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SPEAKERS

Hitaji Aziz, Buddy Johnston, Jimmy Carper, Harvey Milk

B Buddy Johnston 00:12
It's kind of scary.

J Jimmy Carper 00:13
What's kind of scary. Having the man here? Yeah.

B Buddy Johnston 00:18
I mean, I'm like, honored and scared at the same time. We

J Jimmy Carper 00:20
all are. And it's kind of kind

B Buddy Johnston 00:22
of like meeting people that are people. Well, I mean, you know what I mean? You get that sometimes. Yeah. From folks that you like, bigger than life. I get that from people too, just because we sit here. Yeah. It's funny. I guess everybody has their own idea of what celebrities are what sweats pedestal, we should be at a

J Jimmy Carper 00:42
life. Well, not only that, it's unusual. This being a gay radio show that we have a straight person here.

B Buddy Johnston 00:48
We have a lot of straight people here.

J Jimmy Carper 00:49
When? Wow.

 00:52
I'm glad to be here. Thank you.

B Buddy Johnston 00:54
We're glad to have you here. And the gentleman you're hearing in the studio with this is Senator Craig Washington. Yeah. And you're running for a race? Yes. What in the world are you doing here at to

 01:07
run for the Cadillac? Whoa,

B Buddy Johnston 01:09
you've tried to fill some some big

 01:11
shoes. Yeah, I'm not sure my feet are big enough.

B Buddy Johnston 01:15
Why? Why take the time to come by here to in the morning? Well,

 01:18
I'm because you're my friends. And because you asked me you were kind enough to ask me and because you have a lot of listeners out there that I want to discuss some important things about what we need to do to get a grip on ourselves and get about the business of taking our country back.

If you have anything, it's early in the morning. Well, we don't get paid for this either.

 Jimmy Carper 03:24

I was saying a little bit ago, a lot of our listeners are very young. And a lot of them will be voting for the first time this year. That's right. So what kind of advice would you give these folks?

 03:37

Well, that a Jeffersonian democracy is still available if they want to take the chance on it. And if they want to insist on it, we have the opportunity, at least in one election on the ballot, this time of ceasing the notion of our elections, becoming and being a popularity contest, we have an opportunity to make some objective judgments about people who are running for political office and make our decision based upon whom we think is best to hold off as rather than which person we liked the most or disliked the most. Having anything to do with our emotions, we can make a totally unemotional, detached, detached and logical judgement about something that's very important to our future. Yes, yes.

 Buddy Johnston 04:34

Realistically, though, do you think people do that? Because the reason I say that my grandmother and grandfather who voted Democratic for years my grandfather died 10 years ago, my grandmother told me that she voted for someone instead of Mondale because she didn't like the way Mondale looked. Yeah, well, I couldn't believe that. I mean, she didn't hear what was going on and she voted rather than sticking with with the party that that the family stuck with for years she voted For someone else only because she didn't like the way this guy looked, do you think that television and radio and having your pictures up and everything is really people pay a lot of attention to what's being said as much as they should?

 05:11

Or should we pay people in the advertising business millions and millions of dollars to project and to maintain and to formulate an image? You know, you put a dog on the lap and a flag behind the head, and it projects patriotism that has anything to do with patriotism, it's right, but it's our fault. If we allow people to run on that kind of platform and to protect graven images of what politics is all about, then we deserve what we get. But if we draw the line, if we take the opportunity to look at the people for what they are, and for what they've done, if they have a public record, and for what they stand for, then we can delve into the important aspects of what politics is all about. Because if we elect people based upon popularity, then when they get elected, they don't have any parameters that govern how they decide matters important to us. But if we elect them based upon a philosophy or intelligence or how they articulate their responses to specific issues and questions, then it seems to me that we have a much better idea of who these people are. If we go for the 32nd TV spot in the Safar. Yeah, and as long as

we continue to elect people based upon that, and as long as we've failed to insist that they make decisions, that they present themselves, based upon qualifications and not popularity, then we deserve what we get.

 Jimmy Carper 07:00

Politics is a kind of a funny business, I guess. When you think of the professional jobs around, you go to college, and you specialize in this, you specialize in this, and that. What does it take to be a politician?

