're running short of Hannah anyway. You know, Trump could have taken Jesse Helms with them, but he's been very soon. You know, buddy, they say we're, we're supposed to speak well, of the good of the dead. He's dead. Give me I want to know how they could tell he was

56:37

one of those. I'm one of those folks like Kevin that listens to the show on the PC. Oh, thank you, Ray on and I just couldn't resist calling. Yes. I'm

56:46

glad you did. I'm glad you did. Because I almost expect you to call every marathon because I just really want you put the word out there. And a lot of the long term listeners really respond when they hear it. I really

56:59

want to say that that this show is so very important to people. Not only not only that are listening that can't give money. I mean, believe it or not in San Francisco in 2003. There's still people in the closet. Yeah. And it makes me crazy. And they're not living in Conroe or, you know all those places outside of Houston. They're they're right here and what's supposed to be the big Mecca county there's a gay there are two there



57:23

are two gay bars in cornrow.



57:28

Anyway, yes, cornhole? You're listening.



57:31

If you're listening to the show, and you've ever made a pledge to KPFT This is the time to do it certainly is. Please pick up the phone and call us it's one right over what is it? 717352673873



57:47

KPFT. Five to six. What is it right



57:49

Damn. KPFT that's it.



57:51

I have two straight ABS fail, but there's a gay bar in Conroe



57:56

Hey, anyway, and tell Kevin Harold to send me an email I work@gmail.com



58:03

Okay, he lives in the Castro



58:05

58:00

and she works@gmail.com and Kevin if you're listening send me an email

58:09

you do work@gmail.com Yes you do buddy you need to you need to take advantage of Sirius is offer they're getting a gay network on satellite tell a radio coast to coast stuff.

58:23

Really?

58:24

Yeah. To move into that vacuum girlfriend. They need your talent. Honey, I

58:28

don't know if I have the strength for it. Anyway,

58:30

I know it takes a lot of interviews especially to do what you do. Do and gay and lesbian radio. It takes an enormous amount of energy and a great deal of skill. And I just don't have fingers that can move that fast. Right? Please

58:42

get please do me a favor and give give me your contact information. So well. I

58:46

mean, I'm of course I'm perpetually listed. My email address is Ray Hill. At eco net e ch. Ro ne t.com. And

58:58

I want everybody that's listen to this show that's ever been touched by it. Please send me an email. It's bloody bu DD y How hard is that girl? Now wait a minute, it's just buddy. Unity y@de.com. So please pick up the phone and call us that.



59:15

We need your help.



59:16

We need your help. Yes. But okay, I



59:20

love you so much. Love you and I'm just gonna go honey, I



59:23

the towels are falling off.



59:24

I got an invitation to stay with friends of mine on noisy Valley. So I'll just okay, when



59:31

you come out here. I will. I will give you the \$2 Tobit. Ray, I have to ask you something really quick. Sure. Do you remember the time when I went to City Council? And I was passing out those bookstore tokens and Absolutely. It said these tokens are carried in the pocket of Buddy Johnson while it's related to Texas sodomy law.



59:53

Absolutely. I had a t shirt that read I violate section 21.06 with the Texas penal ENCODE, frequently, safely and well?



1:00:06

Yes, me. Yes. How long have we been on the air? Oh,



1:00:08

I don't know about 8707 fat. Okay. How



1:00:13

many years is that? Somebody added?



1:00:15

We're coming up. We're coming up to our 16 First again.



1:00:18

Okay, so that's what



1:00:20

I'm gonna do week 16. One more year and you'll be illegal. Anybody that calls right now? Yeah.



1:00:26

And make the pledge of at least \$75 on a credit card. Because I know that KPFT needs the money right now.



1:00:35

You got it. Oh, heck, let's



1:00:36

make it. Let's make it easy. Let's make it \$100. Okay, anybody that calls and makes a pledge of \$100 right now on a credit card. They're gonna get a copy of that coming out of hiding mix. For you, myself on a CD. Thank you. I'm gonna send you 16 of those bookstore tokens that I carry



1:01:02

great, believe it or not, I have a bag.



