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gay, queer, homosexual, stonewall, people, day, perversion, stonewall riots, parade, lesbian, mcc, bisexual, heard, judy garland, matter, man, gay pride, westheimer, act, felt

SPEAKERS

Jimmy Carper



00:20

Gay and Lesbian pride is traditionally celebrated during the month of June with festivals and parades in cities around the world. Because the history and culture of lesbians and gay men is still traditionally omitted in virtually all school textbooks, many in our community remain ignorant of the pivotal events which these June observances celebrate.



00:40

Do you know what the Stonewall riots were about?



00:43

I'm not real clear, I'll be honest with you,



00:44

I never have read about it. What exactly happened there the purpose of it,



00:48

I've never heard anything about it. Now



00:50

I then when I think of it,



00:51

this way out, tries to remedy that situation each year. We begin with excerpts from the program originally broadcast on WB AL in New York City in January 1969. This is the new symposium a program from and for the homosexual community and themselves and also unhand Kermit lamb. The discussion for tonight was what's more or less what's wrong with the homosexual culture. And when I sent out the schedule, and so on, I simply noticed that whoever of the regular panel that wanted to be on could be on tonight. And apparently, the rest of them just don't think there's anything wrong with the homosexual culture, because only COVID showed up. And I will say that I know that Marie had a class tonight. So that's why she couldn't make it. I felt



01:35

and I think I've changed even my thinking on this in the last three or four years is it almost echoes out proud enough to be homosexuals and get out and you know, be militant a little bit and say I am and a little like, I'm glad to see No, and the racial thing that negroes now aren't just trying to get along with everybody else. They've seen beauty and their own blackness. Yeah,



01:52

black is beautiful. It bears on what you were saying about being proud of homosexual, which I think even at now is a little much to ask of most people, but just being open about it. Since doing this program, and kind of because you're doing this program and try and find people to do this program back at the beginning. It has come so sharply to my attention, that total lack of courage that the homosexual community has, and I know the reasons, dammit, and I've been through it myself. I think that is one thing you can really pin on all of you out there is cowardice. I know I'm gonna get letters saying okay, it's easy for you, you're not gonna get fired from the station. But it hasn't been that easy. And feeling that I've totally lost contact with losing my father because of this. And I know that people's lives can be ruined if they open up and reveal themselves on an idealistic plane. We all know that if every homosexual said what he was tomorrow, that the whole situation would be changed for the better. Now this is obviously a pipe dream. But for every homosexual that does open up and reveal themselves. There are that many more people that realize that homosexuals are real breathing human beings. They are not sex maniacs are creeps that many more young people that are given the fact that a homosexual life needn't be a disaster.



03:21

I know a number of people who are under 25, say, under 20 They all seem to be much more relaxed, I hope to sign. I don't know why there's a certain feeling among many younger people of not caring who knows they have straight friends who know and I hope this is sort of indicative of something.



03:47

June 27 1969, as we called in Brett arteries 1970 documentary, but the voters began with a routine police raid on a homosexual bars the Stonewall on Christopher Street. Almost every homosexuals that was in New York at the time of the Stonewall Rebellion has his own private memory of what took place. One of the longtime leaders of the gay rights movement, Craig Rodwell remembers that this way, the first thing that was Friday was on the way home from a friend's house. And the rain was just starting at that time. And we noticed the crowds. We went over there. And a crowd was gathering out in front and the paddy wagon pulled up and a few people being taken out. That started with those few coins and several things thrown at the police and then the police retreated into the Stonewall and then after the police barricaded themselves inside, it's like half an hour later the riot police started moving up Christopher breaking up the crowd should really become a very angry crowd. Hundreds of bottles and rocks there wasn't one window left in the whole place after about 10 minutes. And he broke the crowd up into small groups and this one has like two or three hours back and forth and the whole area. I think they thought that people would just go home and run, especially since they were Desi. So they're not used to gay people standing up at all, especially in front of police. People waiting to go around the block and come in another way. And sort of tug of war went on all evening. And then on Saturday night, it was much the same thing. It's only about nine crowds started to gather in the area. And then around 11 or 12, they started taking over the street, stopping cars and coming through gay people in two fires with the gentleman is an angry mood, a lot of chanting, a lot of hand holding a lot of assertion that being gay, it was a way of saying we're tired of hired and tired of waiting to live, tired of denying our basic identity, denying ourselves newfound pride, really a collected pride and their identity. And other important outgrowth of the riots was the formation of numerous action oriented homosexual groups in New York and around the country. They're composed for the most part of younger and more militant homosexuals. It still is a relatively small minority of gay people who reflect this new spirit, whatever you want to call it. Joined in sec massification coming years



06:25

and nobody, nobody is going to ignore it any longer.



