

- As President of the Board-- as president of the board of supervisors, it was my duty to make this announcement. Both Mayor Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk have been shot and killed.

- Toto, I have a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore.

- They've got to understand something! They've got to understand something-- we are not talking about what's politics. This is not a movement from the waist down. We are talking about our right to love and to choose and to live. And I don't care about straight tolerance. And I don't straight understanding.

You gotta hear me in Washington-- we are demanding! We are demanding our civil rights!

- And I ask-- I ask people all over this country to do one thing--

[MUSIC PLAYING]

(SINGING) Come out of hiding, come out of hiding, I'm out of hiding-- I'm out of hiding--

We must destroy the myths once and for all, shatter them. We must continue to speak out. And most importantly-- most importantly, every gay person must come out.

- Harvey, do you have a few words for KPFA?

- Come on out! Join us.

(SINGING) Coming on out and looking for somebody like you. Coming on out and coming on the run, coming for nobody but you.

- Difficult as it is, you must tell your immediate family, you must tell your relatives, you must tell your friends, if, indeed, they are your friends, you must tell your neighbors, you must tell the people you work with, you must tell the people of the stores you shop in--

Once they realize that we are indeed their children, that we are indeed everywhere, every myth, every lie, every innuendo will be destroyed once and for all. And I ask-- I ask people, all over this country, to do one thing-- come out, come out, America, come out.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

(SINGING) After hours-- after hours.

- The following program contains language or images of a frank or sensitive nature that may be considered objectionable by some. Listener discretion is advised.

- It certainly is.

- You betcha. Anyway--

- And if you haven't guessed by now, this is After Hours.

- Carl, you don't even have to tell them.

- I guess not.

- They're already waiting to see what we're going to be bitching about.

- This week.

- That was pretty wild last week, because we were like on the rag of death. It's kind of working with this lady I used to work with-- she was always bitching about something. But it was kind of fun. Anyway--

- I was surprised about the support we got.

- Well, that's the reason we were bitching, girl, to make people mad enough to call. And it works.

- Well, and we're going to do it again this week.

- We got this letter in the mail, may the 19th. I'll have to censor it, though. It says, dear Buddy and Jimmy, I started listening to After Hours about eight months ago, more or less. I'm a Hispanic lesbian, and a regular listener, except for the nights when I fall asleep before the show starts.

I wish I could do that.

- That's an honest woman.

- Anyway, I really appreciate your show. I listen to other shows on KPRD, each one for different reasons. And I love listening to After Hours because you talk about things I want to hear. And frankly, I'm sick and tired of those people who don't want to hear when something really-- I can't say that word-- T's you off, how's that? Because the FCC won't let us.

I am so glad that I found out about your show. People need to get their minds working and realize that we're not going to pretend everything is so wonderfully perfect when there's really a lot of-- I can't say that word, either-- it rhymes with-- I can't even say that. But you know, the proverbial poo poo being thrown at us.

There is so much hatred toward gay and lesbian people, and I'm tired of hearing all the garbage that the homophobes keep dishing out. I love that your show has gotten me to expand my mind. And eight months ago, I had not realized that I was a lesbian. I was blind to my own sexuality.

I was miserable until I realized about my lesbianism and started to live my life. When I did that, it seemed like everything began to fall into place, and you guys played such a big part in helping me question myself, and more importantly, the world around me.

I watched Donahue the other day, and they showed two guys getting married. And I thought it was wonderful. But of course, there were people calling in to say they thought it was disgusting. Some women called in to complain that they didn't want their children seeing anything like that on television, that children have enough problems without being exposed to such things.

I just thought to myself, isn't it because parents aren't telling their kids the truth about gay and lesbian people that lies are being perpetrated about us? How is anyone ever going to learn up to know the truth unless we speak up? There need to be more shows on television that portray gay and lesbian people as we really are.

People need to get over their homophobia. It just seems so ridiculous. People are so narrow minded in thinking that there can only be love between a man and a woman.

You'd think marriage-- this kills me-- you would think marriage between two people of the same sex was so impossible to consider. I mean, that's what some people think, right? What's so unusual about homosexual marriage? And what's so damn wonderful about heterosexual marriages that makes them acceptable, and makes same-sex marriages considered sideshows?