 Buddy Johnston 07:16

It's especially coming up on the 90s. I mean, we've seen what happened to Jim right. We've seen other people

 Jimmy Carper 07:23

take the old time politician Kennedy, you got all those people

 Buddy Johnston 07:26

are gone. And it's not the 90s people are looking more I would give them the American voter more credit than a lot of people do. Because you're I think you're right, they do pay more attention to the issues. They did what what do you have stored up to take with you to Washington to get through all that, you

 07:47

have to? First of all, for me, I never take myself too seriously. And to ensure that I was making my suspenders every once in a while. Watch every once in a while, you know, because you don't stop being the person that you are because you hold public office, whatever you are the day before you elected. Presumably, if that's real, then you don't stop being that the day after you get elected, right. And so, if you, at least for me, if you look at it in that vein as I do, then it makes my choices and my decisions a lot easier, because the worst thing that you can have, in my judgment as a politician who's afraid of losing his or her job. Because then you start to rationalize and justify things that are not important. And you lose sight of the things that are important. I call it the perpetual election machine. You get elected, to do whatever is necessary to get reelected, to do whatever is necessary to get reelected. Ad infinitum. You know, what, if you if you don't take yourself too seriously, and if you're not overly enamored with the job, if you realize that you probably won't die holding the job and you certainly weren't born, holding the job. That's right, then you do the best you can while you have it, you're the caretaker of something that belongs to someone else. Then you can put it in perspective. But if you get so hung up and having this thing that really belongs to someone else that is in a Jeffersonian democracy belongs to the people. And as long as you realize that it really belongs to someone else, and it changes the way that you treat it. If I loan you a thing, whatever, and trust it to your

care. You're apt to treat it a certain way. If it's man, you're perhaps after treated a different way if it's yours. public office belongs to the people that elect the people to public Office, not to the office holder in my judgment. And therefore I shouldn't be afraid of the fact that you're going to come take it back from me someday. It wasn't mine to begin with. And as long as I am appropriate with my stewardship of this thing, while I have it, that's more important and whether I worry about when you're going to come together, because if I ever do that, then I will say anything and do anything to keep it. And it's not that important, is not as important as looking yourself in the mirror in the morning.

B

Buddy Johnston 10:36

That's what we keep preaching. Yes. If you can't look at yourself in the morning, and you get out, you might as well stay in bed.



10:43

Take all the mirrors that

B

Buddy Johnston 10:47

keep talking about we the people and the people this and the people have done that. What what what does this country mean to you just as a person, not as a politician, or as a black man or as a male? And what does this country as an individual mean? Mean to Craig Washington



11:03

without any of those limitations, our definitions of myself as a person, as a citizen of the United States of America, the country is, to me, embodied in the Constitution. And the Bill of Rights as sort of the I look at that as being the the frame within which the pitches painted, it sets out, for me, at least to our parameters of, of what this country is about, and what it means to what it should mean to all of us. And the Constitution. And the Bill of Rights in particular, for me, define the role of government in my life. And everything that that is not defined as the role of government in my life, is really not the government's business is my life. And in the democracy, that at least the way I read the Constitution, there's a clear and separate line that's strong. And the government's responsibility is clearly defined, and individual responsibilities. Everything is not clearly defined as being the government's responsibility. And the country then is embodiment of that. And it is designed for the purpose of securing the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our posterity.

B

Buddy Johnston 12:42

I keep hearing good words, and I hear somewhere in the background, you're you're a gentleman that doesn't give up too easy. Or doesn't take. I can't do that. It's your maybe the gentleman hears I can't do that. I don't know what you mean by I can't do that. I could probably do anything. I set my mind to that. That's kind of what I hear. back there somewhere.



13:02

Give out don't give up. They



Buddy Johnston 13:05

are talking to Senator Craig Washington on after hours. KPFT Houston, 90.1, FM, five to six 4005 to six KPFT. Somebody's waiting on the phone. Let's go there and keep your Thanks for waiting. Hello, how are you?



13:20

I'm fine.



Buddy Johnston 13:22

You have a question for for us this morning. Yeah,



13:27

I do have a question for the Senator. Hello. My question relates to what you actually started out, talking about the beginning of your segment of the show. And that I was wondering, there's a couple of candidates running in this same race for the 18th congressional district seat that have very similar ideological principles. And I was wondering if you could talk a little about your experience in the Texas Legislature and whether or not you feel that experience would make you a more uniquely effective representative in the US Congress than the other candidates might be? relating to their experience,



