

HOST 1: And which brings us to Asians in France. Now--

HOST 2: What a segue.

HOST 1: It was great, wasn't it? I'm sure it infuriates somebody see because we got a phone call. Oh, good. Tell us about the editorial that you Truong and Vivian wrote in the new voice and then explain the reaction to it.

HOST 2: Oh, well. Basically, we wrote an article that was printed about two or three weeks ago, which commented in general about the lack or the apathy in the gay and lesbian Asian community in Houston. And we mentioned that the group *Asians and friends of Houston* had the potential of providing some type of guidance or some type of leadership, in terms of encouraging gay and lesbian Asians in Houston to play more active role in their communities, to be a little bit more visible, to be a little bit more verbal.

Just last week, we got a rebuttal by a self-appointed representative of the group, a non-Asian member of the group who obviously feels that he must speak for the other Asians in the group, that the group will never be a "political type of a group", but it remains a social-educational group, the educational part, which is debatable.

HOST 1: It's not debatable. I mean, I can see what he's saying and where he's coming from and don't look at me that way. I mean it is a social and an educational organization in that the idea is to teach white gay men how to more efficiently seduce Asian men. That's the whole point. The point is not to celebrate Asian culture or help Asian queers deal with whatever issues happen to be facing them, but to get Asian boys into bed, which is a goal of mine but I'm not just into Asian men at this point, and that was stupid.

HOST 2: Well, they do.

HOST 1: What I found interesting about the reaction that you've been getting not only from the things you've been saying on the radio show, but also that editorial is that it's all coming from white men who seem to be in control of the group. And any group that has, for example, Asians and friends or men of all colors together has a racial, I don't know, connotations to its name that is dominated by white men, is obviously not something that's in the interest of people of color. It's all about providing white men with a more efficient way of getting people of color into bed, and that's what I think Asians and France is.

HOST 2: All right. Well, that's our main concern that *Asians and Friends of Houston* is completely unable to provide a safe place for gay Asians who do not wish to be targets of racial fetishes. In some cases, the fetishes come just short of pedophilia, if you ask me, and we did pedophilia. You had a part in this?

HOST 3: Oh, yeah.

HOST 1: Well, so get up to the mic.

HOST 3: There might be a social group, but that doesn't justify for them to, that doesn't give them a reason for them to be so racist. I mean, you could be social in a club or in a movie or just with friends, but there's boundaries. I mean, it's a social group, yes, they don't have any political entitle or goals politically, but people are being racist and they're letting it happen. I mean, something has to be done.

HOST 2: And that's part of the problem. They don't have any political goals. If it existed to, I don't know, facilitate a better understanding between the straight Asian communities and queer Asian communities, that would be a good thing. If the idea was to build up community between Asian queer people, that would be a good thing. If it was to challenge the racism that exists in the white queer community, that would be a good thing.

But having parties and potluck dinners and the sudden the other it just seems useless to me. I don't see why white gay men need to go and put themselves in charge of a people of color organization when every organization that is queer well pretty much is dominated by white gay men.

HOST 3: Also like the Asians in the group perpetuate it and they just are very, I guess, passive, stereotypical, submissive Asians who just let things happen. All day, they will take care of everything and they just let them run everything. They don't speak up, if they feel uncomfortable they don't speak up, and just goes and goes and goes. It's perpetuating it and it's an endless cycle.

HOST 1: So what are you going to do to break the cycle?

HOST 3: I refused to be a part of it.

HOST 2: I mean, there's no reason to be a part of something that's so ridiculous and so offensive. Maybe that's why I haven't been to a meeting in a while because I don't want to be surrounded by rice queens.

HOST 3: I always just turned off. He also mentioned in the article how we haven't been to a "recent meeting," quote unquote. I mean, but we initially stopped going because we were so sick and disgusted and revolted by what was going on.

HOST 2: It's true that the group does sponsor an orphan in Vietnam who is I guess disadvantaged. I guess that is a certain level of activity,

HOST 1: There is Sally Struthers.

HOST 3: Yes.

HOST 2: Yeah, it is very Sally Struthers. I applaud Sally Struthers well when she was on TV in that sitcom. I'm too familiar with Asians and friends all around the country. I know a lot about the branches in Philadelphia, in Washington, DC, in Seattle, in San Francisco, in La, in New York City, in Boston, and they are all exactly the same. I guess this Houston group compared to those others is a little bit more active in that they do sponsor that orphan. On an activity level, I'm not sure if it would really read.

