

ELIZABETH I walked into the passport office. And while I did this in '98, they gave me my name, Elizabeth Anne Richard. And
RICHARD: they put M in the box.

JIMMY CARPER: Ooh. Ouch.

ELIZABETH Yeah, it was particularly strange--
RICHARD:

JENNIFER: Well, in my particular case--

ELIZABETH --going into a foreign country with that on my passport.
RICHARD:

[LAUGHTER]

JENNIFER: Yeah.

ELIZABETH So now that I have the affidavit notarized from my surgeon that surgery has been performed successfully, I can
RICHARD: take that in. And now, I can get a marker F on my birth-- on my passport.

JENNIFER: Exactly.

ELIZABETH I was born in Ohio.
RICHARD:

JENNIFER: Exactly.

ELIZABETH Ohio is one of the couple of states that under no circumstances changes the birth certificate.
RICHARD:

JIMMY CARPER: Right.

ELIZABETH So for the rest of my life, I'm going to have a birth certificate that says an M on it.
RICHARD:

JENNIFER: Guess what? New York is the same way.

ELIZABETH New York City or New York State?
RICHARD:

JENNIFER: New York City is the same way.

ELIZABETH New York City is that way, sort of. Apparently, one of the boroughs has been able to get it through. But not the
RICHARD: rest of them.

JENNIFER: Not Manhattan.

ELIZABETH It's very administrative.
RICHARD:

JENNIFER: I've been through it three times. And I've been refused three times.

ELIZABETH This information--

RICHARD:

JENNIFER: Manhattan is a bugger.

ELIZABETH This information that I had was about six months old. Yeah, we need to get wrapped up here.

RICHARD:

JENNIFER: Well, maybe it's changed. But I went through it in the '90s. I went through it three times. And every time I applied, what they would do in Manhattan in the '90s is they would give you a birth certificate with no gender at all--

ELIZABETH Well, that's better than Ohio.

RICHARD:

JENNIFER: --with a new name.

ELIZABETH That's better than Ohio. That's--

RICHARD:

SPEAKER 1: Better than, yeah.

JENNIFER: --very particular.

ELIZABETH I'm going to get the-- I'm going to get the old name. And I'm going to get the old letter. And if I want-- if for some reason, I should ever find myself in a situation where I wanted to get married to a man, I could go to a state that would accept my passport.

RICHARD:

JENNIFER: Texas won't do that, by the way.

ELIZABETH And I will--

RICHARD:

JENNIFER: You or I would have to marry a woman.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, it depends on where you go in Texas.

ELIZABETH It does depend on where you-- if, on the other hand, I was-- I wanted to marry a woman, I could go to someplace that would accept my birth certificate. And--

RICHARD:

JENNIFER: Well, that's what I'd do. I'd--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

SPEAKER 1: Wow.

ELIZABETH It's just totally weird.

RICHARD:

SPEAKER 1: Well, that's how the two lesbians got married in Austin--

JIMMY CARPER: That's right.

ELIZABETH That's right.

RICHARD:

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

SPEAKER 1: --reason.

ELIZABETH Yeah, and that was basically in protest of a case.

RICHARD:

JIMMY CARPER: Right.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

ELIZABETH --Christie Littleton, yeah.

RICHARD:

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

JIMMY CARPER: --Littleton case, yes.

JENNIFER: I was told that, in Harris County, I could get married to a woman because I still have a male birth certificate.

ELIZABETH We need to wrap up. Thanks for calling in, Jennifer.

RICHARD:

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

JENNIFER: Oh, by the way--

SPEAKER 1: Thank you.

JENNIFER: To any of you other gals out there listening, you talked a lot about dilation. And I'll tell you what, if you want everything to work right, make sure you do your dilations.

ELIZABETH Yep.

RICHARD:

JENNIFER: Do them faithfully. Do them extensively. Never quit.

ELIZABETH Absolutely.

RICHARD:

JENNIFER: Because if you want to have sex with the guys, I highly recommend dilation. And if you want-- well, I don't know. If you just wanted to keep the thing right, dilation, dilation, dilation.

ELIZABETH Yep.

RICHARD:

JENNIFER: It's the only thing I have left to say.

ELIZABETH Well, thanks for calling in, Jennifer. We've got to get moving.

RICHARD:

JIMMY CARPER: Jennifer, thanks for calling.

JENNIFER: Oh, yeah. Thanks.

SPEAKER 1: Thank you.

JENNIFER: It's nice to hear from you.

ELIZABETH Yeah.

RICHARD:

JENNIFER: And thanks, Jimmy.

ELIZABETH Well, I'll listen to, what is it, Voices in the Dark? What's your--

RICHARD:

JENNIFER: You what now?

