

JIMMY CARPER: What?

MODERATOR: Country singer Trace Adkins, Penelope Ann Miller, Patrick Dempsey, Keith Coogan, and Nicole Eggert.

JIMMY CARPER: I don't even know half of those people.

SARAH No, I don't either. But you share their birthday.

DEPALMA:

JIMMY CARPER: What do you know--

MODERATOR: I know the younger half of it. I mean, Keith Coogan's-- he was on the outside of the Brat Pack kind of thing. Nicole Eggert was one of the jigglyies on *Baywatch*, the original *Baywatch*.

SARAH Who was a jiggly.

DEPALMA:

MODERATOR: Who was a jiggly. Oh, my goodness.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, my gosh.

SARAH I think-- I actually think-- on my birthday, I was born the same day as Henry David Thoreau, Winston Churchill,

DEPALMA: and PT Barnum.

MODERATOR: What a combination.

JIMMY CARPER: What a combo.

SARAH And I thought, God, how-- what a mix. How did I get stuck with that?

DEPALMA:

MODERATOR: Crystal Gayle, Joan Baez, and Richard Milhous Nixon. I am not a crook.

JIMMY CARPER: That's right. You just had your birthday on the ninth.

MODERATOR: Yes. That people need to know if their president is crook, and I am not a crook.

Well, I keep telling everybody that-- because see, Elvis is the day before mine. And I keep telling people said that everyone told my mom. She needs to push harder, push harder. You want to be born on the King's birthday, not tricky dickies. She didn't push hard enough.

JIMMY CARPER: She didn't push hard enough. Did you get the e-card I sent?

MODERATOR: It never-- I never was able to access it.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh. Oh, tacky.

MODERATOR: I went to the link and it wouldn't-- it said it wasn't available. It must been real dirty.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, it was.

[LAUGHTER]

SARAH OK, sure.

DEPALMA:

JIMMY CARPER: OK. It's time to go.

SARAH On that note-- on that note, we're going to end the show as we always do--

DEPALMA:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

SARAH When decorum becomes repression, the only dignity that free people have is to speak out. Goodnight folks.

DEPALMA:

JIMMY CARPER: Goodnight.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

MODERATOR: Hey, Chris.

SARAH Well, this is Sarah, and I am back for Jimmy, who had to leave for just a moment. And that's a wonderful piece of

DEPALMA: music. I'm trying to find out exactly who Jimmy left it for, but that's perfectly OK. I'm sorry. Go ahead.

MODERATOR: Are you ready to go?

SARAH Yeah.

DEPALMA:

[MUSIC PLAYING]

April 1, 1987. My friend Mike died, passed on, went somewhere else. I don't see him anymore. He left no arms, no legs left to walk beside me, passed dogs, concrete, and trees. Why did he leave me? I wanted your smile the way you touched your hair, that glimmer in your eye. I wanted you in whole body. I wanted you not to die.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

April the 11th, 1987. Passing through the pain, missing you, I keep hoping that you will walk in and tell me about a great new song, or maybe we'll talk about the international politics of AIDS, the killings of gay men while they're murderers walk free. We were from the same class. We were gentle together, but you had to go, leave, pass on. You just died.

I wanted to be with you, work with you, have one last good time. But you didn't stay. You left, passed, and died. I take your death one day at a time. I think dying is like reading a book. It will end. The pain will end. And the joy of it all will become clear. We will remember your love. The beauty of your spirit, the lessons of how to live, your humanity, your quest for life. After the pain, the last page in the book, we will all know what you have left.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Your friend, Hitaji. April the 11th, 1987, 2:30 AM.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

JIMMY CARPER: When after I was first started, Buddy Johnston made that with Hitaji as--

[MUSIC PLAYING]

--oops, with Hitaji Abdul Aziz. She was a former programmer here at KPFT, and one that certainly would be welcome back. She was talking about Mike [? Meesh ?], who was one of the first people to actually die on air. He did Wilde 'N Stein. And as he sank into dementia, they thought it would be fitting and a good idea to have that on the air, show people what AIDS was doing to the community.