HOST 3: Even on a social level, I mean, they have a movie or a gathering but I haven't seen a movie that really incorporated Asian culture or educating the masses at all. I mean only thing I have seen about Asians for pornos.

HOST 1: I guess this means we can expect lots of angry calls from white Asian and friend members. I look forward to hearing from you Kurt, you too, John. I don't mean to be a bitch but we're going to switch politics at the moment. And since we don't have the lovely mood music, let's get trying to have-- OK, great, move music. OK, Paul. Now, we're going to talk to Paul, Paul's white, but still cool.

HOST 3: And he's a good guy.

HOST 1: We love Paul. Have a seat. What are you up to? What are you going to talk to us about?

PAUL: I'm just going to give you all a brief announcement. I'm doing Cuba solidarity work down here in an attempt to, there's nationally a movement to attempt to lift the US economic blockade of Cuba. We're going to be having a fundraiser down here. It's going to be this Saturday, which is April the 16th, starting at 7:00 at *Toad's on the Deck*, and *Toads on The Deck* is just above power tools at 709 Franklin.

And it's going to be a fundraiser to raise money to help out the Houston Cuba French shipment, the local organization down here who is working with other national groups to try to lift the economic blockade. This could be a number of bands - The Presidents, Constant Buzz, Art Cars, Ethnic Rain. It should be a good time. We're expecting a lot of people coming and it'll be a lot of fun.

HOST 1: Can you give us like a little brief history of the blockade, what the blockade is, what's its effect on Cuba, and a little bit more about what the French shipment does?

PAUL: The blockade has been in effect against Cuba for 30 years. It was instituted very close after the revolution occurred in the late '50s. And the blockade has always been there and the Cubans have pretty much, despite the blockade, prospered with their own economic policies and with trade with the Soviet Union and the Eastern Bloc states up until the early '90s when the Soviet Union the Eastern Bloc socialist states collapsed. At that point, they began to have some economic difficulties that they were working through.

But the number one thing that the United States has done over the past couple of years to really intensify their attacks on Cuba is to pass the Torricelli Act in 1992. And what the Torricelli Act did was to simply intensify the economic blockade. It prevented foreign-based US owned corporations from engaging in any kind of trade or dealings with Cuba. In other words, if there is an American company in Britain, that American company in Britain could not trade with Cuba.

Cuba immediately lost that source of trade. They're also preventing any ships with goods destined for Cuba from stopping at US ports, which prevents a lot of ships from going to Cuba. And then thirdly, the United States government declared that any country that was receiving US aid in the form of loans or grants could not give aid to Cuba. They couldn't give low interest, long term loans to Cuba.

And the effect of all of this as part of the Torricelli Bill has just been to really increase the economic crisis in Cuba. There are a lot of problems down there. And they're managing to work through them but we want to see the economic blockade lifted, we want to see trade allowed between Cuba and the United States.

What the Houston-Cuba friendship and has been doing, we've been working with a national group called *Pastors for Peace*. And *Pastors for Peace* and other groups in at least 120 US cities have sent three caravans over the past couple of years down to Cuba, we'll collect humanitarian aid, stuff like bibles and powdered milk and pencils and all that for basic needs of Cuban citizens. And we'll send it through Mexico to Cuba. We have to go through Mexico because there's no direct travel a lot of Cuba.

We just recently completed a third French shipment at the beginning of March. That was pretty successful with each French shipment we have gradually made stronger strides and gains in eliminating the blockade. And the first blockade they didn't allow, they really didn't want to allow anything across. They were pretty much assault, they assaulted a priest who was holding a Bible and walking across the border into Mexico. They didn't want to allow that. With the second French shipment, they attempted to prevent a school bus from going to Cuba.

In order to protest their prevention, some of the Cuba solidarity people staged a hunger strike on the bus and engaged in a hunger strike for about 20 days. And the US government file at the school bus across. With each French shipment, we're gaining more and more types of items that we can send to Cuba. On the third French shipment, which just occurred about a month ago, they didn't give us any hassle about school buses or medical supplies as they had in the past. There have been other breakthroughs. So we are gradually winning the battle.