06:35

This is Gabrielle Antonovich reporting from West Hollywood this way out, you know what the Stonewall riots were about?



06:43

I know a little bit about all supposedly, some cops came into a bar and some long weeds cops and New York Okay, well, you know, whatever, whatever city, but anyway, they came into the bar and they were trying to break up the gays or whatever. And then the gays kick their butt.



07:01

That's what I heard. I just heard like a whole bunch of drag queens just sort of like, you know, barricaded the whole half of the city and just, you know, took over for about a few days,



07:09

you know that it wasn't just drag queens, it was leather boys and lesbians and people of color to



07:16

think about the Stonewall riots.



07:19

I don't know think about him. Well, what's



07:21

the gay parade about



07:22

I guess, to celebrate the gay life where you can touch in public and it doesn't, I guess offend anybody or you could just be yourself.



07:28

You know that it's a yearly event to commemorate the Stonewall riots that happened in New York now.



07:35

You know, I knew it was Stonewall, but I didn't know what they call it. Maybe I don't know about my culture.



J Jimmy Carper 07:45

That was a piece from this way out a half hour weekly, gay and lesbian news magazine. And they do that every year. It's kind of a short history of why we are marching down Westheimer tomorrow. And later on in the show. It's I've got a half hour tape on the history of the Stonewall riots that gives a more in depth look at why we do what we do and why we celebrate gay pride. That's right. That's right. It was the first time ever that gay people stood up and said, No, I'm not going to take it anymore. And I am gay and proud. because prior to that, that that was the turning point. Because prior to that you weren't openly gay. It just wasn't done.



08:37

I mean, I'm always amazed because I was born after so. I'm always amazed that like when I read, you know, history is about time and I'm just, you know, I just can't imagine living in such a time with all the, you know, fear we have today. Like repercussions are coming out.



J Jimmy Carper 08:57

Yeah, it was tough. You weren't anyone who was that was always considered a second class citizen. And somebody beneath you even by gay people. Oh, you know, he's he's open. Don't don't hang around with him. People will think you are too. Yeah, that type of thing.



09:23

Okay. Very good. Gay Lesbian it was a very vague people. Days



J Jimmy Carper 09:41

crossdresser Oh, yeah, it was the Stonewall bar was the type of bar that that a lot of gay people look down on. Oh, don't go there. It's one of those bars. Yes, yes.



09:57

I just, I'm just like because I If this spread is representative of all that, and that we have, I don't know, we're gonna have a very diverse group of people in the parade and I just I just sound totally cheesy, but you know, just I just hope we can all get along with you know, one big happy queer family.



J Jimmy Carper 10:18

Well, we will tomorrow at least everybody gets along tomorrow. I'm on parade day because it's a festive. It's sort of like Christmas. You know, everybody's in a good mood on Christmas, you know, and goodwill and peace toward mankind and all of that. And next. Yeah, well, we wait, wait a day until we start killing each other again. I'd like to say realism, but I would like it would be nice for people to carry Christmas with them 365 days a year, just just in the same manner carrying gay pride the same way 365 days but some people do. Yes. Yeah. optimism. Optimism reigns. Some people do. That's right.



11:09

Just because each time I hear about things thanks, man. Like, like the transgender community protesting was gay and lesbian event. It wasn't the Houston game was before her caucus. Yes.

Transgender their name or your know people like saying that bisexuals don't exist. And yeah

transgender their name or you know, people like saying that bisexuals don't exist. And yeah, they're bisexual saying that, you know, we're not really gay and gays are bad, but we're okay. I mean, there's I've heard that from bisexuals, too. I mean, it's yeah, there's just all this input I am I see any sort of infighting, which is, I just feel like, you know, if we don't, you know, get our act together and all stand together, we're gonna just get taken apart by the religious right, which is organizing, which is just becoming more popular every day.

 J Jimmy Carper 11:56

And you're right. It's when we, when we finally focus on it's a queer movement, rather than just the gay or a gay and lesbian movement. That's a queer movement in a company and it compasses everybody, everybody, because you know that there are segments that want to get, get get rights for the shirt and tie, gays and lesbians, you know, the white collar gays and lesbians, maybe, you know, we can get get rights for them. And then then we can get rights for everybody. But it doesn't work that way. Everybody has to have equal rights or nobody has equal rights.