ELIZABETH What's your show?

RICHARD:

JENNIFER: Oh, *Reach Out in the Darkness*.

ELIZABETH *Reach Out in the Darkness*.

RICHARD:

JENNIFER: And I'm going to be on a 3:00 to 6:00 AM Tuesday morning this Tuesday morning.

ELIZABETH There you go, folks. All right. Thanks a lot, Jennifer.

RICHARD:

JENNIFER: Bye bye.

ELIZABETH Bye bye.

RICHARD:

JIMMY CARPER: Take care.

JENNIFER: Nice to hear from--

ELIZABETH Bye.

RICHARD:

JIMMY CARPER: Ah.

ELIZABETH Well, all I can say about--

RICHARD:

JIMMY CARPER: What a show.

ELIZABETH All--

RICHARD:

JIMMY CARPER: This has been incredible. This has been a great show.

ELIZABETH All I can say about it is that it's a miracle.

RICHARD:

JIMMY CARPER: It sure is.

ELIZABETH I don't know whether it's more of a miracle that the doctor figured out how to do it or that the human body can

RICHARD: have this done and cope with it just fine. But in either case, it's a miracle.

JIMMY CARPER: Good. Thanks for being here.

ELIZABETH Sure. You-- thanks for having me on, Jimmy.

RICHARD:

[LAUGHTER]

I love it every time I come here.

JIMMY CARPER: We always have fun.

ELIZABETH It's always fun.

RICHARD:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, we do.

ELIZABETH It really is.

RICHARD:

JIMMY CARPER: Now, I'm going to put a couple of things in your ear. And then, a special musical dedication.

ELIZABETH Ow, get that out of there, Jimmy. Jeez.

RICHARD:

JIMMY CARPER: Ooh. Ouch.

[LAUGHTER]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

MAN: *Technology Bytes*, a call-in show about computers and technology, airs here on KPFT 90.1 FM, Wednesdays, 8:00 to 10:00 PM. Here with the celebrity endorsement, the bit from Tron.

AUTOMATED Yes.

VOICE:

MAN: What do you think about *Technology Bytes*?

AUTOMATED Yes.

VOICE:

MAN: Do you like *Technology Bytes*?

AUTOMATED Yes.

VOICE:

MAN: Do you listen to *Technology Bytes*?

AUTOMATED No.

VOICE:

MAN: Oh, that was a bust. Oh, well. Tune in anyway. That's *Technology Bytes*, Wednesdays, 8:00 to 10:00 PM here on KPFT.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

WOMAN: Listen up.

MAN: *Technology Bytes*.

RON GAGNER: You've heard of the war against drugs.

TIM PAGEL: And you've heard of the war against terror.

RON GAGNER: But how much do you hear about the war against the working people?

TIM PAGEL: Tune in on Friday nights at 8:00 for Houston's first and only labor radio show, *Voices at Work*.

RON GAGNER: We'll discuss labor issues, have interesting guests, and exchange ideas on what we, the workers, can do to start calling the shots.

TIM PAGEL: Union or non-union, we will try to inform you of what is happening in the real-life working environment.

RON GAGNER: Join me, Ron Gagner--

TIM PAGEL: --and Tim Pagel--

RON GAGNER: --on Friday nights from 8:00 PM to 9:00 PM for *Voices at Work*.

TIM PAGEL: If you don't sign your own paycheck, this show is for you.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

JIMMY CARPER: Ah, yes. And you're listening to *After Hours*, queer radio with attitude, on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station. Beth is still here. And if she'll punch Air and the F1. And we should be talking to Dean Becker.

DEAN BECKER: Hello, Jimmy.

JIMMY CARPER: Hey, Dean Becker. How you doing?

DEAN BECKER: Man, how do I follow what-- this show?

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: You've been listening, huh?

DEAN BECKER: I have. It's incredible stuff y'all are talking about.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, thank you very much. Thank you very much. Beth is still here. And--

BETH: Hi, Dean.

DEAN BECKER: Hello.

JIMMY CARPER: You're here for your weekly update on *Cultural Baggage*.

DEAN BECKER: Yes, the unvarnished drug war news.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: You bet.

DEAN BECKER: Well, let me just read a little bit of what I put together here. The drug war is based on an ancient superstition. I think we all know that.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yeah.

DEAN BECKER: Greed, lies. Well, during the last century, we've slighted our children's education, our roads, our infrastructure, all so that we could rest, house, guard, and feed millions of our own citizens for nonviolent drug use. The violence of drug prohibition comes predominantly from the cartels, from gangs, dealers, and cops. Cops are about the main drawback to smoking marijuana these days.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

DEAN BECKER: During the same 100 years, we paid trillions of dollars to every stripe of criminal from grower to seller, from corrupt cops to street corner vendors, from politicians to customs officials. Now the drug lords of this world are not just in South America. Some have exclusive addresses in Washington DC. This drug war is a giant oinking \$50 billion per year pork barrel--

JIMMY CARPER: Ooh.