The Houston-Cuba friendship and Buzz the bash blockade fundraiser this Saturday will be raising money to continue these efforts to obtain humanitarian aid down here in Houston and to send it to Cuba on the fourth French shipment which will occur this November.

HOST 1: If there's anyone who wants to get involved, do you have a contact number?

PAUL: Yes. You can call Houston-Cuba friendship at 524-4462.

HOST 1: Great. Thank you.

PAUL: Thank you.

HOST 1: And Truong, you really seem to be enjoying those pictures in Blue Boy?

HOST 2: They're very nice pictures.

HOST 1: OK, great photography is excellent. We need more theme music.

HOST 2: Yeah, theme music.

HOST 1: OK, great. We're going to have to go quickly through the other things that are happening right now, but he's cute isn't he?

HOST 2: Yes.

HOST 1: Very cute. And he's a Goldwater. What we're holding up is-- well, OK, what I'm holding up is POZ, the nude magazine for people who are HIV infected. And well, yeah, it's cool. It's the premiere issue. The April-May issue. I got it at Lobo. I think you probably also get it at Crossrookie stuff. But on the cover is a really cute Ty Ross and he's Barry Goldwater's grandson HIV positive, 32, single, and so on and so forth.

There's an article, an interview by Donna Mankiewicz, Barb Hattaway who's HIV-positive guy who is in the Clinton administration. And it's a really cool magazine and I think you should rush out and buy it because it's glossy and all that. This has no connection to that whatsoever.

Should I read all of this? OK, great. Michael still looking for a boyfriend, he's 24, from California, an artist, well dressed and really cool. So the number is 526-5738-526 KPFT. But what I'm holding in my hands now is Holly Tit Clamped, the new issue, issue number 13. There was this article or this essay editorial thing on "typecasting." Well, it's called "Typecasting." And it's about how gay men seem to have a very narrow range of men that they find physically attractive.

HOST 2: Which has nothing to do with Michael.

HOST 1: No, because Michael is very attractive. He's beautiful.

HOST 2: He's very attractive, very beautiful.

HOST 1: I mean, even the lesbians agree that Michael is attractive. So call us.

HOST 4: Any time now.

HOST 1: I've got to read this editorial, and it's called "Typecasting". Most gay men have a very narrow range of men they find physically attractive sit around with some queen, their head swiveling like a turret gun as they point out the muscle blond men walking down the street clad in gym shorts and tank tops as everyone points at Truong.

When I'm subjected to these people's commentaries, I wonder if they think, "Shouldn't it be obvious if they met my boyfriend that my tastes are not as narrow as theirs?" As an exercise, gay man should try to look at all men and discover their attractive qualities, objectifying men is no sin. Engage in a little fantasy with that short pudgy balding man at the bus stop turn into a hungry dynamo in bed eager to greedily suck blank.

Look at a Jim Bott by contrast. Nothing is left to the imagination. It's all too clear that the vanity renders them as unappealing as the shifty odor of a Narcissists. He lay back in bed a doomy queen or like Peter Berlin demand that a partner masturbate over a photo of him. Narcissism is a pretty boring spectator sport.

Once one has learned this new way of men watching, a visit to a gay bar can be extremely disappointing. Where are all the fat young men? Maybe some of the boys who wore size husky, who were size husky have shed their baby fat and worked out at a gym.

I think those that still are fat came to the bar and saw that nobody was interested and didn't return. I think this can be carried too far in fetishizing fat people rather than just treating them as human beings and part of a diverse range of body types. If that person wouldn't want to find out he is desired only for his physical attributes, just a large-breasted woman wouldn't want to be reduced to being a walking vehicle for her breasts.

During the recent gays in the military flap, when straight soldiers worried about being ogled in the shower, gay men responded with statements like, "Straight men always overestimate their attractiveness and suggesting that straights are all slobs and beneath the noticed. And the same homos used straight appearing as a description in their personal ads."

The fact of the matter is that these gay men wouldn't look twice at an attractive man, whether gay or straight. What is the point of seeking an attractive partner? We should form relationships based on shared interests and pleasant personalities, not on impressive pectoral muscles, cheekbones, or blank size.