I didn't mean to just throw that in there on you, but I haven't played that in a long time. And I thought with the new dawning of KPFT, that it might be a good idea to do so. And on the other side, I've got a little announcement here that-- she's been there, she's done that, and she's got the t-shirts.

Unhinged Productions and the Texas Triangle presents the *Dyke Show with Nancy Ford*. It's an improvisational of one woman, 20-year history, told in story song and 100% cotton. It's Saturdays through February the second, and it's 10:30 PM at Unhinged Productions. It's 3304 Le Branch at Elgin. She's doing a show right after whatever they're doing over there.

Well, it doesn't say what the play is, that just 10:30. Go see Nancy, because this is really an incredible thing. She's got a duffel bag full of old gay t-shirts from Pride events, and from women's stuff 10, 20 years ago. And what she does for her show is, she goes to somebody in the audience and asks them to just dig in and grab one out. And she does comedy and music from that era. It's kind of an interesting show. So--

FRANCISCO I'd like to see her and Ray Hill do something together. That would be interesting.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, no kidding, wouldn't it? Gosh, but would go on for three days.

[LAUGHTER]

TERRENCE That's just Ray Hill's part.

ONEILL:

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: Woo-hoo! Ouch. Ouch. Ouch.

FRANCISCO You know, he's listening.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

TERRENCE Sorry, Ray.

ONEILL:

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: And that you hear is Francisco Sanchez.

FRANCISCO Hello.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: And Terence O'Neil.

TERRENCE Hi.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: And Sarah's leaving. Bye honey. Thank you.

FRANCISCO No, I want to ask him a question.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, please.

MODERATOR: Sure.

SARAH Hey, Francisco. How are you?

DEPALMA:

FRANCISCO Pretty good. How are you?

SANCHEZ:

SARAH Pretty good. I wanted to talk to you. I thought you'd enjoyed this. I got a phone call today from the Republican

DEPALMA: National party.

FRANCISCO Oh, wow.

SANCHEZ:

SARAH Which is like, I'm really the wrong person to be asking.

DEPALMA:

JIMMY CARPER: No, kidding.

SARAH And so, he wanted to know if I was willing to take a phone survey with him, and I thought, sure. This ought to be

DEPALMA: fun.

FRANCISCO Oh, I always say yes when I get those calls.

SANCHEZ:

SARAH Oh, yeah.

DEPALMA:

FRANCISCO I like to screw their-- a little curve.

SANCHEZ:

SARAH Yeah, so his first question was, what did I consider myself to be pro-life or pro-choice? And I said, why are they mutually exclusive? Why wouldn't you be pro-choices in life?

TERRENCE Long boys.

ONEILL:

[LAUGHTER]

SARAH And the guy says, well, that answer's not on our survey. And I said, well, then I think your survey is worth very

DEPALMA: much it.

[LAUGHTER]

And he says-- well, he says, well, do you feel that we should put more emphasis on the economy or on the military? And I said, well, I'm unemployed, so I would say the economy. And he says, well, he said, do you feel the military is important? I said, only if it helps the economy.

[LAUGHTER]

But this time, this guy has got the idea that he's not going to get any serious answers.

FRANCISCO Right.

SANCHEZ:

[LAUGHTER]

SARAH But I have to tell you, I had more fun doing that survey.

DEPALMA:

FRANCISCO The service is hilarious.

SANCHEZ:

SARAH They didn't have any place to put answers like that.

DEPALMA:

FRANCISCO I used to give him usually I give him one way right wing answer that a very left wing answer, and then it freaks them out. And they just don't know what-- but somehow, I ended up on their list. And so I don't-- I don't know if they go through contributions or what, but you'll just get a call out of the blue from these people at doing a survey.

SARAH How would I get on their poll? I've never voted Republican in my entire life.