1:01:06

Well, you can't make them in few. You gotta make them in many or it just don't work out.



1:01:11

So go to the phone and call us you get you're gonna get the coming out of hiding CD mix. Oh, that's great. Was it I'll throw on the CD. I want you to call now. Jimmy.

1:01:22
26573. CD,

1:01:25
and you're gonna get 16 of those. Well, not watched them all off so they're not

1:01:36
still sticking out.

1:01:39
Have fun. I gotta go. I love you. I

1:01:41
love you, buddy.

1:01:42
I'll see you in San Francisco. Hopefully soon.

1:01:46
Buddy. Bye. Well, how many of you have friends that actually counter threat bookstore?

1:01:56
Okay, right. What do we have with us right now?

1:01:58
I have I have some wonderful people from the Stonewall Law Association. And they are John Nachman. And the President that esteemed President organization himself and his president's companion Christopher's around here somewhere somewhere. So along with the camera, the

best way to do this is do your name in your own voice so people can know who you are. Well, I'm



1:02:27

Jerry simonneau. And I'm the president of the Stonewall Law Association of Greater Houston. And



1:02:32

I'm John nexmon. And I was the last president and Stonewall losses



1:02:38

was not an unwelcome coup. Actually, it's a sucker job. John is also a law professor at Texas, South Texas School of Law. I've lectured his classes and wanted to come along to your practice. Well, Jerry, if



1:02:56

you're talking to Jerry, I do wills and estates, criminal law and some civil law Mayson mainly landlord tenant law. All



1:03:04

right, and what kind of law do you practice?



1:03:06

I do almost exclusively immigration work, and mostly for the GLBT community.



1:03:10

Right. And,



1:03:11

and is there a lot of work and immigration thing? There's



1:03:14

tons of it, especially now. I mean, there's, there's been so much since all the crap with Ashcroft has come down since 911. It's amazing. It's the you know, if there's a there's no good side to that, but there has been a lot of business because a lot of people are finding themselves in removal proceedings and did absolutely ridiculous detention hearings and things of that nature. There's a lot, and

1:03:36

a lot of your clients, you know, like, don't have the resources to adequately defend themselves against these enormous kinds of pressures. That's true. And

1:03:48

I'm on the board of the lesbian and gay immigration rights Task Force, which will any day now change its name to Immigration Equality. And our organization actually provides pro bono representation to a great number of people in that very same set of circumstances,

1:04:02

spread the costs out so that nobody's hit to exactly because a lawyer or a lawyer or a small group of lawyers can bankrupt themselves doing necessary work or a true will great did that in capital punishment law in Texas? JERRY And, John, of course, if you've got a law degree, and you know how to go on the computer and read cases, when something comes down, like the United States Supreme Court case, in the Lawrence and garner cases. You read this? I mean, you gotta have hard copy run away. Oh, absolutely sorted out and I take it both of you have read or Oh, yes. Oh, yeah. How long is the decision? How many pages

1:04:47

16 for the opinion, and then 21 on

1:04:51

the Santia

1:04:53

16 on the moon and then Thomas's dissents

1:04:55

about two paragraphs



1:04:59

and Oh, what's your impression of the importance of this litigation?



1:05:06

Well, we'll start with me I suppose this is a very broad decision broad and sweeping decision that gives well it restores privacy rights to Americans, not just gay and lesbian citizens, but everyone. Privacy was almost killed in that ridiculous. Hardwick versus Bowers case. And but in this case, they restored it. They said, We were wrong. When we decided Bowers versus Hardwick, and it is still wrong today, and we're going to overrule that case.