One wonders about Mr. and Mrs. Bob Broad Jackson Paris, do they lie together on the beach naked telling each other, "No, no, no. Your butt is more perfect than mine" eats a more flawless mirror the other, or do they examine themselves properly in their own mirrors wondering if his veneer is cracking first if their love will last after the muscles turn to jelly and the skin cancer comes? I've endeavored to make this essay in personal when it is in fact personal.

"The man I love is fat. I wrote this piece because of the discrimination that he faces. It frustrates me that the Vapid Castro Queens prejudge him. It's taken me some time to get past my own prejudice. Why is it everybody's job to tell fat people to lose weight? Would the world be a better place tomorrow if every fat person in the world visited a liposuction clinic? Not as good a place as if every Vapid Lucas Homo jumped off a cliff.

So that's basically saying, blond muscle queens are OK, I guess. I guess. But they're not the only thing out there and we should open up our eyes and find the attractive qualities in all men.

HOST 2: What's also important is that--

HOST 1: Oh, well. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to leave women out, it was just that he was writing about men. OK, don't slap me. Go ahead.

HOST 2: Also people who are not blonde muscle queens or who could never be blonde muscle queens. Please don't try to be blonde muscle queens.

HOST 1: Well, I wouldn't try because it'd be awfully hard.

HOST 2: It would be.

HOST 1: Well, I have no hair so I can't be blonde. My skin is kind of dark.

HOST 2: It's a little darker than mine.

HOST 1: And it's not like I'm having a tan, it's permanent. What kind of guys do you find attractive?

HOST 2: I find all kinds of guys attractive.

HOST 1: Oh, he says after I've read the editorial.

HOST 2: No. Even more guys now. No. I find all kinds of guys attractive.

HOST 1: OK, great. Because having a chubby boyfriend is N.

HOST 2: Well, now I know that.

HOST 1: You were supposed to say.

HOST 2: Well, I'm attracted to chubby guys, too.

HOST 1: No. You were supposed to say when I said that that I shouldn't fetishize chubby people.

HOST 2: I don't fantasize about it.

HOST 1: Not fantasize, fetishize. Let's try that again. That's good because having a chubby boyfriend is N.

HOST 2: Well, Michael, you really shouldn't fantasize or fetishize about chubby guys.

HOST 1: OK, you got it almost right. Not fantasize, it's OK to fantasize, just not fetishize.

HOST 2: Fetishize?

HOST 1: Yeah. It's kind of like what the rice queens are doing with Asian men.

HOST 2: It is what they're doing.

HOST 1: OK, great. So everybody's attractive. You're beautiful damn it, and we love you. We're going to play a song. And the song is by the band called, what's a band called? Come up, Michael. You gave me this. You tell us what it's called.

HOST 4: The band is called The Last Wish. They're not necessarily clear, but they're very friendly. They had a CD release party last night at Fitzgerald's. It got a really cool. Their lead singer is very cute, too.

HOST 1: Hey.

HOST 2: Can I dedicate this to two friends of mine?

HOST 1: If that's what you want to do.

HOST 2: Yes, I would like to do that. Two friends of mine, Victor and Gary are celebrating their eighth anniversary this weekend. Congratulations.

HOST 1: Let's go back to Michael. Finish telling us about the band.

HOST 4: They're great. They're all in high school, too, which is quite impressive.

HOST 1: And they're local.

HOST 4: Yeah, and they're local. And they're very, very good live, they're all real instrumentalists.

HOST 1: So I'm assuming you can find their CD out at.

HOST 4: I don't know. I didn't even ask him.

HOST 1: Well, this is isn't a gay band. Try Cactus Records on Shepherd in Alabama. This is true.

HOST 4: There's an address on there, too.

HOST 1: The address from The Last Wish is 6335 Walt Way. That's W-A-L-T W-A-Y. Houston, Texas 77008. Any last which people are listening, you should send us promotional materials because we're easy, we play anything. And now we're going to play the song. The song is called "Heroin Virus." OK, let's listen.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

OK, that was *The Last Wish*, the song was "Heroin Virus". Correct? OK. And it's from the album *The First of February*, it's a local band, really young, really new, and they're really good because I like the song. And if you know I liked it, it must be good. The address for the band again is The Last Wish 6335 Walt Way. W-A-L-T W-A-Y. Houston, Texas 77008. Yeah, that's an 8.