DEAN BECKER: --that rolls on, carrying the masses forward with outrageous lies and moral posturing. Milton Friedman, the Nobel Prize winner, summed it up. This is a quote from him. "Take a well-intended public policy, see where its adherents want to take society. Then look 180 degrees in the opposite direction for your eventual results."

Asa Hutchinson, the administrator of the Drug Enforcement Agency, is now left with very little to fall back on. In all his recent debates and discussions, it all boils down to his statement that marijuana is harmful. And that if we legalize it for adults, more children will have access. Now in the 4,000 year history of marijuana, it has never been directly responsible for the death of even one person.

And yet, Asa is never challenged when he calls it harmful. And the children, oh, yes, Asa thinks it's better that your children who may use, buy, sell, or grow marijuana receive a government sponsored education in morals with a long stay in prison, where they're sure to learn great things like violent crime and deep hatred.

But what do Asa or John Ashcroft, John Walters or Barry McCaffrey care? It is job security for them and a million other drug warriors that gleefully spend the \$50 billion per year that this drug war extracts from our taxpayer pockets. I have no doubt he and his cohorts will fight to the end for their share of the loot. A tragic story here in Houston.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh?

DEAN BECKER: It took a jury less than two hours to sentence Nathan Neil McKinney to life in prison for the murder of a teenage drug user.

JIMMY CARPER: Ooh.

DEAN BECKER: According to the evidence and testimony presented to the court, the sentence is perhaps appropriate. There is, however, a larger continual tragedy when we fail to consider the reasons behind this and thousands of similar deaths each year, the tragedy of drug prohibition.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

DEAN BECKER: Now, Houston's had more than its share of prohibition-related deaths. In the past year, several law enforcement officers have been shot and killed by drug users trying to avoid arrest. Last summer, 15 of our young people died in just one weekend from a heroin overdose because they thought the powder they bought was cocaine.

Now what our society has done through the implementation and escalation of the drug war is to create a huge, sometimes violent, subset of the population with no recourse to the law having to either write off any losses or to take the law into their own hands. Now for Mr. McKinney, apparently the only recourse he could think of for being stung with counterfeit monies was to send a message of death and any others inclined to a similar deception.

Now, until such time we realize the utter failure of drug prohibition, we are certain to reap a continual harvest of ignorance, death, and destruction. In the meantime, perhaps we should heed the words of Bob Dylan, who summed up a similar situation. "To live outside the law, you must be honest."

JIMMY CARPER: Wow.

DEAN BECKER: Now this is Dean Becker. I'm asking your listeners to please tune in to *Cultural Baggage* right here on KPFT next Friday at midnight. Our guest will be the distinguished Professor of Pharmacology for the UT Health Science Center, Dr. Al Robinson. He's going to team up with Dr. David Duncan, Professor at the School of Medicine at Brown University.

They're going to discuss the properties, the effects, and the truth about heroin, ecstasy, and other questions from the listeners. And we'll be sure to discuss medical marijuana because we're bringing in George McMahon, one of the six surviving federally supplied medical marijuana patients. He receives 300 joints a month from the DEA.

JIMMY CARPER: Wow.

CHRIS: Dean, this is Chris. I just want to let you know that I gave you a little bit of plug with the New York audience of Pacifica here. I've been checking out the web-- the listener boards.

DEAN BECKER: Yes.

CHRIS: And one of them is for WBAI. And someone had made a comment about the fact there's a lack of drug reform programs on our sister station up there in New York.

DEAN BECKER: Yes.

CHRIS: So I posted a little note on there telling them, say, hey, check out Houston. And you can listen to *Cultural Baggage*, and get-- put on your website address, and tell them what times the show is on. So hopefully, you'll be getting some New York audience out there and be able to--

DEAN BECKER: Oh, that would be wonderful.

CHRIS: --at least let them know up north there about it.

DEAN BECKER: Well, I thank you, Chris. Yeah, you did point them to my website, cultural-baggage.com?

CHRIS: Yeah,

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

CHRIS: Fortunately, I pulled a good link off of the kpft.org website.

JIMMY CARPER: Aha. Cool.

DEAN BECKER: Because yeah, I have several shows stored there. I'm trying to put them all online now.

JIMMY CARPER: Great. Great. Dean, thanks for calling in. Pleasure [INAUDIBLE].

DEAN BECKER: Jimmy, thank you so much.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, the only heterosexual who has a permanent spot on *After Hours*.