1:05:34

Now. Hardwick versus Bowers case was the Georgia sodomy statute in tears, right. It was 1987. I remember because I heard oral arguments. And when you were there when I was there, right, with Hill versus Houston. The the it was 542. It was fine for the other way. Yes. And after that decision was handed down. Powell said he should have voted the



1:06:03

other one he was he said he was wrong. He should have gone the other way. That's right. And I



1:06:08

was sitting in the room when O'Connor's position on that went sour. On the issue of privacy right. Now, now, this case, had two major issues in it. One on equal justice, right. Hmm. Equal Protection. And actually we got the six boats on equal just,



1:06:30

well, no, we got one vote only the only one that even mentioned it. Yeah. Sandra Day O'Connor said that she would have overturned the Texas law based on equal protection because it treated the homosexuals differently than it treated heterosexual and she also said that she would not have overruled Bowers case. One that she joined in the image in the majority back in



1:06:53

stubbornness therapy. Yeah. Well,



1:06:56

I actually had been there for the oral arguments pretty, pretty obvious because Kathy fire who was representing our side in that case, was a question was put to her about Congress said, Well, if we move privacy from the marriage bed, and those of you listening, that's where it has been since Griswold and it got Griswold was the birth control case out of Connecticut, many years ago, and they said, it said specifically that the marriage bed is a private zone for the purposes of contraceptive and if I get off some cream, right, that's right. That's right. And so there it is. And since that time, we've been laying in that bed scratching on the walls around it, trying to expand it. And all of obscenity law is an extension of gridwall. Yes. And so the principle on that and homosexual practices, or sodomy is an attempt to move that ball from the bed itself to the door. Sure, so that when adults get behind the door, then what they do is private. And in the Hardwick case, Justice O'Connor, ask Kathy fire, if we move privacy from the bed to the door, then will that not legalize prostitution, if money is not discussed till after the door close? And I thought Cathy fire could have handled that in a number of ways. She said, We believe so, Your Honor, and we're willing to ride that horse, or we're willing to accept that as a responsibility of our decision. And you could just see O'Connor's switch go off. We lost her there, and she's still lost. Yeah, she never came back.



1:08:38

But but you know, that does it do that?



1:08:43

Does it does did well, this case?



1:08:45

Does this case, actually do that?



1:08:46

Well, it? I mean, I don't I don't say that. Oh, there, there are a lot of other issues that are going to come into play in terms of that in terms of issues of, of incest, for example. I mean, there's a lot of state interests there that's going to come into play. But you know, I mean, it's interesting that you bring that up, because when we were there, we Jerry and I were both there and Machuca teens office the morning that the decision came in. And what I didn't realize was that Kennedy was reading the decision at the time. And so we were getting little bits and pieces and like going ecstatic at some news. And then, you know, for me, I remember sitting there and I was I was concerned, because I thought well, you know, the equal protection argument was still an important one that they brought forth. And and we're, you know, Ruth Harlow had talked with us about how, you know, she saw that as a very, very important argument too. And we knew one was one was a broad focus, and the other was a narrow focus. But I was concerned about that until we got to see the hardcopy and we actually got a copy that morning. And it was, I mean, it was really clear at that point, why Kennedy and why all of the other justices that

went along with him, wanted to go forward on the privacy issue because, I mean, they were looking at in terms of the sign into the of the the privacy issue as being very, very important, and being something of the bra, but what a deal with the prostitution. Now I think that the you



1:10:08

know, it's not gonna affect prostitution at all. Well,



1:10:11

and the thing about it is that this is a very broad decision. Now, is that a good or bad thing?



1:10:17

One nice, very wonderful thing, a wonderful thing because we can do so many wonderful things with it. Back in 1967, the Supreme Court had said that marriage is a fundamental right, that's protected under the liberties of the due process clause, which is where we get privacy from privacy is not mentioned in the Constitution anywhere, but we get it from that liberties clause or the due process clause of the 14th and Fifth Amendments. And because marriage is now a fundamental right, as set forth in 1967, in the Loving versus Virginia case, we may be able to take that and say, well, since marriage is a privacy, right, and you have strengthened privacy so much, well, then you need to give that same fundamental right to us. That's a liberty that we should enjoy as well as gay men and lesbians. Now, just



1:11:06

because the building block is there is because you can construct this building out of material available in the wall, doesn't mean that's going to happen. No,



1:11:17

it doesn't. But that's how you start building the building, though. You put the brakes there, and you hope they stay.