I tell you, whenever I see two women kissing and holding hands and being in love, it makes my heart melt. I see nothing disgusting about love between people. Granted, there are those who claim to be gay or lesbian, but all they want is to see what it's like. We're a source of great amusement to them, and I'm just over them.

There will always be people who crack jokes. There will always be racist and homophobic jerks. But listening to After Hours helps. And it helps all the people like me who aren't out there, who aren't able to go out and join in the activities of the gay and lesbian community. Whose only contact with the community is through your show.

They need to hear what you say. Believe me, it gets a person thinking whether they agree or disagree. It gets their brains working. We're already exposed to so many mindless television shows, movies, and other media nonsense.

We need you guys to speak up, say what's on your mind. Forget about what everyone else thinks. If you don't say what's on your mind, what-- there's that word again-- T's you off, what makes you feel good, then your show is going to be miserable for sure all the time.

I admire you guys for coming on the air at a time at night when I can barely stay awake. I don't go to the bars. I stay at home Saturday nights and just get comfortable in my bed.

So keep doing all the bitching. I love the music with gay and lesbian themes. And I love the interviews that you do.

I'll keep listening and supporting KPFT. By the way, I was one of the people who made a pledge last week and spoke to you guys on the radio-- on the telephone. Did you do that girl?

But being on the air kind of threw me off. But I love you anyway. Sincerely, Angie. Isn't that great?

- That's really great.

- See, and I came back from vacation last week-- just in case you missed it, I'm going to play the whole hour now.

- Oh, no.

- No, I'm kidding. I came back in a real bad mood because it seems like that she's right. I mean, we just trot around here, acting like everything's fine. And last couple of years, I really wouldn't-- I really haven't wanted to play gay Pride Week kind of thing, you know what I mean?

- Oh, yeah, I know.

- Didn't want to march in the parade the last couple of years. And in fact, the only reason we did was because we thought that the audience would come out, you, and march with us. And some did, and it was great.

But I just don't see any logic in buying 10,000 beads and 10,000 rubbers to throw at a crowd of 20,000 queers that don't have any idea who we are. They're just down there yelling, throw me something-- and you understand what I mean?

- Yes, I do.

- Plus, it's real hard to get excited about this parade this year, even more so than before, because my dad died, Betty died. So much has happened. And someone asked me, what do you compare it to? And I compare it to the parade that they had downtown today-- the welcome home troops.

I mean, what did we celebrate today in downtown Houston? Welcome the troops home. I can live with that, because I support the service, I was in the Air Force. I can support the military.

But I don't support what we did in the Gulf. We sold this maniac all these guns, and bullets, and bombs, because he was going to open the Iran museum of American weaponry, so that people could come and visit this to see all the wonderful things we had. He didn't tell us he was going to drop these bombs on people.

But when he started shooting people and bombing people, and taking over countries-- especially countries that had oil, things that we need, like to keep our little cars puttering down the freeways--

- Funniest thing.

- --that we continue to build, well, we just couldn't have that. So we had to go over there and drop a few of our own bombs on them. And anyway, we're not even going to get into that. But it's this whole idea-- I don't remember who said it, but if broccoli were the chief export from Kuwait, we wouldn't have sent anybody over there.

The Chinese invaded Tibet 25 years ago, and nobody gave a damn. And they still don't give a damn. So we're not-- I just can't buy that anymore as the excuse. Maybe I'm just getting older and can't buy all this crap.

- What you're saying is, you can be against the war and still be a good American.

- Yeah, so I am not a good homosexual, and I just don't-- I can't go out there and wave my little rainbow flag and act like everything's fine. And I'm not even going to buy all this crap that it's going to be fine one day, I don't buy that anymore. If it's so damn good, how come we can't work together?

Why did Leslie Perez and the atheists do this thing that they just did? And screwed up--

- I will never know--

- --all this funding for us?

- --why they did that.

- Why can't the GLPC get their act together? Why can't these queens that are out there screaming on the streets understand why they should be out there screaming on the streets? And in a city the size of Houston, where there are between 400,000 and 500,000, why can't we get 200,000 or 300,000 people out?

Well, we just don't. Because we're too busy playing it safe, and playing by the rules, and all that crap. And I'm just tired of it.

- Sort of like Christmas, where you feel good for one day, then everybody goes around and kills everybody the next day, and robs and rapes and all of that.

- I'm just not going to do it. I'm sorry--

- It's the same thing as feeling good on Gay Pride Day, and then forgetting about it the rest of the year.