 12:39

Yeah, that's, that's, that's a very important principle to you, too. I'm something I guess I expected. Like when I first came, I just expect you to see this one big happy community where everyone got along and well,

 J Jimmy Carper 12:56

you know, and then on the surface, it is, it is it's when you it's like any family. When you're on the outside looking in, it looks like oh, great, big happy family, you know, but but once you're on the inside, you realize that there is infighting and all of that. But you're still a family. And that's the thing. As long as you know, you can fight with your brother and sister and but don't let anybody else say anything bad about them. You know, that's, that's kind of the family attitude. And as long as if we can adopt that for all of our queer brothers and sisters, then then we'll be a real family. That's why we were never gonna get along. Because the queer movement just cuts across all lines. Yes, it's too diverse for everybody to get along for more than a minute.

 13:53

Oh, and after everyone to just respect respect each other. We have a common a common goal. We all want our rights. We all we all deserve our rights. Just as everybody everybody that's gay people as bisexual, transgender, and those

 J Jimmy Carper 14:11

rights, those rights or you know, pretty basic things like not being kicked out of your apartment because you're because you're queer. Not because you're queer. Yes. Just really basic things. Nothing special.



14:28

always seems like, well, this is not special. No. I just want to be able to quit my job and my apartment and not worry about it. You can do that.



J Jimmy Carper 14:39

Yeah. You know, I don't think that's too much to ask



14:45

being able to have a shared lifelong partner. Yeah, yes. Yes. Being able to walk down the street and holding hands with your girlfriend you're not worrying about



J Jimmy Carper 14:59

that I don't think that's too much to ask I really don't 30 years ago it may have been but it's not too much to ask in the 90s so there what else have we got? That's right. Okay we solve that problem now next what about that Middle East That's right. That's right we sure can we can put an outfit together to boot music no okay,



15:45

we're talking about context as to



J Jimmy Carper 15:52

what's happening



15:53

big big percentage of your big concert was dependent Oh surprise party at number



J Jimmy Carper 16:05

one within the family they're gonna be the adequate parking lot. Which is, which is love it and Taft. One block off of Westheimer at Tech. Yeah, so let me let me let me point the microphone over there. Can you see it over there? Okay, everybody. Yes. There it is across the street from the KPFT studios. Yes. Oh, brother. We're in trouble. right direction the irony of it. Oh, no. Huh. Anyway. Yeah, what else



16:49

you know quite a few announcements here we have MCC is special price on a concert.



J Jimmy Carper 17:01

Well, that's that's a pretty neat deal. MC MC CR sends us a lot of stuff about what's going on with with them. And they also split you know, allow find that to meet their every Wednesday night, right?



17:15

I just like to right now. Thank MTCR for all the janitors.



J Jimmy Carper 17:20

And I, I've got to say I was at the Wortham tonight. The Gay Men's Chorus of Houston put on a show this evening at seven o'clock. And as guests was the MCC our sanctuary choir. And boy were they good?



17:41

And in fact, they're gonna be one of the people performing at the concert tomorrow. Oh, it's gonna be the institution require and MB Cathedral Choir from the Dallas ACC. Cool, and they'll be performing God with us. This is gonna be at 10:45am on Sunday.



J Jimmy Carper 18:00

Oh, boy. That's just what that means. You won't get much sleep. Yeah, well, hey, you know, it's only once a year. I know get prepared. This is you know, once a year thing you're not gonna get any sleep anyway. So just handle right.



18:16

And if you're really tired Monday and I just call in and say hey, I was at the parade. Okay. Get off my man.



J Jimmy Carper 18:26

Oh, come out. You're listening to after hours career radio with attitude. KPFT Houston, and KEOS College Station, Bryan. That's 90.1 and 89.1 respectively. Don't let anybody say they ~~don't have anything on that's right. That's right.~~

don't have anything. Oh, that's right. That's right.

18:51

Got it all day Sunday. Excuse there's so many things about this concert. dmci you have the parade?

J Jimmy Carper 19:03

No, no, I know. It's just an all day event. And in in talking about Stonewall and we have been the era that that surrounded Stonewall 1969 It was at time when Judy Garland died and was buried the week of or the day of Stonewall some people now or maybe rewriting history saying that that's not such a big event. But let me tell you something I was around then Judy stone. Judy. Was a Yeah, Judy was a big deal. And a lot of you younger folks may not have ever heard. I mean except for the Wizard of Oz. You may not know what Judy was all about. And this is one of the songs that that for me as a teenager epitomized how I felt with my gay feelings and listen to the emotion in her voice. Judy Garland and I don't play her very often but you know we we need to go back to our roots sometimes, Judy Garland with the man that got away