[LAUGHTER]

CHRIS: And don't worry, Jimmy's planning on changing that.

JIMMY CARPER: No.

DEAN BECKER: Oh my god.

[LAUGHTER]

CHRIS: Yeah, and we're not talking about adding more straight people.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, no, no, no, no.

DEAN BECKER: Ooh.

JIMMY CARPER: I know Dean's girlfriend.

[LAUGHTER]

CHRIS: Gee, I never saw Jimmy afraid before like that.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: Dean, thanks for calling.

DEAN BECKER: Thank y'all so much. Good night.

JIMMY CARPER: Good night.

CHRIS: Good night.

JIMMY CARPER: Now, as promised, I've got a piece of music by The Kinsey Sicks, S-I-C-K-S. Yes, indeed. They are a drag beauty shop quartet, as they call themselves.

CHRIS: Is there apostrophes around beauty shop?

JIMMY CARPER: Something like that. There should be. This is a dedication for good old Mikey.

CHRIS: Oh.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, the one that used to live with Chris.

CHRIS: A wonderful friend of the show.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes. Yes. This is just--

CHRIS: I've been told to wonder about this.

JIMMY CARPER: This is just perfect. And so here we go.

[MUSIC - THE KINSEY SICKS, "IT'S CRYSTAL TIME IN THE CITY"]

[AUDIO OUT]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

JIMMY CARPER: Oh. Beautiful, beautiful music.

CHRIS: And we--

JIMMY CARPER: By-- oh, go ahead.

CHRIS: Can we stat who we started with first?

JIMMY CARPER: Oh.

CHRIS: [INAUDIBLE]

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, that was Kinsey Sicks. And that was "It's Crystal Time in the City."

[LAUGHTER]

But the last one was Sandra Cartolari. She's a lesbian singer from Italy. And she sent me this CD that was called *My One and Only Love*. I thought she did a great job Beth is still here. She's got a little addendum.

BETH: Yeah, I just wanted to say before I had to go home and dilate before I went to bed that if you wanted to get in touch with me or-- well, OK, I've been asked by a lot of my friends that this would take too long to write it out in individual emails, and phone calls, and all that. So I'm writing a whole thing up as a web page of the whole trip diary and all that.

JIMMY CARPER: Really?

BETH: And it's going to be available on my website. It's not there today. But it's coming soon. So if you go out to www.genderweb.org/-- and then tilde, that's that little squirly-- squiggly one up there in the corner, ~bethr, B-E-T-H-R, you'll find my website out there. And there will be a link there pretty soon to the diary for the SRS stuff. And you can get my email from there. So if anybody need-- wants to send any more questions or whatever, feel free. And with that, we'll see if we can get Jimmy to come back from wherever he's run off to.

CHRIS: Stretch, stretch, play.

BETH: Come on, Jimmy.

JIMMY CARPER: Stretch. Stretch.

BETH: I'll stretch. Bring it on.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

BETH: Yeah, it's quite a lot of stretching involved in that.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, there is.

BETH: And Jimmy needs to turn his mic on.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

JIMMY CARPER: I'm the producer.

BETH: Who needs to turn his-- there you go.

JIMMY CARPER: I'm the producer. And I was doing producing things.

BETH: There you go.

JIMMY CARPER: So it's now time--

BETH: So goodnight, folks.

JIMMY CARPER: Good night.

[LAUGHTER]

BETH: See you later, Jimmy.

JIMMY CARPER: Thanks, Beth. We have run over. But it is time for Francisco Sanchez in the Hispanic Hour. And I-- he's going to open with this piece of music. Just like that.

[MUSIC - SON BY FOUR]

[AUDIO OUT]

[MUSIC - SON BY FOUR]

Whoa. What a wonderful group that was. Francisco, can you tell me who that was?

FRANCISCO SANCHEZ: That was Son by Four, which is a group out of Mexico, a little Hispanic NSYNC group.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

SPEAKER 2: So they definitely are cuties.

FRANCISCO SANCHEZ: So there's four of them. And you do the NSYNC, 98 Degrees equation. So maybe one of them is straight.

[LAUGHTER]

SPEAKER 2: Maybe one.

[LAUGHTER]

FRANCISCO SANCHEZ: But they're cuties too.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, they are. Very much so. How have you been?

FRANCISCO SANCHEZ: I've been doing all right. I missed y'all last month.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes. Yes, it was a wonderful show.

FRANCISCO SANCHEZ: Because I have been talking about months and months about having a guest like that on and trying to get it to happen and--

JIMMY CARPER: And then, she shows up. And then, you can't make it.

FRANCISCO Yeah, that was the night I was taking David down to Galveston for the cruise that he was on with his family.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh.