- Gay Lesbian Pride. What have we got to be proud about? We had the little rebellion back in 1969, and then, we've been rebelling and fighting and stabbing each other for the last 21 years.

- And putting down drag queens!

- Exactly. We don't even want to get into that.
- If it wasn't for drag queens, sonny, you wouldn't-- they were the ones who gave you the right not to be a queen. How's that?
- And then we get this call last week from this guy that says that he's tired of the same old music, and tired of us bitching, and tired of-- we're just tired. And I agree with him. I am tired.

I'm tired of coming down here for free. I'm tired of telling everybody that I work for the police department, because it is no big deal. The reason that we say it is, because if I can do it there, well, surely the hell you can do it wherever you work. You know, I'm tired of being the only queen volunteering-- this is volunteer.

I asked this guy, have you ever been to a GLPC meeting? What's that? Have you ever done anything? And I'm just real tired of hearing people's excuses.

So we'll do what we do. And that's what we do, is we come down here and we bitch. And we do play the same old music. If you want to hear a lot of the top 40 stuff, you need to change the station. We just ain't got it. We're not going to play it.

The records we play are songs of hope, and songs of struggle, and songs of winning, and songs of support for gay and lesbian people. And songs of pain and life.

And we play them over and over and over and over and over. And we're going to do that until we get it right. So, sorry-- if you tuned in to hear great music, you'll hear it. But it's the same old garbage over, and over, and over, it's just mixed up a little bit.

- Well, it is mixed up. And we do bring in a lot of new music when gay and lesbian artists come out with new stuff, or when sympathetic artists come out with songs for the gay and lesbian community.
- If you can run down to the record store and grab everything in the gay section and bring it, we'll be glad to play it. I'll tell you what, girl, you won't find it.

- Not much.

- Anyway, we're also going to do something that we do quite well here, and that's interview people. We do the BBC at midnight, and then we do This Way Out with Greg Gordon and Lucia Chappell at 12:15, it's an international gay and lesbian magazine, heard in over 300 radio stations across the country and around the world.

And then, Frank comes in and does the local news, which is always great. We had a live interview in here tonight. And then, around 1:30 or so, we interview somebody in the studio, and we're going to do that this morning.

- We sure are.

- Going to be talking about those gay dads.

- Gay fathers, fathers first.

- Yeah, and we're going to be doing all that. So it's the same old stuff, girls.

- And the stuff you love.

- Yeah, that's why you listen. But you know, if want to hear all the sweet news, and all the good news, turn on CNN. Because you won't hear it here. And if you want to use your brain, well, all I can do is say, stay tuned.

- Yeah.
- Because we're here--
- And we're queer.
- And this is After Hours on 90.1 FM.
- Houston.
- We're here.
- And we're queer.
- Radio celebrating life in the heart of Montrose. Yeah, OK, here we go. Hang on and stay tuned please.
- Yeah.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

(SINGING) Now the world is getting older--

- 90.1 FM KPFT Houston. We're here--
- And we're queer.
- Yeah.

(SINGING) Well, it's all right--

- What?
- We were discussing Stan Lee.
- And we're live.
- Yes, we are.
- We're here.
- And we're queer.
- After Hours on KPFT Houston, 90.1 FM.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Here it is-- become Butch or Nellie in less than a day, simply by taking the little pink pill. There's no need to recruit, seduce, or rely on environmental conditions anymore. The little pink pill does it all. Just one tablet before breakfast breaks the cycle of heterosexuality for a full 24 hours.

For years, heteros have been asking gays if they would take a pill if it would make them straight. Well, at last, Queersville Labs have responded to this dilemma by giving heteros a taste of their own medicine. Yes, the little pink pill does it all. The boring, cliched life of a heterosexual can vanish in one gulp.

Mrs. Betty Morgan of Gresham, Oregon, talks about the little pink pill.

- My life was a mess-- bridge clubs, gross husband, alcoholism, you name it. Then one morning, I got my act together and took the little pink pill. In an instant, my sexual orientation changed, as did my desire to be married. Well, within a week, I ditched my old man, met a terrific woman, and got joint custody of my children.

All this without water retention, headaches, or loss of appetite. Thanks, little pink pill. You made a new woman out of me.

- Results may vary, but don't consult a physician. The little pink pill, it does it all.