14:09

I would certainly presume to hope so. I think that Well, first of all, let me start by saying that my general philosophy of life in general, and it's applicable to this question that you'd raise in this political race and in particular, is that my view of the sunset is not enhanced if I stand on your shoulders. So my candidacy is based upon who I am and what I've done, and not upon a comparison with any other person. I happen to think this is one time perhaps, and I history we have a clear opportunity to who elect someone, whether it's me or someone else, not based upon whether we liked that person the most. Because what drives you to like me or dislike me or like or dislike any other candidate in the race, in most instances, in terms of our ability to perform the function of a member of Congress United States is superfluous. Whether you like me or not, may be a function of whether you know me or not, or whether you've met me a nod or without shaking your hand or attended a function, where you've been in attendance, whether I'm a good legislator is altogether different manner. That said, it seems that at least to this person, that I think I'm uniquely qualified because and I'm not trying to draw a distinction

based upon the difference, if you will, between myself and the other candidates. And let me repeat it, I'm not trying to draw a distinction between the difference and I use those words purposefully. Because I'm the only one who served in the House and the Senate. And I don't, I'm not using that as a distinction, because I'm the only person who served. But I like to think, if you would think out loud with me, that that has something to do with my qualifications. I present myself as a candidate, because I serve 10 years, and the Texas House of Representatives, which is a legislative body, and as such, in a legislative body, one has the responsibility to make and pass laws, to amend existing laws to make new laws to repeal laws that are no longer valid or should no longer be valid. And to attempt to, by the force of legislation, make this world a little bit better place in which to live. And I think that I've intended attempted, if you will, as best I can to do that. I've also served in the Texas Senate, which is a lot different from the house, House of Representatives is an open forum kind of body in which there's a lot of ebbing and flowing and all of the real work, most of the real work, not all of it, most of the real work is done, at least when I served in the House was done on the floor of the House of Representatives. I thought during that time, that I could change things on the floor during debate that I could actually redirect a thought or what was about to happen by debate. And by articulating a point of view that perhaps it was not thought of understood. I thought that that by the power of moral suasion, I could make things happen on the floor of the Texas House of Representatives. The Senate is a different body and in the Texas Senate, most of the decisions are made in committee and they're fairly well cut and dry by the time they come to the floor. Two of the opponents in this race have served in the House of Representatives but not in the Senate. I think that service in the House of Representatives is an important ingredient. And all four of the what what everyone considers to be generally the major opponents in the race have served in the Texas House of Representatives, the person who serves on city council, the two persons who now serve in the Texas House of Representatives and myself. So we all have legislative experience in the Texas House of Representatives. There's four major candidates, and there are others, of course, and I certainly don't mean to take away from that candidacy. But for the purpose of answering the question, then all four of us have that I am the only one who has Senate experience. And the reason I think that it is significant and important is because the Congress of the United States, at least in the view of this person, is an amalgamation of what the Texas House of Representatives was like, and perhaps even his like and I say, perhaps even his life because I have no special knowledge of what it's like since the time that I stopped serving them. I can presume what is continued to be like in certain respects, but you can't really know the innards of a body unless you served, they're one of the my opponents who serves on the city council is in a different category, because it's not the same. You don't have to work with a wide variety of people and constituents. There are a variety of constituents in the city of Houston. But they don't compare to the constituency of the state, in my judgment, they are not. They're more homogeneous Yes, in the city of Houston than they are within the state of Texas. So one who's had to deal with representatives who represent the people in El Paso and Amarilla. And, and Edinburg and fought author and all points in between, I think, is able to deal more effectively, if you will, with different kinds of thoughts and notions than one who deals with West Houston and North Houston and South Houston, and East Houston. And I think that a person who serves on city council has a more limited view of the role and scope of an image. Furthermore, it's not a legislative body, it's basically a quasi administrative body. So I think that what I bring to the job is, is that additional qualification from having the opportunity to from to view from that vantage point, the opportunity to work with other people, both in committees in the Senate, I learned how to work better in committees. In the house, I learned how to work on the floor. So the only two places that legislation can occur in a democratic and open democratic society. In a closed society, they can occur in smoke filled room, right, but an open society, the decision to either made at the committee level, or at the full body level, which would be the on the floor of

the House of Representatives. And since I've had the opportunity to work in two situations that that presented me with the opportunity of effectively being able to deal with both. And none of my opponents have had that opportunity. I think I'm better qualified.

B

Buddy Johnston 22:16

Did you have anything else for sir?



22:19

Ah, well, if I get a second question I do.

B

Buddy Johnston 22:23

Sure. Go ahead.



22:24

Did I answered the first one. Okay. Yes, you did. Thank you very much.