20:28

trumpeters clean their horns, chains and locks forged the crusade has begun. Once again flags of Christ are unfurled in the dawn and cries of soul saviors sing apocalyptic on airwaves. Citizens good citizens all parade into voting booths and in self righteous sang to the X away our right to life. I do not believe at some that the vote is an end. I fear even more. It is just a beginning. So I must make assessment look to you and ask, Where will you be when they come? They will not come a mob rolling through the streets, but quickly and quietly move into our homes to remove the evil the queerness that faggotry from their masks. They will not come clothed and brown and swastikas are buried and chest heavy with gleaming crosses the time and need for such Rousses are over. They will come in business suits to buy your homes and bring bodies to fill your jobs. They will come and robes to rehabilitate and white coats to subjugate and where will you be when they come? Where will we all be when they come and they will come? They will come because we are defined as opposite perverse, and we are perverse. Every time we watched a queer hassled in the streets and said nothing. It was an act of perversion. Every time we lied about the boyfriend or girlfriend at Coffee Break. It was an act of perversion. Every time we heard I don't mind gays. But why must they be blatant and said nothing. It was an act of perversion. Every time we let a lesbian mother lose her child and did not fill the courtrooms. It was an act of perversion. Every time we let straights make out in our bars by we couldn't touch because of the laws. It was an act of perversion. Every time we put on the proper clothes to go to the family wedding and left our lovers at home. It was an act of perversion. Every time we heard who I go to bed with it's my personal choice. It's personal, not political and said nothing. It was an act of perversion. Every time we let straight relatives bury our dead and push our lovers away. It was an act of perversion, and they will come for the perverts. And it won't matter if you're homosexual, not a faggot, lesbian, not a dyke. Gay, not queer. It won't matter if you own your own business have a good job or an SSI. It won't matter if you're a black Chicano, Native American, Asian or white. It won't matter if you're from New York or Los Angeles, Galveston or Sioux Falls. It won't matter if you're Blitch or FIM not into roles

monogamous, non monogamous. It won't matter if you're a Catholic, Baptist, atheist, Jewish or MCC, they will come they will come to the cities and to the land to your front rooms and in your closets. They will come for the perverts and where will you be when they come?

J

Jimmy Carper 24:15

comes the time and that was by the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles. And before that an electronic version of I am what I am underneath the great late Pat Parker doing her poem doing her poem. Here it is. Will you be when they come? Powerful, powerful piece. Things that we need to think about on this pride day. And something else we need to think about are the people who are no longer here, people Well that have gone down on to their just reward to their next wife to whatever you want to call it people who are now dead. And we had a straight guy call in and say he wanted to request some music. When asked, well, we only do queer music. He said, wow, let's see him wearing a hoodie. Okay, something by Elton John. Yes. And then that vein to remember people who are no longer here. Elton John. Oh yes. And for Evelyn to Evelyn who's in Portland with with Dawn the great babassu.

o

26:11

My friend, George was an ordinary man with a sweet and rather sober way about him. Not much more than a bland and unaffected smile, and you trust him with your life, and never doubt him. Such a fine young man, such a good young man and the kind you turn your fondest hopes upon. Such a fine young man like a flower in the spring. I pinch myself to realize he's gone. My friend Dean was a pisser from the start with a heart as big as any you could cut money bullshit with an impudent remark and he caught the limes and lemons just as quick. Search a fine young man such a good young man has the kind you said your fondest hopes upon. Such a fine young man moved my piano sound my mind. I pinch myself to realize he's wrong my friend Rob liked to talk you have to death made you feel that he was interested in you. Intelligent and degeneracy scarcely stopped for breath. Maybe 700 Others felt it to such a fine young man. Such a good young man. And the kind you said your fondest hopes it was such a fine young man found me work on Thursday night. I pinch myself to realize he's gone. And so you see, I've known some fellows in my day, and I've had to watch them go by ones and twos. And I will defer to any other woman straight or gay.

o

28:33

tries to teach me how to love such you're such a good young man. So strong, so mild. I'm not a praying woman yet. I know that if I were I pray that they would finally find a cure

J

Jimmy Carper 29:18

when Laughner fine young man, she was one of the performers at spectrum last weekend. You're listening to after hours queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and ke O 's. station. Thank you. And you're listening to Jimmy



29:41

and Michelle.



Jimmy Carper 29:44

Let's say we have we've got a gay man and a bisexual woman tonight.



29:51

And it's all kinds of people wandering in and out of the house too.



Jimmy Carper 29:54

Yeah, we have we have and this is our gay pride shirt show. Though and I've been playing music from the very past and the music from the very future almost you know just a little bit of everything kind of just let you know where we've been and maybe where we're going



30:13

and hopefully that's where we'll be going for the future just