- It's called, for the straight folks who don't mind gays, but wish they weren't so blatant.

You know, some people got a lot of nerve. Sometimes I don't believe the things I see and hear. Have you met the woman who's shocked by two women kissing? And in the same breath, tells you that she's pregnant? But gays shouldn't be blatant.

Or the straight couple sits next to you in a movie, and you can't hear the dialogue because of the sound effects. But gays shouldn't be blatant. And the woman in your office spends your whole lunch hour talking about her new bikini drawers and how much her husband likes them. But gays shouldn't be blatant.

Or the hip chick in your class rattling a mile a minute, while you're trying to get stoned in the John, about the camping trip she took with her musician boyfriend. But gays shouldn't be blatant. You go in a public bathroom, and all over the walls there's, John loves Mary, Janice digs Richard, Pepe loves Dolores, et cetera.

But gays shouldn't be blatant. Or you go to an amusement park, and there's a tunnel of love. And pictures of straights painted on the front, and grinning couples coming in and out. But gays shouldn't be blatant.

Fact is, blatant heterosexuals are all over the place-- supermarkets, movies, at work, in church, in books, on television every day and night, every place, even in gay bars. And they want gay men and women to go hide in the closets. So to you straight folks, I say, sure, I'll go, if you go, too.

But I'm polite. So after you. Thank you.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- (SINGING) What kind of self-respecting faggot am I?

- You know what?

- What?

- The first time I heard this song, it really made me mad.

- Why?

- On Walden's down about four years ago-- cause they said that word, girl, faggot. Faggot, faggot, you know what I mean? You know what I mean?

- Yeah.
- I heard it and I thought, how dare they sing a song like that?
- Because you let that word hurt you.
- Oh, I know. But I keep saying I'm the faggot that works for HPD.
- And I'm that faggot who doesn't work at all, yeah.
- Anyway, it's only a word.
- And that's why we use them, so they don't hurt anyone.
- Oh, is that why we do it? That's why we do it.
- Take that power away from those people who use them against us.
- But I didn't like it. I like it now.
- Good.
- Romanovsky & Phillips.
- (SINGING) I moved to San Francisco, and my only can of Crisco--
- Crisco, wait a minute.
- Yes?
- We had this call one time from this kid and said, why do they say the only can of Crisco--
- Is where it should be?
- Well, girl--
- Well, usually, lots of people keep it under their beds. For guess what?
- Frying chicken.
- Yeah, something like that.
- (SINGING) it's supposed to be, what kind of self-respecting faggot am I?
- You can sing along if you want to.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Well, I'm not a good homosexual, I can tell you that. And if you don't know what that means, well, just stay tuned, and we'll tell you here in a few minutes.
- What?

- What color was that, did you say?
- What color was what?
- Well, if they wanted to win that--
- Oh, just call in and say, I'm here and I'm queer.
- The first one?
- Why not?
- Well, OK.
- Here's the thing, right here-- the New York City Gay Men's Chorus, it's on Virgin--
- Virgin Records. I don't know why.
- Here's Lynn Lavner, and a festive little neighborhood of mine.
- Yeah.
- I thought you went to Kentucky, girl.
- Who?
- You.
- Me to Kentucky?
- It was on the front page of the Post and the Chronicle-- a queen goes to Kentucky.
- (SINGING) Have a yabba-dabba do time, a dabba-doo time, we'll have a gay old time.
- We will have to say something about the queen's visit. She's the only queen in the state that's legal. Well, she's gone.
- Well, except in Travis County.
- We'll talk about that, too.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- (SINGING) After hours, after hours.
- It's so nice hearing Lynn Lavner sing.
- Boy, you know--
- I'd give anything to see her in concert.
- Me, too. It's been so long since I've seen her in person.
- Really? Where did you see her at?

- It was-- gosh, a couple of years ago.  
- Where, girl?  
- Was it at that-- no-- I'm trying--  
- Was it one of those hateful Pride Week things?  
- No, I don't think so.

- Did you see that that hateful Whitney Houston, or Thelma Houston--

- Thelma or Whitney.  
- One of those Houston girls.  
- Mother and daughter.  
- She was here today to sing the National Anthem.

- Oh, really?  
- Yeah, I guess, that was what it was all about. I don't know. We've got a special tribute to our troops later on.  
- Oh, I'm afraid.