1:11:22

And what an amazing congruence of bricks we're getting right now. In Canada, Ontario Court of Justice, and right now the same sex marriages in Canada, the third country basically, the case is one Jersey exact when a Massachusetts case a good rich versus Department of Health case, right, that one's gonna be decided very sad decision will come down probably in the next two or three weeks.



1 2 3 4 5



1:11:43

Oh, probably shorter than that, I



1:11:45

think. And so when Justice O'Connor says what we can expect in the near future is a lot of gay civil rights litigation. Yep. She ain't gonna holler. She's not,



1:11:56

which is one reason why we really did see her vote coming down. All right. So I mean, you know, I told everyone I was there for the oral argument on the Laurens case. And when I left there, I thought, even with the questions that were coming forth, well, I mean, everybody was leaving really ecstatic. But I saw six, three. And you know, even some, some people were venturing to guess seven to saying that Clarence Thomas might shock us because he's had a lot of gay classes. Hamas is



1:12:21

descended, though it's very, very short. Yeah. Is is kind of a mixed mascot. I mean, it says the call to the law silly, says that if he were a member of the Texas Legislature, he would vote against the law or write you a proposal that it'd be appealed. Right. But he voted the other way. Why don't some courts division of powers thing? Exactly.



1:12:43

But you know, but isn't it funny that we're hearing that from him now. And now we're hearing it from most of the conservative talk show hosts too, I'd never heard them talking about this being a silly law before. The only from the first time I ever heard them talking about this being a silly law, John Matthews and various others was after the decision came out. And I realized how you know what this law means and what it no it definitely



1:13:05

was not a silly law in the mind of exact talk show hosts a thing two weeks ago. Yeah. Now, the other question is, it is legal, to be Queer and practice being Queer in the United States. How does that affect immigration law in other jurisdictions where it is illegal and punishable? Where I'm sorry, I'm not getting the year the immigration lawyer, how does that affect non citizens coming from jurisdictions where homosexual behavior for Egypt for instance, and seeking asylum, yeah,



1:13:46

well, then in the Middle East right now, you know, it's it, there's so much going on in the world

at this point that we need to be looking at, I just got back from Buenos itis where they actually were they also recognize same sex marriages in the city, not yet in the country. But that'll happen and you're gonna see all Latin America fall at some point and we will be sandwiched between two gigantic you know, the can't the Canadian north and the Latin south and we will be the one nation that's not recognizing same sex marriage. But in, in in because of that asylum cases in Latin America become very tough. The one region of the world where where asylum cases still have a lot, you know, we're we're, we really have a good shot our cases in the Middle East. And it's been, you know, I mean, the laws in those countries aren't just they don't just criminalize homosexuality, they kill gays and lesbians. And



1:14:40

if if the rest of our immigration justification for asylum remains the same. The change of the law here this isn't alone with criminal law here would certainly affect how those cases are perceived if applications right



1:14:56

but I'll tell you what, Ray it is a difficult world out there. They do not grant asylum cases to game to gay men and predominately game and we have some lesbian cases that come forth. We've had three transgender cases approved in Houston, which is incredible, wonderful, because many people didn't think we get cases like this approved here. But it has become very, very difficult in any case, even an Iranian case, where they will push a building over a person who suspected of being gay, and see if they survive that after 30 minutes gigantic, you know, 500 pound blocks falling upon you. And if you survive it, then they let you live. And if you don't, then, you know, the Sharia has has gone into effect in terms of, you know, but But um, they're not, they're not gimmies, you've got to really, really push hard to win those cases.



1:15:42

One of the axioms about practicing law and understanding law is objectivity. How objective can either one of you be about a law that affects your own personal life? Oh,



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that's a good question. It's



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an excellent question, Jerry.