FRANCISCO And last night, it was raining. And I wasn't about to risk coming back in his car.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, I see what you mean.

FRANCISCO Brakes were going out.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

FRANCISCO Steering wheel doesn't work all that well and--

SANCHEZ:

[LAUGHTER]

SPEAKER 2: Oh. Man, that sounds like my old car.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: Well, I'm glad you're back.

FRANCISCO Glad to be back.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: And by the way, I need to remind folks that they are listening to *After Hours*, queer radio with attitude, on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station.

FRANCISCO That was a very informative segment y'all had on beforehand.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Thank you. Yeah, that was--

FRANCISCO Yeah.

SANCHEZ:

SPEAKER 2: We had a lot of callers on that.

JIMMY CARPER: That was just-- it's something I've been wanting to do for a long time. But we never had anybody-- well, I didn't know anybody who had the surgery that they could talk in depth about it. And Beth--

SPEAKER 2: We had a lot of good calls.

JIMMY CARPER: It was incredible. I almost thought she had a medical degree there for a while with the way she was discussing it. It was just great.

SPEAKER 2: And I was in the lobby. And I'll tell you what, I got a lot of--

JIMMY CARPER: Really?

SPEAKER 2: We were getting a lot of calls.

FRANCISCO Good.

SANCHEZ:

SPEAKER 2: And people in New York and god knows where else [INAUDIBLE] on this and--

JIMMY CARPER: Really? Terrific. Terrific. So what are we doing tonight?

FRANCISCO Well, I thought that their song with the "Crystal Time in the City" was so appropriate as we're coming up on

SANCHEZ: Southern Decadence.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, as a matter of fact.

[LAUGHTER]

Yes, no kidding.

FRANCISCO Have you been?

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: No, I've never been. But I've seen lots of pictures.

FRANCISCO Oh, that's going to be--

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Southern Decadence is like a gay Mardi Gras.

FRANCISCO Yeah.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Only with more sex.

FRANCISCO And yeah, everywhere.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes. Yes.

[LAUGHTER]

FRANCISCO I went twice. That was enough for me.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: All right. Really? That's all you could take, huh?

FRANCISCO Well, maybe I'll go back at some point.

SANCHEZ:

[LAUGHTER]

But it's-- yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

FRANCISCO Me and my friends and I used to have a rule, what happens in New Orleans stays in New Orleans.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, you got it.

[LAUGHTER]

That's right.

SPEAKER 2: There you go. There you go.

JIMMY CARPER: That's right. That's right.

FRANCISCO Regardless of that fact that a couple of other people saw.

SANCHEZ:

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: Ooh, OK.

FRANCISCO No, it's definitely a huge party.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, it is.

FRANCISCO And it's wild.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: And when is it held?

FRANCISCO Labor Day weekend.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Gotcha.

FRANCISCO Friday through Monday. So it'd be interesting to see what stories my friends come back with.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

FRANCISCO So we'll see how that goes. And Hunter's not here with us today.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, where's Hunter?

FRANCISCO He's recuperating.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

FRANCISCO He's feeling under the weather.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, I'm sorry.

FRANCISCO So he's not there. So he's off at home resting and recuperating.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: He had a lot of fun last month.

FRANCISCO Yeah, I just-- that was a fun show.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: That was a--

FRANCISCO So we're going to try to get her back.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: It really, really was.

FRANCISCO And did she get to talk to you at all about her-- the dates she was coming back, in terms of when she's

SANCHEZ: performing in town?

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, she did. And she hasn't been performing as much as she used to. But she took a breather. And she's coming back. And yeah, she was talking about that. I don't remember the dates offhand.

FRANCISCO Good. Yeah, because she's got a website. And I've been meaning to check it out.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yeah, that's right. Yes.

FRANCISCO And I emailed her a little bit. But when I was down there, we were in between either the hotel room and trying to

SANCHEZ: get dinner. And David's car doesn't have a stereo because it got broken into.

JIMMY CARPER: Ooh.

FRANCISCO So we were like, we heard--

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh.

FRANCISCO We were part of the hotel room. Then we got hungry.

SANCHEZ:

[LAUGHTER]

So sorry.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: Hunger beats everything, yeah. Food.

SPEAKER 2: Every time.

JIMMY CARPER: Every time.

FRANCISCO Food for a drag queen. Food for a drag queen.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: For a drag queen. Let's eat. Let's eat. Let's eat.

[LAUGHTER]

FRANCISCO We opted for food.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Gotcha.

FRANCISCO But no, you were actually talking about something that-- I was going to talk a little bit about David's trip to

SANCHEZ: Mexico. But you mentioned a little bit just before we went on the air about airport security. Something happened today?