- I'm going to bring one of them in here and give them what I wanted to give them. Oh, never mind.

- Well--  
- I don't know why they get so upset, the Republicans and everything, when you talk about sex. Because they've been screwing this country for the last nine years, or so.

- I know, I don't understand it. I guess they want to do it all.  
- Anyway, did we get a winner on this?

- I'm sure we did.  
- OK.

- Those phones just lit up. I mean, you had to be fast on that one. That was like caller number one.

- Yeah, well--  
- You confused everybody.  
- I was listening to you the other day on tape.  
- I didn't do it.  
- Come here, girl, you got to do it. No, really, I was listening to you.  
- What year was that?

- 1987.
- Oh, gosh.
- One of the first few shows, I bet.
- You were dedicating music to those kids that sling that spaghetti and something else.
- Oh, God.
- It was too funny.
- But Alan had done this thing-- Alan Smart who used to be here had done this thing about the Pope's visit to San Antonio.
- Oh, I remember that.
- And he said that as the Pope was going to San Antonio, he made an unexpected stop in Houston. And he was amazed to find out that only gays and lesbians were going into heaven.
- I remember that one.
- And shortly after that, you dedicated this song to those spaghetti-slinging kids down at the warehouse where you used to be working. Anyway, you're working now, right? On something else, though.
- Working on a lot of things.
- You're working on getting Lynne Lavner here?
- Working on getting Lynne Lavner here.
- Or should I say, she's coming, right?
- She's coming.
- Yeah, we have a lot--
- Do we have-- did we say who we we're talking to here?
- No, girl, we're just talking.
- We'll just see if they recognize the voices and go from there.
- Well, unless they were listening for years ago, they don't recognize the voice.
- Or a month or so ago.
- Oh, really? That's right. That's right.
- You were here. You were asleep, but you were here. You spoke.
- You were queer, too.
- And by the way, you said you're not a good homosexual. I've heard differently.

- Ooh.
- I didn't say anything bad.
- No.
- Just the truth.
- So what's going on with Gay Fathers and Fathers First?
- Well, in the gay and lesbian parents support group here in Houston, we're members of-- that's two different groups we're members of-- but those groups are members of an international coalition of gay and lesbian parents. And every year about this time of year, we have an international conference.
- Oh, like nationwide, where people get together?
- Like nationwide plus.
- Oh, from around the world?
- Around the world.
- So that means you guys will be going to New York, or LA, or something?
- Well, last year we were in Washington DC. So this year we were in Boston.
- Where you going this year? New York, Vegas?
- This year we're going to the Hyatt Regency, West Houston, right here.
- You're kidding.
- You're own fair city, shall we say.
- So all these folks are coming to town?
- All these faggots and dykes are coming to town.
- Wonderful.
- And a lot of them are bringing their kids, too.
- That should be wonderful.
- Yeah, we'll be conferring from June 13th through 16th. And actually, there'll be three conferences going on that weekend. There'll be one for the parents, there will be one for the youth of gay and lesbian parents-- ages 13 through adulthood. And then there'll be one for children of gay and lesbian parents from age six through 12.
- You know what I really enjoyed-- I didn't enjoy a whole hell of a lot with the parade last year, because Louise, you almost passed out on me.
- I did.

- Walking down that street.

- I was a hot girl.

- You were hot pink from head to toe. But one of the ladies that listens to the show, one of the lesbians, brought her little boy and marched with us. And it was so wonderful to have this child. I mean, just a little bitty baby boy, marching out there. And it was great to see him there, and not threatened.

It's like the letter we got from Angela writing to tell us about why don't we tell our kids the truth about gay and lesbian people. It just-- it was really nice to see him there.

- Well, I didn't have to tell my nine-year-old the truth, he figured it out for himself.

- Oh, really.

- Smart kid.

- So how did all these gay people have children? I mean, you know. Robert?

- He's looking at me.

- Like everybody, else, right?

- You're an alternative, you talk about it.

- There are more ways than people think of, at first. There are parents that were in straight relationships at one time. There are also adoptive parents. And like myself, there are co-parents who are--

- Wicked step queens.

- One another name for us.

- Oh, I know better than that.

- I know Robert.

- Are there states where gay and lesbian people can adopt children?

- Yes.

- In the United States? I mean, are we-- we're not talking about Texas, right?