Local public news and the other local publications to see if they're performing around town, and also to figure out where you can get the album. We're going to play-- well, I'm going to play one more song and this is dedicated to the compact boy like Aaron Dime. Oh, great. I'm sorry.

HOST 5: Oriental compact boy man Aaron Dime.

HOST 1: Oriental compact boy like Aaron Dime. OK, great. OK, great. I'm not going to introduce this song because-- oh, wait. Well, that's supposed to preview this.

HOST 2: No, just say that's coming up.

HOST 1: That's what I just asked. I'm not previewing, I'm just saying this is coming up. It's called *AIDS Caregiving Lessons for the Second Decade*. It's by Charles Garfield and Cindy Spring. And we're going to be hearing part one.

HOST 2: Yes, it's a four part series.

HOST 1: Which means that over the next couple of weeks, you're going to be hearing parts of it here on After Hours KPFT Houston. So we're going to play the song now, which is dedicated to the oriental compact boy man Aaron Dime. I'm not going to introduce it because well it's overplayed on 104. Enough as it is, but I still like the song anyway. So here it is.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Who was that?

HOST 3: Counting Crows!

HOST 1: Which song?

HOST 3: "Mr. Jones!" "Mr. Jones."

HOST 1: We play this song because well I wanted to dedicate it to oriental compact boy like Aaron Dime, great.

HOST 3: I'm his submissive wife.

HOST 1: And its submissive wife, I'm sorry. She doesn't have a name. She's a submissive wife. And also because the lead singer Adam is really, really cute, but they're going to be in town again, they're coming in June to, I don't know, some place, Bio City theater that's where they're coming.

But we forgot to make a very important announcement. Nine Inch Nails tickets for the Self Destruct 1994 Tour went on sale today. And to be perfectly honest, I don't have mine but I'm going on Monday. So rush out and buy them and be really queer and throw black jockstraps at Trent Reznor.

HOST 3: I guess I missed that.

HOST 1: But we're all here to say goodbye because we're going out to duet eat.

HOST 3: Eat.

HOST 1: And Michael's going with us.

HOST 3: Yes.

HOST 1: Yay. Say good bye.

HOST 3: Bye.

HOST 4: Bye.

HOST 2: Bye.

HOST 3: Bye.

HOST 2: Oh, I'm staying.

HOST 1: Yeah, well, you're staying.

HOST 2: Yes, I'm staying.

HOST 1: Although you're welcome to come eat with us, just throw in a CD and leave.

HOST 2: Oh, no, no, no. We're doing this AIDS Caregiving tape, and then I'm going to do a mini QMC.

HOST 1: OK, well, it was a pleasure being here because I always like it when you were in charge. That's everybody touch and hugs and it's one of those Barbara Walters moments.

HOST 2: I'd love to touch, yes.

HOST 1: Why are you touching me there?

HOST 2: Oh.

HOST 1: We're all leaving now and we're not taking the new kids on the block album, which we did not play tonight.

HOST 2: I'll sit on it.

HOST 1: OK, and Truong, you got that porno mag I hope.

HOST 4: Oh, yes. I almost forgot. Thanks for reminding.

HOST 1: OK, great. OK, we're leaving now. Goodbye.

HOST 2: Bye.

HOST 4: Bye.

MALE COMMERCIAL SPEAKER: Yes, students are returning to school, the beaches are clearing up, and hotels are beginning to survey the damage. All signs that spring break is now over. Also gone is KPFT Spring Break minithon. We here at KPFT would like to thank all the people who called in and helped make it a successful fundraiser.

As things begin to clear up at KPFT, we would like to take a moment to remind you to fulfill your pledge in order for us to truly call our spring break minithons successful. If you have any questions about your pledge, call our subscriptions office during regular business hours at 526-4000.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

**FEMALE
SPEAKER:**

Welcome to AIDS Caregiving Lessons for the Second Decade with Charles Garfield. This program has been produced and is being distributed through the combined efforts of a number of organizations and individuals. We hope to provide support to the thousands of people who either by choice or necessity are serving as caregivers to those with HIV infection.

Charles Garfield is a pioneer in peer counseling and emotional support for people with AIDS and their caregivers. He's the founder of Shanti Project in San Francisco, a psychologist, and an associate clinical professor in the School of Medicine at the University of California. He leads support groups for experienced AIDS caregivers, and understands very well the skills they need and the stresses they face.