DEPALMA:

FRANCISCO I don't know.

SANCHEZ:

SARAH I only voted for one and one Republican in my total career. So I can't imagine how I ended up on their poll list.

DEPALMA:

FRANCISCO Well, they're Nazis. They would know that, and they think [INAUDIBLE] for you.

SANCHEZ:

SARAH Well maybe they thought they would cure my right wing or something, right?

DEPALMA:

FRANCISCO Yeah. [INAUDIBLE].

SANCHEZ:

SARAH Anyway, I just thought I'd share that with you.

DEPALMA:

FRANCISCO I don't know how I got-- listen, but-- you'll probably get more of those calls, but they're hilarious to mess around

SANCHEZ: with because they have no idea. I'm sure they can just fill in the same answer for everyone they call. That's actually on the Republican lists.

SARAH Oh, I think so. They're a bunch of Nazis. But it's just-- it was so funny because it was obvious that they had not

DEPALMA: run into somebody like me and didn't know what to do with the answer. And I kept waiting for them to get down to asking what the homosexuals, but he gave up before you ever got that far.

FRANCISCO It would have been great for you if they got down to the demographics part-- are you male, female? Between

SANCHEZ: what age?

JIMMY CARPER: Oh.

FRANCISCO It's like, yes. It's like, before what year?

SANCHEZ:

[LAUGHTER]

By birth or?

SARAH Well, are you male or female? Yes. And next.

DEPALMA:

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, no kidding.

SARAH I just wanted to share that with you. I thought you'd get a kick out of that.

DEPALMA:

FRANCISCO That's funny. Thanks, Sarah.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: OK, before we get into it, I wanted to mention very briefly the music that we heard between Sarah and between Francisco. The last song you heard was called *Wig in a Box*. It's from *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*. Before that, the late great Dusty Springfield with *Home to Myself*. That's off of her ABC Dunhill collection.

Hello.

FRANCISCO How are you?

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Fine. How are you doing?

FRANCISCO Fighting a cough, but I'm here.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, yeah, me too since Christmas Eve.

FRANCISCO [COUGHS]

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, you really are fighting it, aren't you?

FRANCISCO I'm fine until I start talking, so.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: This is radio.

FRANCISCO I know.

SANCHEZ:

[LAUGHTER]

No, I can't talk, Russell [INAUDIBLE] can't hear. I don't see [INAUDIBLE].

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: You have a guest.

FRANCISCO Yes, Terrence O'Neill is our co-host for today.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

FRANCISCO For folks that don't know Sandy has left us for Tennessee.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Now, OK, we need to-- there is a lovelorn man behind bars who is madly in love with Miss Sandy Lopez.

FRANCISCO Yes.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: And we have to let him down gently because she has moved.

FRANCISCO That's my understanding.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

FRANCISCO So, but we're tracking them down. We still have those letters he sent to Sandy, and I'm trying to get a
SANCHEZ: permanent mailing address for him so that he gets it, so.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, OK.

FRANCISCO So those letters will be en route to Sandy in Tennessee.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: OK. This man is serious. And you know, he's madly in love.

FRANCISCO Sending a love letter and a Christmas card, all kinds of stuff.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, yeah, yeah. And he deserted us.

FRANCISCO Yeah, I just-- I live all blue, and so now you're stuck with me.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Well, that's not so bad. I mean, you know. Gosh. Yes.

[LAUGHTER]

Are you permanent or is just for tonight?

TERRENCE It's just for tonight. Once Sandy will get over--

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Sandy moved. Sandy isn't coming back.

FRANCISCO Permanently in Tennessee?

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

FRANCISCO Well, by choice.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: So, I guess you two haven't discussed this.

FRANCISCO No.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

FRANCISCO Right now, it's just for tonight until you change the hours.

SANCHEZ:

[LAUGHTER]

TERRENCE Yeah, that'll happen.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, right. That's not going to happen. OK, you're never up this late. Is that what you're saying?