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Well, that that is a good question. And we asked that question among ourselves all the time

among GLBT lawyers one of the things that that comes up is for instance in a divorce

among GLBT lawyers, one of the things that comes up is, for instance, in a divorce between two men, which has to go to civil court, not family court, unfortunately, alimony as a civil case, not a family case. Well, we're not talking alimony, we're just talking. We're talking we're talking, splitting, letting splitting everything separating out the linens, or well, you know, one of the things that we could say is, well, the other guy is just gay. He's a homo. And so he shouldn't get certain things. And some lawyers would do that. But in our community, we certainly don't do that. This is especially interesting, especially important in a family law case, where you have perhaps I've got gay father, who has who is the father, biological father of a son, or maybe the adopted father of a son, or daughter, and the mother is claiming that, you know, well, we shouldn't give custody to that, that father because he's gay. And we all know that's bad. Well, if we have a GLBT, lawyer working for the mother, or and the father, we do not bring up that kind of issue, because it's in so so the answer to your question is, it's very hard to be objective, but what we do is we do not use our own sexuality against each other as a weapon. And that's, that's probably just ethical law more than anything. So excuse me.

1:17:21

So how bright is our future? I

1:17:23

think our future is really looking up like John was saying the confluence of events is just extraordinary. Right now we have Belgium in the Netherlands recognizing marriage, we have Canada recognizing marriage, South America recognizing marriage. We've just gotten rid of our ridiculous laws that that would pretend to try to regulate us in our bedroom, although they they never actually acted on that except for once or twice. Look

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at the editorials that are coming out. Yes. All over the country. Yes. I mean, I remember six or seven years ago, when even in the gay and lesbian community, there was not a, you know, an outpouring of support for same sex marriage seemed like, Well, why do we want that? Or it was it was something so new, or maybe it was something we never really thought that we should get for whatever crazy reason. And right now, I was reading papers all over the northeast, especially in along the Canadian border, who are saying there's just no justification for not allowing and then

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well, I mean, I mean, maybe it's the evolution of realization a full person who had you know, a very significant part of gay lesbian oppression is one ourselves images and what we think we deserve and and what are what we think we can handle, sir, graphically and culturally. Back to Tyrone and John. We spent a lot of time with him in the last few days, yes, we have and and there are remarkable people. Remarkable. And after I saw them, as they stepped out of the

convertible after the parade ride down with Mitchell, which was wonderful. I mean, it was the the, the grand marshals and we saved money on grand marshals this year. We didn't have one we just recycled those.



1:19:19

Are you being on that float was like, right, like, like going to a history class? Absolutely. I



1:19:25

mean, that was Rena wannstrom Wasn't it? Read it once? And I and there's David Paterson out there in the lobby right now. And Reid and David and I were cofounders of the Prometheus society here in Houston. And David Patterson is here. David Patterson is here is in the lobby. He's he he's a teenager with a long hair that looks like he's rather weathered the David and read it and I fought over the gavel and David quietly run the organization as Secretary with the real power always like,



1:20:02

I don't want to interrupt. But I need to take five minutes out here because we've got Dean Becker on the line. All right, Dean Becker calls in every, every week, at this hour. Okay. And that's to get us the latest on cultural baggage. He is a member of normal. And what what we're looking at is medical marijuana use and what's going on? Yeah, that in that, and Dean Becker should be



1:20:34

on the line. Dan, are you there?



1:20:36

I'm here. Good evening. Good



1:20:37

evening. Good evening,



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I must say, just wonderful. That is the first word that comes to mind. This a recent ruling on the Lawrence trial. Yes. And what else? Can you say? It opens the doors to privacy rights for all of us? It's a it's just a great thing.



1:20:56

Yes, it How does privacy rights affect your issues?