- There are gay adoptive parents even in this city.

- Oh, really? How wonderful. I had no idea.

- And that's not necessarily illegal. It's just kind of unspoken and unheard of. It's legal in California and New York, I believe. We have a large contingency of parents coming from New York who are adoptive parents.

- How wonderful.

- That is.

- And I think that's great, because I see in my line of work so many kids that are abused, and they're not abused like you think by gay and lesbian people, they're abused by family, 90% of the time. You know, I had talked to Mark Timmers who was on the show a couple of years ago about children, because Mark was a police officer at HPD and worked in the juvenile division.

And he said at one time, he tried to do a report, do a statistical report on child abuse. And that there were no statistics on abuse cases that involved gay and lesbian people because they were not prevalent enough to call for any numbering. And the other cases were just fathers, mothers, aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters neighbors, family friends-- there's so many of them, it happens every day, that we can't even keep up with it.

- Well, if you go and talk to the Anita Bryants and people like that of this world, they're going to tell you that you put a child in a home where the parent figures-- which, God forbid, they should consider them parent figures are homosexual as opposed to heterosexual-- that these kids are going to grow up to be gay, they're going to grow up to be all kinds of nasty people.

But you can do all sorts of research, go to any library and do some family research about children in the homes of gay and lesbian parents, and you will find-- this is told to us by professionals-- that there is no difference in the life of a child, in their mental aptitude, in their attitudes about life, in their own sexual orientation.

- And the whole role model thing falls apart anyway. If anyone said it best, it was Harvey Milk, because-- and I'll use myself as an example, and you can put yourself in this thing, or anybody else that's gay and proud-- if I could be raised in Van Buren, Arkansas-- which is fiercely heterosexual, go to a heterosexual school, that's taught supposedly by heterosexual teachers, grow up in that environment that crams heterosexuality down your throat, raised in church, not exposed to any gay bars, not exposed to any gay radio television, not exposed to any gay newspapers, not exposed to anything other than the Sears catalog, the underwear section--

- Yay.

- How in the hell did I turn out to be homosexual?

- Well, I got that here in the city.

- Harvey said that if role models were the factor that made us be who we are, that there would be a hell of a lot of nuns running around.

- Yeah.

- But that's not the case. Anyway, enough about the kids. We got the kids, and now we're parents, and we're married, and we realize that the marriage for one reason or another isn't working because either the wife or the husband accepts the fact that he is gay or lesbian. So where do you go from there? That must be an awful, awful feeling.

- Well, the one thing is that everyone who does get to that point, they've been involved in a heterosexual marriage, and they finally realized that it's time to be honest, not only to other people around them, but mainly to themselves, when you get to that point, you figure you're probably the only person in the world who has ever been in a heterosexual marriage, had children, and finally you decide that you really don't belong there.

And everybody, everybody we've ever talked to has said, I felt like I was the only one.

- I'm surprised, because I'm sure you get a lot of support from your church, and your workers, and your friends.

- For what? For what?
- I'm just kidding. So they turn to groups like Fathers First and Gay Fathers. And what was the other group that you mentioned?
- Gay and Lesbian Parents Support Group.
- For lesbians to attend?
- Well, yeah, it's for men and women of--
- Yeah, and there's a chapter of that here in the city now?
- And there's also a new organization that's formed called Mothers Web that's for lesbian mothers.
- I've heard of that. So how long is this conference going to be, guys?
- Registration starts on Thursday the 13th, and it runs through Sunday.
- So it'll be a whole weekend?

- All weekend. We've got some wonderful workshops planned, we've got a lot of professional people who have donated their time and said, I'll be happy to be there. We'll go run the gamut of everything from people talking about coming out to your children as a gay or lesbian parent, to women's health issues, and codependency workshops, and just all kinds of really--

Listen, this is the first time the conference has ever been in this part of the country. It's always usually been either in the Northwest area-- either the West Coast or the East Coast, one or the other.

- You guys are real hard workers, too. Because I know all the hard work you did for Pride Week back then, and still do. How hard you work to get something called the What's It Worth Auction, I saw they just had that, and it was a big success. I remember when we were struggling to get that going, and that was a big success, and still is.

And I know how much work you guys did for that. So you're probably working as hard on this thing, right?

- Harder.

- Harder?

- This is the end of a project that's taken almost two and a half years.