MALE SPEAKER: I hope what I have to share with you in this program brings you a measure of insight, comfort, and practical suggestions. As we move through the second decade of AIDS after a very challenging first 12 years, we discover that tens of thousands of people across the US and the world have become AIDS caregivers. Men and women from all walks of life who have been caring for people with AIDS anywhere from a few months to over a decade.

As you listen to this program and hear the words of those who are at the front line, one of the things that you're likely to conclude is that every situation is loaded with uncertainty. Our caregivers tell us that uncertainty is always there. Although its intensity varies from time to time and that there's no one right way to be a caregiver. What is universal is that we all need help in the difficult, uncertain, and sometimes unique circumstances we find ourselves in as AIDS caregivers.

One of the most poignant messages that comes out of the 80 interviews we did with caregivers for this program is a need to be tough on problems and tender on people. Tough on problems that are intransigent, frustrating, and seemingly without end, yet tender on people with AIDS and caregivers alike who are enduring great stress as they live and work at the heart of the pandemic. A pandemic by the way that will become much more severe worldwide in the coming years.

As you listen to this program, you'll learn that for most AIDS caregivers, caregiving is a life changing process. Being an AIDS caregiver may permanently alter the way you look at the world, your life may not be the same after these experiences, particularly if you commit to caregiving as a calling. For many of the people you'll meet in this program, there really wasn't a moment of truth when they consciously chose to become AIDS caregivers, rather you could say that the situation chose them.

Being a caregiver made all the sense in the world when they thought of the special relationship they had with a loved one with AIDS, or when they considered the enormous challenges people with AIDS face in general. That special relationship might involve a family member or a longtime friend or lover. For some people, their commitment to AIDS caregiving came as a result of a larger commitment to the gay or lesbian community, to homeless people, to those struggling with recovery issues, or to an ethnic group particularly hard-hit by the pandemic.

In each instance, a man or woman moved into the role of caregiver without great deliberation or decision making. The motivations to begin and then continue caregiving may shift over time, but the men and women we interviewed share one thing in common - they are deeply caring people.

The AIDS caregivers you'll hear from are a diverse group. We spoke to each person individually and asked questions like, what situations do you remember in which caring happened best? What have you learned that you feel is vital to know about the population of people you care for? How has AIDS caregiving changed you?

As we reviewed the stories, we realized that many caregivers shared common experiences and concerns. The wisdom that flowed from their comments was moving and powerful, to say the least. They often had to fight for knowledge that is not available in any agency, in any school, in any book. We recorded AIDS caregivers in a variety of locations, in their homes and offices, often in the middle of a stressful and demanding day. Let's listen to some of the voices of people we interview.

MALE SPEAKER: Ed was my partner of 14 years. When he was diagnosed in 1987, I made a commitment on the spot that I was going to go through this with him. I remember him saying to me, do you know what you're getting yourself in for? And I said yes, of course I do.

Yes, of course I didn't, I had no idea. At that time, it didn't make any difference what we were getting ourselves into, where we're going to go through, whatever he went through. I didn't know it then but I know it now that my caregiving experience with him on a very personal 24-hour a day for years duration was the most human thing I've ever done. The most profound thing I've ever done in my life.

FEMALE SPEAKER: I had a patient the other day that he's been a patient that I've taken care of for the last six years and he always looked so beautiful. When I saw him coming out of his van, he drove up to the urgent care door, he got out of his van. I hardly recognized and then he looked up and it was my patient that I just loved dearly.

And when he saw me, he turned to his mother and he said, "Mom, everything will be OK. Patty's here." I'm not trying to pat myself on the back, although it's something I know I felt when I brought my brother to the emergency room and I had a nurse touch me or give a kind word, it just matters so much when you're fighting for your life and something happens.

You're so disappointed that you have to go into the hospital and you have to almost fight for your care because it's real complicated to be HIV-positive or to have full-blown AIDS and to go into an emergency room where they may not know you and have to recite everything that you're on and everything that they've done until this point. So it's really nice when you have someone on your side, and they're as big as I am. Because I'll just encompass them in my arms and they know. I put their head to my breast and they know they will be fine.