1:21:00

Well, I think that's a leading question there. Right? We know it does. Because what people do in the privacy of their homes or their bedrooms, is their business. And the government has no right to get involved. And, of course, you know, that's been the battle for normal, the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws throughout key strop. The head of that has always stated, you know, whatever, you know, adults do in the privacy of their own homes, is no business of the government. There's a local German, also a professor at South Texas, College of Law. And he's written some things here, I'd like to just briefly skim through it. He says that it's a note. He wrote a note saying that a new suit that would protect the Liberty or interests of those charged with possession of marijuana, would give an opportunity to introduce the full range of medical, scientific and sociological evidence about marijuana to show the lack of any rational basis for laws criminalizing the possession. And, you know, they're saying that if a trial judge was carefully selected, if one can do that, there's a good chance that the Loris Lawrence decision would show excuse me, it would serve as a basis for to show judicial discrimination of possession. And, you know, I look at the papers, you're talking about the editorials, I'm looking at one that is in today's Washington Post. And they're talking about Antonin Scalia. And they're blasting him as old school, old testament and you know, missed the over an era when military Institute's didn't have to accept women, when elite schools didn't have to make special efforts for blacks, when a gay couple in their own bedroom could be clapped in irons. And, you know, the man is being shown for what he is, you know, we talked about Strom Thurmond. And those guys, you know, they're ancient, they are old school. They are school of Inquisition, if you will. And I think this is wonderful news for all of us. It should help open the door to allow medical marijuana patients to sooner have access to a medicine that keeps them well, or that maybe even keeps them alive. Yeah. And, you know, I, I anticipate in the future that we can all combine forces and take these these measures and use them to further our own personal rights or privacy rights in other areas.



1:23:39

Nina have been working on the decriminalization of private consensual adult sexuality and sexual intimacy for 40 years.



1:23:51

Yes, sir. And right. Thank you. Thank you and good night. Hello, congratulations. I mean, for all your hard work. It's



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40 years is a long time to wait for any it's not instant gratification.



1:24:05

But but but let me tell you, I don't think it's sunk in on most of us yet. This this, this this



1:24:10

whole movement and before you lies another movement, which is well founded and among friends, I mean, I mean, there's there's Dennis Perone, who is a mutual friend, Dennis prone is the mother of the fairy camp at the rainbow gatherings. He is on his way to Idaho right now. Together in the Great Basin and celebrate run naked and cook for the fairy gathering camp at the rainbow gathering. I wished I could join him but it's hard for peg legs to make it up those mountains. But in that battle, Dennis has gone to jail as frequently as anybody I know of in the country, and



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he just beat a rap in Utah not that long ago. Yeah.



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And he did it. He aggressively defends his rights, and most frequently successfully put him back and locked him away. Yeah.



1:25:10

But you know, the point is another of those editorials I saw yesterday and it had a direct tie in to, you know, I fight the whole drug war, not just medical marijuana, and it was George Will Writing in The Washington Post. And I think the song was a tap dancing on the Constitution. Oh, no lap dancing on the Constitution. And one of his closing comments was, if these privacy rights are valid for people to do, you know, whatever they choose to do in their, you know, adults choose to do in their home, then it applies just as equally to heroin. And this is George Will writing this. We're going to end this drug war soon, folks. These conservative, compassionate Christians are being shown for just what they are. Thank you, Dan. Thank you, gentlemen.



1:25:59

Thanks, Dean for calling in Good night. We'll call



1:26:02

him back. Dean Becker is also a programmer here at radio station, KPFT. That's right. And his accounts will be on next Friday night. Cultural they wouldn't on this Friday night. So it means to

program will be on next Friday night. Cultural, they wouldn't be this Friday night. So it means to be on next Friday night at midnight. That's right. And that's Fourth of July next Friday. Not sure is



1:26:23

gonna get like you can also hear his five minute or three to five minute drug war news every afternoon at work or 20.



1:26:33

On KPFT. You know, we diverted there a little bit but not very much. Because a lot of the world is feeling around to think what does this mean for me? Obviously