- Really. Is Lynn Lavner's concert connected with this, or is this something extra?

- Lynn's concert, Saturday night of our conference, we're having an awards banquet. And following our awards presentations, we're having Lynn provide entertainment. And we're opening that portion of the evening up to the public, also.

- Oh, really?

- Yeah, isn't that great?

- Oh, I thought this was just going to be like a private thing.

- No, we're selling tickets. We won't say where.

- For that many dollars.

- For that--

- \$10--

- You can say-- you can say money now. You can say that.

- So are there ticket outlets, like Lobo and Inklings?

- Lobo, Inklings, Leather by Boots, House of Coleman, and PrintX Plus.

- Well, hallelujah. Get those tickets.

- I didn't know.

- I really thought this was going to be like, you got to be a daddy to come and kind of see this thing.

- No, well, actually, anyone can come to the conference. Registration for the entire weekend, which includes all of your meals from breakfast on Friday through brunch on Sunday, is \$150.

- Are you kidding? That's cheap.

- That's real cheap. If anyone would-- and we've got wonderful special rates at the hotel, if anyone would like to just come and attend some of the workshops, there's just a flat rate of \$25, whether you want to attend one or all four of the workshops presented.

- Oh, that is cheap. Do go anywhere to workshops, they're like \$100 a shot.

- I know. Right.

- Now, Lynn's concert actually starts at 9:30 on Saturday evening. But we're going to-- anybody who wants to come just to the concert can come. There'll be a cash bar open at 8 o'clock, and they can stand around and have cocktails. Lynn will start at 9:30. She'll perform for about an hour, and then afterwards, we're going to have a dance until 2:00 AM, which those who come to the concert are welcome to join us, the mamas and the daddies.

- Isn't that a whole evening of entertainment.

- Yeah, it is.

- Well, how can folks get a hold of you if they want to come participate in this thing?

- Well, we've got an address. An address-- it's-- don't write Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International, because it'll take you all day. You can put GLPCI, or you can put Robert, or you can put Lloyd, and the post office box is 7537. I'm sorry--

- 7537?

- PO Box 7537. And the zip code is 77270-7537.

- That's in Vancouver?

- No, that's in Houston.

- How rude.

- Now, are you going to leave that address with us so Louise here can give it out?
- We'll leave a whole conference packet with you.
- OK, fabulous. Good. Well, what else is going on?
- Of course, you know that this information is already at the switchboard.
- Yeah, switchboard is always so good to us.
- Yeah, that's true. They're good to all of us.
- Of course, when someone calls us at home and says, we need to talk about gay or lesbian parenting, we always know that they've talked to the switchboard.
- Yeah.
- We always know who they've talked to, too, one or two different people.
- Well, Louise-- well, it's--
- Louise or John.
- And that's it.
- Well, it sounds like it's going to be--
- There are a lot of people out there that need this group, really need it. Because we talk about coming out as a gay and lesbian person, especially when you're a teenager and think you're the only one. You brought it up just a little bit before, about when you're married, have children, and you're finally coming out and you're thinking you're the only one. I mean, that's almost the double whammy right there.
- It's enough to make you consider suicide, or any other crazy thing. It really is.
- Put that on my list of things to bitch about, because that makes me crazy, too-- to hear-- we get these letters every day, I'm the only one. Yeah, right.
- Well, most of us are fortunate enough to realize that we're gay at the age of 17, 18, 19, 20. We see a lot of dads that come into the group at the age of 35, 40, 45. Some of them are already grandfathers. And they've realized it for a long time, but they're just now ready to admit it and try to live a life that's honest and true.
- And have support doing that, and that support is so necessary.
- Yeah.
- I've said this before, the police officers that I work with would come out if there was a community to support them, and to stand by them. And we know that's not going to happen, because it's not there.

So with the fine work that you guys are doing at Fathers First and Gay Fathers, hopefully there's hope for at least those officers with children who find out that I'm here and I'm queer.

- Well, our group is very much diversified. Everything from bank presidents on down to me.