FRANCISCO I am, but--

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: But you're usually--

FRANCISCO Not sober.

SANCHEZ:

[LAUGHTER]

Those microphone thing in front of my face kind of looks familiar.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah

[LAUGHTER]

TERRENCE That's a little later than the present time.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, OK.

FRANCISCO It's too early for that.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

[LAUGHTER]

FRANCISCO But it's always nice to be back. I will say, it's been about a year since the last time I was here.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: It's been about a year.

FRANCISCO Yeah. You guys got a good remodeling job here too. The office looks very nice.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, and we're in the middle--

FRANCISCO Including remodeling the general manager.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes. We're in the middle of major management changes here. The Pacifica board has changed totally, and they're going back to the old kind of Pacifica programming. So there'll be less music during the day, and a whole lot more local shows, new shows, calling shows, talk shows. What have you? Good? And there's a very, very good possibility that the general manager will be Jack Falinski.

FRANCISCO Oh, wow. Interesting.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, yes. There are four people in line, and he is, by far, the number one choice.

FRANCISCO Now, I thought he was the executive director of Pride?

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: He resigned.

FRANCISCO He resigned?

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

FRANCISCO Well--

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes. Kenneth Donnelly is now the executive director of Pride.

FRANCISCO OK, good.

SANCHEZ:

TERRENCE I was wondering about that.

ONEILL:

FRANCISCO So it'll pick that up.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah. So, what have you been doing? I mean, no, the last time you were here, I'll tell you when the last time you were here. It was-- you did a Christmas show.

TERRENCE You're right. It was about two, maybe two Christmases ago?

ONEILL:

FRANCISCO Yes, we were reading.

SANCHEZ:

TERRENCE That's it?

ONEILL:

FRANCISCO Yeah.

SANCHEZ:

TERRENCE Did you come back after that?

ONEILL:

FRANCISCO No.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: No? I don't think so.

FRANCISCO No, I didn't. No, no, no. You're right. Two Christmases ago.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

FRANCISCO And we were talking about Hispanic Christmases.

SANCHEZ:

TERRENCE Yeah, and we're playing music.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: There was some wonderful show. Yes.

FRANCISCO It was a very good show. And yeah--

SANCHEZ:

TERRENCE I can't believe it's been that long.

ONEILL:

FRANCISCO We're reading from some--

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: That's right because you too had totally different backgrounds when it came to Christmas traditions. It's very different.

FRANCISCO Yeah.

SANCHEZ:

TERRENCE Yeah. I don't think we talked about mass, Christmas mass and some of the things we did together, which I don't

ONEILL: think I've done though, for two years now.

FRANCISCO Yeah.

SANCHEZ:

TERRENCE The Protestant side of me has grabbed ahold of me.

ONEILL:

FRANCISCO Yes. The tradition is, me and Terrence will go with me to Christmas mass. Now, the tradition is he doesn't, so.

SANCHEZ:

[LAUGHTER]

Or win again this year at St. Anne's, and it was very nice. It was busier than usual. Usually, you have to get there by like, 11 or a little earlier to get a seat. But this year, there was more people. I don't know if it had to do with September 11, and people going to church more--

TERRENCE This [INAUDIBLE] just get so religious as they age. I don't know.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: No, they just like the pomp and circumstance.

TERRENCE The pageantry.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

[LAUGHTER]

FRANCISCO The robes, and the incense, music, and so. But Ross Allen was missing this year.

SANCHEZ:

TERRENCE Really? I'm surprised.

ONEILL:

FRANCISCO I did not see him, so. Ross is always the usher extraordinaire, the head usher at St. Anne's.

SANCHEZ:

TERRENCE And actually, I think their 5:00 mass on Sunday is supposed to be gay, right?

ONEILL:

FRANCISCO Supposedly, yeah. Well actually, every mass I've gone to seems to be gay. 5:00, 6:00, 7:00.