SPEAKER 2: Oh, yeah, our Sheila Jackson Lee was up there at the north part of town at the Carver High School campus over there on South Victory. And they had a big old job fair, in which they were receiving applications for people who want to get into-- become federal airport security screeners, because they are under the gun.

They have until November 18 for all private security in all airports all across the country, large, small, in between. All airports all across the country will have federal security screeners, no longer private security. And they have until November 18. And here in Houston, we have to fill up 1,400 jobs by then. We've only got 200 of them filled. So there's another 1,200 jobs.

And it's definitely a well-paying job, and become a federal employee with lots of benefits. And they are absolutely nondiscriminatory. In their non-discrimination clause on their employment thing, it mentions sexual orientation as part of the non-discrimination groups. And so no experience necessary.

FRANCISCO Well, that'll work. Well, I don't--

SANCHEZ:

[LAUGHTER]

SPEAKER 2: No, they will train you.

[LAUGHTER]

They will train you. They're not too happy with the way the private security firms have handled it. There was a big case this week, in which one of the private security officers made a woman-- forced a woman to drink her own breast milk out of the baby bottle. And that contaminates the milk. And it becomes no longer useful for the infant.

And if you're not a woman and you don't do breast feeding and stuff, it's very difficult, believe it or not, after you've gotten one load out to get another one out. It's not exactly easy. And there's a lot of different stuff. Security officers, male security officers, taking inappropriate touches and groping of female passengers, even though there's another female security officer who can do the examination and stuff. And just a whole bunch of stupid stuff that has been going on in-- but at any rate, this is all in response to 9/11.

FRANCISCO SANCHEZ: Yeah, because I had-- I went to DC recently. And I just always had-- airport security has always been, eh. It's been an inconvenience. But I think my last trip I took-- I got pulled over for 20 minutes because I had a pair of tweezers in my backpack--

SPEAKER 2: Oh, yeah, absolutely.

FRANCISCO SANCHEZ: --in my carry on and--

SPEAKER 2: Nope, not allowed.

FRANCISCO SANCHEZ: So at that point, they made me go through everything. And they emptied the backpack. And a friend of mine had a similar experience. He was coming back from New York. And she had bought some stuff up there that could be embarrassing if they opened her goodie bag.

SPEAKER 2: Oh, yeah.

FRANCISCO SANCHEZ: And so that was interesting.

SPEAKER 2: Well, you--

FRANCISCO SANCHEZ: She was just praying that they wouldn't--

SPEAKER 2: Fingernail clippers are also a no-no because anything that can be used to puncture, anything that can be used as a puncturing-- but then, again, a pen or a pencil. Who knows? We'll find out what--

FRANCISCO SANCHEZ: But I've been very surprised about how, actually, efficient they've gotten. Last-- the first trip that I took was in February after 9/11. And then, the reason why I took was two weeks ago? A week and 1/2 ago? Last week? No, last week. I got back last-- on Thursday.

SPEAKER 2: Right.

FRANCISCO SANCHEZ: So I've been surprised just how quickly it's moved in terms of efficiency and how easy it is to move through the airports. I feel a lot safer with some of the measures that are in place. But it's also not holding you up for several hours.

SPEAKER 2: True.

FRANCISCO SANCHEZ: Now if you're a Texas Democrat or you're from Houston, there's nothing worse than flying out of Bush Intercontinental and landing at Reagan in DC.

[LAUGHTER]

But I still call it Intercontinental. I still call it National.

[LAUGHTER]

SPEAKER 2: The Bush Intercontinental?

[LAUGHTER]

**FRANCISCO
SANCHEZ:** Yeah.

SPEAKER 2: And are you leaving at Bush and then arriving at Reagan or leave at Reagan and arriving into Bush or something?

[LAUGHTER]

**FRANCISCO
SANCHEZ:** Have you been watching-- yeah, because the Latin Grammys are coming up. But the show that I've been trying-- that I have missed for the past three weeks, *American Idol*.

SPEAKER 2: I have missed that because I've been at work.

[LAUGHTER]

**FRANCISCO
SANCHEZ:** I was trying to keep up with that because there's that cute little gay boy. I don't think he made it this far. But I was wondering what the status of that was.

SPEAKER 2: Well, I don't know. But I do know this, that a lot of other record labels, a number of other record labels, have already contacted some of the performers already that have been rejected by Mr. Steve or what--

**FRANCISCO
SANCHEZ:** Mr.--

SPEAKER 2: Mr. Attitude himself.

**FRANCISCO
SANCHEZ:** Well, they were calling him Oh Simon bin Laden.

SPEAKER 2: Yeah.

[LAUGHTER]

Simon. Mr. Oh Simon.

**FRANCISCO
SANCHEZ:** Yeah, that boy is just rude.

SPEAKER 2: Really, him and that other British lady from that other game show.