- And you're not slinging spaghetti anymore, right?
- Thank God. No, it's cakes and pies and cookies and all that stuff.
- Get your cookies from Lloyd.
- Thank you. Shh, don't tell everybody.
- OK.
- You don't want to abuse him or anything, because he's been really slamming you--
- Well, I have I've been to some Gay Fathers, Father First functions. I think it was Gay Fathers then. And it's really a treat to see dads and their kids reacting, or having a picnic, or whatever the function happens to be-- I remember a birthday party for one of your sons.
- For both of my sons. Yeah, because they're seven and nine now, but they both have the same birthday.
- Are you serious?
- I'm good. Oh, excuse me, I lost myself. And they'll be here next weekend, we're driving up to Denver to pick them up.
- Driving to Denver?
- Driving to Denver. Their mother is meeting us in Denver, we're picking them up. They'll be with us for 10 weeks.
- They will be here for the conference.
- That has to be a long-- we can play, I'm driving to Denver without you.
- I tell you what--
- It has to be a country song.
- If you're going to do a dedication of a song, dedicate it to the new member of our family, because he's never lived with children before.
- Oh--
- This will be a new experience for him.
- Well, we'll play a song for him later. Anyway, what else is going on? That's it?
- That's it. That's enough. That's enough. We do have an author who's going to be presenting her book for the first time at our conference-- a woman who has written a book. Her name is Amity Buxton, I'm sure she'd probably appreciate her name being mentioned here.
- Good.
- Her book is, *The Other Side of the Closet*, and it is a book about the healing processes that a family can go through and become a healthy family when one of the spouses in that family is gay.

- Well, if any of these folks have something like that they want to talk about, and I know everybody obviously can't be here in the middle of the night, maybe we could set up something where we could come in and record something and put it on tape. You mention that to them when you talk to them and see what they say.

- Will do.

- And she can talk about her own book, and peddle those books, honey. That makes the world go round.

- Amity's just recorded Joan Rivers and Geraldo, too. So she's making the rounds right now.

- OK, well mention it to her, tell her about this queer radio show you've been on.

- We'll do that.

- Anyway-- sure, thank you.

- Talking to Lloyd and Robert with Gay Fathers and Fathers First and a conference-- what's the official title of this conference?

- Well, we're calling it a family reunion, Texas style.

- And it's going to be June the 3rd through the 16th, right over here? 13th-- June the 13th. Well, it's upside down, I can't see. Oh, there you go, June the 13th through the 16th.

- Lynn Lavner being here on the 15th.

- That's right.

- And it sounds like a wonderful opportunity to bring your kids and have a good time with other queers. It'll be great.

Anyway, it's five, six minutes or so until 2 o'clock, and we got music. We may play the opening to the show and do something, and who knows.

- Yeah.

- We got to do a special salute to the war veterans. Did you go to the parade today? I mean, wave your yellow ribbons?

- No--

- He was down town, though.

- I watched it through the window at Foley's.

- I see--

- Did you see that big flag on the side of that building?

- I saw it yesterday.

- Girls, wasn't that too much?

- I saw all the men.

- I wish I had seen the men in their uniforms.
- They were wonderful.
- I'll bet they were. I will tell you about them later.

- OK.
- All right, thanks for coming by, guys.

- Thank you.
- And please tell these folks about the show, maybe we can do some taping ahead of time. OK?

- OK, gladly.
- All right, hang on. We'll be back in just a minute.
- We'll talk about Lynn in the coming weeks. Yeah.
- Of course, girl. Hang on, we'll be back in just a minute.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- This community radio station thanks you for your pledge. You should have received a statement in the mail by now. Please pay your pledge as soon as you can so you won't forget. You can call 526-KPFT to charge your pledge by phone, if you wish. This broadcast is made possible by you.

- You hear the sounds of the waves brush up against the sand where he has written both of your names with a heart around it.
- You are looking at the sky, burning red with the sunset.
- Quickly a car drives up alongside of you.
- You stop for a red light. Suddenly the car is surrounded.
- They circle your blanket, coming in closer.
- Bottles are thrown out of car windows.
- The sound of glass breaking.
- Baseball bats against metal.
- A hand grabs at your hair.
- Glass at your feet, in your face, and your eyes.
- A fist across your face, again, and again.
- Die, queer, kill them, kill them, kill them!

- Homophobia can kill. Education is the only lasting weapon against bigotry, which is why the Lesbian and Gay Public Awareness Project wanted you to hear and think about this message.

For more information, write US Post Office Box 65603, Los Angeles, California, 90065.

- And we interrupt this program to make a special announcement-- Rainbow is here.

- Yes.

- (SINGING) Once we're born in this city on the Bayou.