SANCHEZ:

TERRENCE But the only place you go in there is a--

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: I'm sure that's 5:00 in the afternoon.

FRANCISCO Yeah.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: That's the accurate brunch mass, isn't it?

FRANCISCO Oh, it is. And then after the 5:00, you walk at Cafe W, walk to St. Anne's. And when the mass is over, walk back to

SANCHEZ: Cafe W.

TERRENCE It's perfect.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: So I have a few more refreshing beverages--

TERRENCE Exactly.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: -- until you're really refreshed.

[LAUGHTER]

TERRENCE That's it. That's great. They go to pray to one god. And after--

ONEILL:

FRANCISCO There you go.

SANCHEZ:

TERRENCE After they go to the other, they pray to the porcelain god. But then--

ONEILL:

[LAUGHTER]

FRANCISCO And so I--

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: So why did you drag him in here?

FRANCISCO Well, he's going to talk to us about his Mexico City trip in a little bit.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, OK.

FRANCISCO But actually, I think some drag queens were supposed to talk, and they decided to do something else. And--

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, so he grab you up at the last minute.

[LAUGHTER]

He has this-- he has a lot of trouble with drag queens, getting them, and hasn't ever been able to get any drag queens.

FRANCISCO It's never worked out.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: I know. I don't get it.

FRANCISCO I don't know if it's the time slot, if it's just them in general, or--

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: It's Saturday night. They're in full face, and they don't want to waste it.

FRANCISCO Exactly.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: You know, and if it was television, maybe--

TERRENCE Oh, they'd be here.

ONEILL:

FRANCISCO But Terrence will go talk to us about his Mexico City trip a little bit. Then after that, we're going to go through

SANCHEZ: some tips on finding a roommate or how to find the right roommate.

TERRENCE So I'll be taking notes.

ONEILL:

FRANCISCO And Terrence will be taking notes because he's looking for a roommate.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh.

TERRENCE I already lost two this week, so.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: This week?

FRANCISCO Keep your fingers crossed.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: This week?

TERRENCE Roommates are so hard to find.

ONEILL:

FRANCISCO And it's all in two bedroom, so.

SANCHEZ:

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: They're just-- what? Do you have a turnstile at the door there? What? Like, come and go.

MODERATOR: Burying them under the building? What do you do?

TERRENCE I wish, actually. That'd be a good idea.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh.

FRANCISCO We need to talk after the show. But I can just imagine some of the roommate horror stories that are out there.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

FRANCISCO I don't know, but we'll be back after that, and we'll talk about Terence took a trip to Mexico City and saw some of

SANCHEZ: the gay and lesbian nightlife there. So he's going to come and share that with us.

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

FRANCISCO So right now, we have some music from the Gipsy Kings. We got two songs. First one *Tu Quieres Volver*, and the

SANCHEZ: next one is *Un Amor*.

JIMMY CARPER: And you're listening to it on *After Hours*, Queer Radio with Attitude on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Ah, yes. That was?

FRANCISCO The Gipsy Kings.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: And two songs from them?

FRANCISCO *Tu Quieres Volver*, and *Un Amor*.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: OK, I think the Gipsy Kings do get some airplay during the day around here.

FRANCISCO Oh, do they?

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, because it's the name is not unheard to me.

FRANCISCO Yeah, they're a great group.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: And this is from the very best stuff.

FRANCISCO Yeah.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: That's the two-CD set.

FRANCISCO Yeah, the other one is out missing in action somewhere. so

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, I noticed--

FRANCISCO So someone borrowed it.

SANCHEZ:

[LAUGHTER]

Speaking of roommates.

[LAUGHTER]

TERRENCE Uh-oh.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Oops.

TERRENCE Uh-oh.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: OK. So--

TERRENCE But that's an excellent CD.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, we're almost on schedule here.

FRANCISCO Oh, I know. We actually have an outline and everything.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, and so it says, 2:05 to 2:25, Mexico City.