**FRANCISCO
SANCHEZ:** Oh.

SPEAKER 2: *The Weakest Link.*

FRANCISCO *Weakest Link.*

SANCHEZ:

SPEAKER 2: Yeah, those two ought to team up. I tell you what. You talk about a cat fight.

FRANCISCO There's something about British people. I think it's the whole culture over there.

SANCHEZ:

SPEAKER 2: It must be.

FRANCISCO And I was-- and I keep thinking that I was in New York. And not in New York. When I was well-- yeah, when I was
SANCHEZ: in New York last year. But when I went to DC in my last trip, there's such an incredible difference between people that are raised here in the South than people that are on the East Coast. Just, there's an inherent-- we're politer. We're much nicer to people. We're much more respectful.

SPEAKER 2: Laid back, easy.

FRANCISCO Laid back. Whereas, in DC, it's entirely different. And New York is even much worse.

SANCHEZ:

SPEAKER 2: Oh.

FRANCISCO I think the further Northeast you go.

SANCHEZ:

SPEAKER 2: Oh. Terrible.

FRANCISCO Well, you were raised in New York.

SANCHEZ:

SPEAKER 2: Yeah, so--

FRANCISCO How did you adjust when you moved down?

SANCHEZ:

SPEAKER 2: How did I adjust when I got here? Well, I didn't come to Houston directly from New York. I left New York and went to LA for 11 and 1/2 years. Then I came out here. But when I came out here, it's definitely-- the South is definitely different than the West Coast. And how did I adjust? Very easily and very quickly. Let's put it that way. It was very wonderful to be able to find people that were not so high-strung and wound up.

And just, really, in Washington, DC and New York, people are so high-strung. They're rude. They walk fast. They do fast. They talk fast.

And that old cliché term, faster than a New York minute, the term did not come about by accident. Everything is fast in New York. New York City, it is just zip, zip, zip, zip, zip. And down here, people take their time to slow down and smell the roses, so to speak.

[LAUGHTER]

FRANCISCO Or tie you up with a traffic light, one of the two.

SANCHEZ:

SPEAKER 2: One of the two. And it was really quite refreshing. And I've enjoyed every second of it. And I haven't had any plans to move.

FRANCISCO How did you like LA compared to New York?

SANCHEZ:

SPEAKER 2: Compared to New York, I liked LA quite a bit because it wasn't so hypocritical when I was out there, when I started out there. It was more open, more freer. It's funny. Gay rights had just started, was just in its infancy in New York City when I left there. But when I got to LA, it was like, it was already there.

In fact, San Francisco had not become the gay mecca at the time when I arrived in LA. And everybody used to call LA Gay LA. And it definitely was. And LA was definitely a very fun place. And it was peace, and love, and the whole hippie movement, and all that stuff.

And whereas, New York, even though there was-- you had your parks and all this other stuff out there, and you had your village-- and the village is more than just the gay section. The whole Greenwich Village thing was very peace, and love, and flower child, and all that. They're very hippie.

[LAUGHTER]

FRANCISCO Tell me about the clubs in New York.

SANCHEZ:

SPEAKER 2: Well, when I went to New York, when I lived in New York, the gay clubs were speakeasies for the most part. And even though I left in 1970, a year after Stonewall, the clubs were still pretty much built up on a speakeasy-type way. They were still pretty suspicious of everything.

And even though gay rights were just starting off, we were still having raids from the police. And we were getting backlashes at the time. And you had a number of clubs, I can think of the Gaiety Theater, where they had actual live sex shows on stage, gay sex shows, just like watching a porno video. Instead of it being in a VCR or in a little movie house, it was right there up on stage.

[LAUGHTER]

That's the way it was. No, I was talking to-- he was asking me about what the clubs were like back in the days when I was out there.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

SPEAKER 2: And I was telling him about the Gaiety Theater.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yeah.

SPEAKER 2: And they had live sex shows. There really was live sex shows back in those days.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

SPEAKER 2: Instead of getting a porno video, you could go to one of those things.

JIMMY CARPER: That's right. That's right.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

SPEAKER 2: And the straight folks had their own off Broadway.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, I've been to the Gaiety as early-- as late as seven or eight years ago and--

FRANCISCO See, in my generation, we get stuck with VCRs to have to do that.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, see?

[LAUGHTER]

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

JIMMY CARPER: But it's a creepy place. But the guys are there. And they're just all erect and happy to see you.

[LAUGHTER]

CHRIS: [INAUDIBLE] on the Gaiety late late.

JIMMY CARPER: What?

CHRIS: I've seen actual reviews on the Gaiety.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, really?

CHRIS: And--

JIMMY CARPER: They're still open?