FRANCISCO Yes, it's a very quick flight, and we'll be back. And just a--

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: You know, I have not been to Mexico City since the '70s. So I imagine it's like, way different.

FRANCISCO It has changed.

SANCHEZ:

TERRENCE Back when you were young.

ONEILL:

FRANCISCO Terence went in November?

SANCHEZ:

TERRENCE It was last--

ONEILL:

FRANCISCO October.

SANCHEZ:

TERRENCE Last part of November, and the first part of October as well. Yeah, actually you are asking--

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: You had family or you visited, or?

TERRENCE No, you-- I didn't answer your question. You were asking me what I was doing then.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

TERRENCE Right now, I'm working at an office. I'm the Director of Education and Operations. And we have an outreach

ONEILL: program to the Hispanic community that tries to go and acculturate some of these people, undocumented folks that come into the country that are faced with a new culture, how to deal with those issues. Of course, HIV AIDS, parenting, just a host of issues. The Mexican government has taken, in the past few years, has taken an interest.

JIMMY CARPER: Finally.

TERRENCE Yeah, it's about time, in the health and well-being of their citizens who came over here illegally in this country. As a result of that, they sponsored a conference in Mexico City called-- gosh, I can't think of it.

FRANCISCO It's called "the Free Trip to Mexico City."

SANCHEZ:

TERRENCE A free trip to Mexico City.

ONEILL:

[LAUGHTER]

I love radio.

JIMMY CARPER: Especially at 2:08 in the AM. Yes.

TERRENCE Yes, it makes it very interesting. A free trip to Mexico City.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: I see.

TERRENCE No, actually, we went down there was host of the Mexican government, and they're equivalent of the State

ONEILL: Department of the United States-- of the US government who hosted this event. And so they treated us. I mean, like delegates.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, that's pretty high up there.

TERRENCE Yeah, it was extraordinary. But what was more extraordinary with some of the issues that we discussed. Some of

ONEILL: the things that we had in common, and it also-- we bash a lot of the Republicans and the Conservatives, and they have this country backwards, but they keep holding us back. But it was amazing, when we went down there, how far ahead we were with many issues.

One of the things-- if you could imagine like being at the United Nations at one of these conference tables with all of these flags.

JIMMY CARPER: Really?

TERRENCE That was the very same setting that we were in.

ONEILL:

FRANCISCO Wow.

SANCHEZ:

TERRENCE And we start talking about gay and lesbian issues, and domestic abuse, and so forth. When we talked about the

ONEILL: issue of gay and lesbians, it was interesting because they all seem to fall into that stereotype that gays or accepted gays are the effeminate drag.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

TERRENCE There's this campy that is an accepted gay male. And they could not-- they just didn't understand the concept of

ONEILL: a gay man that is butch or a man that look straight, sounds straight, talk straight, and loves to have sex with other guys. Even though based on my experience, it seems that like 90% of the guys down there fall into that category. So somehow, this little minority controls is like, power over all of these people.

But we went down there and they had this concept that it was very antiquated about what gay people were. Another thing actually that was very shocking was they called people with AIDS, sidosos, which in Spanish, it's almost like, I would say the equivalent of what we would call lepers. They were lepers. And a lot of people who were Mexican-American, Puerto Rican, Hispanics, Hispanic-Americans that were down there were very much offended by what they heard.

And that was the opportunity for them down there to take notes and say, no, you need to be a little more sensitive about the way you communicate, the type of words you use, and change some of those stereotypes.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, try anyway. I mean, you're talking about changing the fabric of a society, and it just doesn't come overnight.

TERRENCE ONEILL: No, it doesn't. And what was interesting I think, about this trip is as my own culture. I'm Mexican-American. My mother is from Mexico. She is from Monterrey, Mexico, so she is very clear about that. And she makes the point of saying you know, I'm not from Mexico City.