CHRIS: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: Wow.

SPEAKER 2: Wow.

FRANCISCO Where is this?

SANCHEZ:

CHRIS: The last time, I saw--

JIMMY CARPER: Certainly, not in the original location because Disney bought that.

CHRIS: I'm not--

FRANCISCO [INAUDIBLE]

SANCHEZ:

CHRIS: I'm not sure where it is. But like I said, I have seen reviews. And I think some of the last ones that I saw were not stellar reviews for that location.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, I also remember the Apollo Theater.

SPEAKER 2: Well, can-- oh, yes.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

SPEAKER 2: But you know what, though?

JIMMY CARPER: Not the one in Harlem.

[LAUGHTER]

SPEAKER 2: But, Chris, the not so stellar reviews, I would actually give that-- I would actually chalk that up to that the Gaiety Theater, even if it's had a different location, has not changed its format.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, no.

SPEAKER 2: Back in the '60s, when I was out there, when I first started going to gay clubs, and I hate saying it, but it's the truth, my very first gay club I ever went to, a Catholic priest brought me to it.

[LAUGHTER]

But we're not going to go there, folks. We're not going to go there.

JIMMY CARPER: Boy, we can.

SPEAKER 2: We're not going to go there, I promise you.

[LAUGHTER]

But I can tell you that the Gaiety Theater and the Apollo Theater, not the one in Harlem.

CHRIS: No.

SPEAKER 2: But the Apollo.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

SPEAKER 2: And the Gaiety Theater were really something in its day.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yeah, there was--

SPEAKER 2: And they did not change one iota.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah. No.

SPEAKER 2: And that's the thing about being stagnant. Whether it's a radio show, or anything in entertainment, or anything in life, if you are stagnant, you go backwards. And I think that's probably why it didn't get such stellar reviews because they haven't changed. They haven't advanced. They didn't move forward and updated their stuff. And they might be stuck in the--

[COUGHING]

Excuse me. They might be stuck in the old venue-type ways. And that's not going to cut it any longer.

FRANCISCO SANCHEZ: Yeah, change is a good thing. One thing that surprised me was the-- and unfortunately, they're not airing it in the US. But the puppet, Sesame Street puppet that's HIV positive.

SPEAKER 2: Oh, yes. And we can thank the religious reich for really kicking up a storm about that, as if young people are not exposed to this, to mommy, or daddy, or sister, or brother, or somebody being sick with HIV.

FRANCISCO SANCHEZ: Yeah.

SPEAKER 2: And again, censorship just does not work, ever. The only thing that it ever does is make things worse.

FRANCISCO SANCHEZ: And so I'm just surprised that they're going to be, actually, in South Africa. Or actually, if there's any country that they need to have a puppet, it's in South Africa. But I'm very surprised that it wasn't airing here, and especially when they got Bert and Ernie, who've been together for how long?

[LAUGHTER]

SPEAKER 2: Ain't that the truth.

FRANCISCO SANCHEZ: Because there's something wrong when two males, puppets or not, have been living in the same household for how many years now?

[LAUGHTER]

But--

SPEAKER 2: Well, we have Tinky Winky still running around with his little red purse, or purple purse, or whatever color it is.

FRANCISCO SANCHEZ: But in terms of media, I did want to touch about a couple of things. First, we'll take a little music break here in a second. But I wanted to talk about a couple of things, one of them being some of the comments made by-- and I left my notes at home. But by, he was the former movie executive that was just--

SPEAKER 2: Are you talking about--

FRANCISCO SANCHEZ: --left his job. And he blamed the so-called gay mafia in Hollywood.

SPEAKER 2: Oh, god. Oh.

FRANCISCO SANCHEZ: But we'll find out in a second. I left my notes at home. And I'll see if I can-- between Roy and I, I think we'll be able to figure it out. So let's take a little break with Son by Four. And I wanted to bring them up because I think this album is up for a Latin Grammy that's coming up. So we'll hear two songs from them. One is [SPEAKING SPANISH] and "Sophia." And we'll go ahead and listen to those.

SPEAKER 2: Hey, Jimmy.

FRANCISCO Well--

SANCHEZ:

[LAUGHTER]

SPEAKER 2: This is live radio, folks.

[LAUGHTER]

And our producer is--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

FRANCISCO Yeah.

SANCHEZ:

SPEAKER 2: --busy right now.

FRANCISCO So but--

SANCHEZ:

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

FRANCISCO There you go.

SANCHEZ:

SPEAKER 2: Yeah, hello.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: Yes?

FRANCISCO So here we go. Son by Four with [SPEAKING SPANISH] and "Sophia."

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: And you're listening to it on *After Hours*, queer radio with attitude, on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station.