In fact, it was very interesting the people in Monterrey, which for those of you who may not geographically, Mexico City is in the South of Mexico, and Monterrey is in the North. Both are very large cities-- Mexico City being the capital, and Monterrey being the industrial city, sort of like Houston. And the people in Monterrey took out an ad that said, "be patriotic to Mexico, kill a chilango," which is the equivalent of a Mexico City Mexican.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh.

TERRENCE ONEILL: Kind of like a Yankee saying kill all Southerners. And that's the hatred in a way that some of these Northerners or people surrounding Mexico City have towards people in the "de F," as we would say.

JIMMY CARPER: Sort of like, Dallas and Houston.

TERRENCE Absolutely. Absolutely.

ONEILL:

FRANCISCO Yeah, but Dallas deserves it.

SANCHEZ:

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, see? See?

TERRENCE Oh, here we go. Starting to get mad.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Of course, I agree with you on that.

[LAUGHTER]

TERRENCE ONEILL: It was just extraordinary, I'll tell you, going down there. Well, I think you would agree because I'm sure it hasn't really changed that much since you were there. One thing that has changed is now, you can criticize the president for example. And you can say things about the government that probably in the '70s, you weren't allowed to do.

But going down there, it just broke all of my stereotypes that I had. Being Mexican-American, I still grew up with all of these stereotypes about who, what Hispanics were. And I expected to see a third world country or an underdeveloped country, and that wasn't the case at all. It was amazing. Mexico, when we arrived, became the 10th wealthiest country in the world.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, I didn't know that.

TERRENCE It was pretty amazing actually.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: I did not know that.

TERRENCE The distribution of wealth is a whole different category.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, that's true.

TERRENCE And that's a whole different radio show that I'm sure, someone else will bring up. But going down there, it was

ONEILL: truly a very cosmopolitan city. The gay life, which I think is what you measure all cities, if they are truly cosmopolitan, it is the way they treat their gay people. It's the gay people that they have--

JIMMY CARPER: That's right.

TERRENCE -- that determines it, doesn't it?

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

TERRENCE And I'll tell you, when I came back, Houston, Dallas, Texas is the most cosmopolitan city so to say, I think, paled

ONEILL: in comparison.

JIMMY CARPER: Really? Really? So there's a large gay life?

TERRENCE Humongous gay life.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Wow.

TERRENCE It was just-- it was amazing.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: How many millions of people are in New Mexico City?

TERRENCE There are 25 million people in Mexico City.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: That is a lot of people.

TERRENCE It's amazing. It is absolutely amazing.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: So I mean, 25 million people, you're talking at least 2 and 1/2 million--

FRANCISCO Homosexuals.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

FRANCISCO Almost the city of Houston.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

TERRENCE It's a lot of queens.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: It certainly is.

TERRENCE It's a lot of sex.

ONEILL:

[LAUGHTER]

FRANCISCO And how long is the flight down there again?

SANCHEZ:

[LAUGHTER]

TERRENCE That's a whole other radio show as well. It was amazing going down to the Zona Rosa, which is that's sort of the--

ONEILL:

FRANCISCO Red light district?

SANCHEZ:

TERRENCE The red light district--

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: No.

TERRENCE Well, actually the--

ONEILL:

[LAUGHTER]

You got me thinking about something else. That's sort of their fashion. All the stores--

JIMMY CARPER: Rodeo Drive.

TERRENCE The Rodeo Drive, which actually is no longer the case. President Masaryk Drive is actually the new Rodeo Drive.

ONEILL: But all the queens stayed in La Zona Rosa. And what's so amazing is you go down there, and I sort of miss this about Montrose. God, please someone's going to call me up and say, I heard you say this. Call me up the next day. I miss the cruisiness of Montrose.

For some reason, I think Montrose has lost that with all of the people-- I love straight people. We need them. But I think with all of them, they've moved into Montrose, we've lost, I think, that charm.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

FRANCISCO Yeah, I mean I used to live in Montrose. When was it? Gosh, years ago. I used to live on Whitney.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, my god. That's right here.

FRANCISCO Yeah, just down the street, and a little town home there. And I use-- not only just the cruising has gone, but just

SANCHEZ: the people walking by with their pink, spiked hair.

TERRENCE The vampire.

ONEILL:

FRANCISCO The vampire.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, that's right. It's becoming more Woodland. It's just--

FRANCISCO Yeah, suburban.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, friends with whatever. Yeah, very suburban actually. And we're losing that artistic edge that kind of-- like you said, the pink, spiked hair.

FRANCISCO Be very eclectic place.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: I like-- yes.

TERRENCE And when [INAUDIBLE] was going down to the Zona Rosa, you just start walking down the streets. Looks like
ONEILL: you're somewhere in Paris. I mean, it was amazing.

JIMMY CARPER: Really?

TERRENCE Beautiful buildings. Walking down the streets, and just seeing guys holding hands.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Really?

TERRENCE People kissing, getting cruised. I went with a friend of mine, Nixon Wheat. I told him I would recognize him on the
ONEILL: radio.

FRANCISCO Hey. He's as tall-- you know he's listening.

SANCHEZ:

TERRENCE You know he's listening. And he's a tall, blond man, and his--

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, my god.

TERRENCE I'm not going to say his age. And everyone kept calling him James Bond, because he looks like-- there's the
ONEILL: James Bond, James Bond. That's the new James Bond. And I said, if you're a James Bond, I'm pussy galore.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: Well, in some circles.

[LAUGHTER]

TERRENCE And I won't translate that in Spanish. But it was just a-- going down the both of us had just so much fun, just
ONEILL: interacting with the locals my people.

JIMMY CARPER: Because in the '70s, when I was with straight people, and so I did not have a chance to even try to check out the gay life. But I just loved Mexico City.

TERRENCE It was fabulous.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

TERRENCE It's fabulous.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Architecture alone.

FRANCISCO I would have loved to have gone down to the--
SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: And I climbed the Pyramid of the Moon.

TERRENCE You did?

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, I did. I couldn't do it today.

[LAUGHTER]

TERRENCE Well, so I only did the one of-- the Sun.
ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: That's the taller one.

TERRENCE Yeah, that was the only one I did. After I saw that, I thought, well, forget the moon.
ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Need that inhaler now to get up there?

TERRENCE Yeah, no kidding.
ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: But back-- I know you were going to say something.

TERRENCE No, go ahead.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: But back in the '70s, that was a drive out of Mexico City. Right now, it's probably part of it.

TERRENCE Yeah. It took 45 minutes, but what was so interesting was Mexico, it's like this perpetual overcast. It's so polluted.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

TERRENCE But the minute you go 30, maybe 20 minutes outside the city going to Teotihuacan, whereas where the pyramids

ONEILL: are located, all of a sudden, beautiful blue sky.

JIMMY CARPER: See, when I was there, it was like 8 to 10 million people.

TERRENCE Wow.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: And now, you're talking 25 million. So it's like-- I can't even imagine it.

TERRENCE Well, it's amazing because you can't take taxi cabs. They have these things called Express Kidnapping. And

ONEILL: they'll kidnap you for like four days, and keep forcing you to take money out of your ATM machine.

JIMMY CARPER: Are you kidding?

FRANCISCO Is that thing is you walk into it, get you walking into the cab.

SANCHEZ:

TERRENCE Yeah, it's extremely dangerous. So you have to go knowing somebody or know a taxi cab.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, or have a driver.

TERRENCE Or have a driver.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

TERRENCE And you just can't walk in certain areas at night. It's very dangerous.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: Wow.

TERRENCE But I would go again. In fact, I'd love to even live there for a few years. It was fascinating.

ONEILL:

JIMMY CARPER: I have some wonderful memories. We went to the Ballet Folklorico, and it was the first time I ever saw a stained glass curtain.