B

Buddy Johnston 22:27

This is KPFT. That number is 526 4005 to six KPFT. Go ahead, sir. The second



22:34

one is kind of way off the track. And I don't know if you have any opinions about it. There's about do you had any thoughts about Representative Barney Frank's upcoming appearance before the House? House Ethics Committee? Yes. And if you did have any thoughts or opinions about that, if you would, would share them with us? Sure.



22:55

I'd be happy to share my thoughts and opinions. I don't know the special details of representative Frank situation. But I do know that it seems to me at least from this vantage point that more people with courage need to be in the Congress so that they won't distance themselves from representative Franks. I think that people are entitled to a fair hearing. And I think that we have to separate an individual's private life, from their public life. Because at some point, we're going to have to become realistic about two people serve in politics, that they're real people. Sure, and they have feet of clay like everybody else. And they don't somehow become magically transformed into a larger than life figure. Who has no transgressions, Amelie because they hope public office they get elected to public office.

J Jimmy Carper 24:09

I don't know where we ever ever got this this opinion that people who hold public office are the superheroes or the something sent down from God or

 24:25

do no wrong can do no wrong should do no wrong, that they aren't really real people who live next door to you and go shopping and everything

 24:36

else. Yeah, and that's, that's, that's a common phenomenon when people meet you. They are sometimes few minutes ago. Yeah. Just aghast that you're a real person, right. And that's probably as much the fault of the person who holds public office as anyone but We need to get away from that, regardless of how we got ourselves in this situation, I don't think it really serves a good deal of useful purpose. It may serve some not only for historical purposes, but for an analytical purpose. So we can get ourselves out of this morass, we need to know how we got into it. But I wouldn't spend a great deal of time delving into how we arrived at the point in our society where we have this pious notion that people who are elected to public office are somehow different people, than the people who live on our streets and blocks and went to high school, college with them and, and live and existed and grew and developed, like, like other people in society. And we need to get away from that in my judgment. For for ourselves, and for the larger societies sake, we need to get back to looking at the qualifications. And I'm just hypothecated. But it seems to me that it may have developed from people who who didn't have any qualifications to offer. And so they would wrap themselves in this cloth themselves in

J Jimmy Carper 26:22

the flag,

 26:23

some wrap themselves in the flag and call themselves patriots. Some wrapped themselves in this pious notion of holier than thou and call themselves better. But whatever reason, whatever you wrap yourself in, you're hiding yourself and you're appearing to be something that you aren't,

J Jimmy Carper 26:42

there was there was something you said at the beginning of the this man's first question that, that really got my head spinning. And I think it kind of sums up what you've been saying. And something about watching a sunset and standing on somebody's shoulders. Yeah. Quick, would you?



27:02

My view of the sunset is not enhanced. When I stand on someone's shoulders to see it. Yeah. Yeah, you can't, I mean, I wouldn't even enjoy the view. Even if I had an elevated view, which I presumably would have. I'm standing on someone's shoulders, it doesn't seem to me that I wouldn't be able to enjoy it very much. If I was standing on someone else's shoulders, I mean, I don't need to climb up on someone else's back. In order to make my life whatever it's going to be. If I if I can't do it, standing on firm ground on my own, with the help of friends and family and loved ones and all of those things. Why must I climb up? Why must I take advantage of someone else? Why must I stand on another human being? That's what we ask her every week? Yeah. That's my, that's my feeling about life. And so I would never seek public office in that manner. Because of the job and worth having and much, you know, it's really not. That's



Buddy Johnston 28:10

so true. Color. Was that all you



28:12

had? Yes, I did. Thank



28:13

you very much.



Buddy Johnston 28:14

Thank you, five to six 4005 to six KPFT those your numbers we're gonna take just a break so we can get a cup of coffee and some soda and we'll be back in just a second.



28:30

Man's got a problem with the bottle. That's the way it is. He says buddies to work by the studio to look alike as my mama went up and left in. One in one room lived and somebody's got to take care for him back to school. That's what I did.



Hitaji Aziz 28:48

Sometimes I find it difficult to explain what kind of show speakeasy is, it's a crossover show because it cuts across race, class and gender. It's a show about pain as well as joy. It's a show about healing, and the changes you go through living in this world. It's a reflection of my life

experience and experiences of other people. I truly, truly, truly believe that we are all interconnected. My name is Hitachi. Listen to speakeasy and hear what you've been missing at Kpf T.

 29:30

If you only had a moment, and the world was listening, what would you say about peace? You could say recognizing the oneness of mankind is fundamental to real peace. Racism is loose in the world. It's one of our oldest and most destructive evils. Racism violates the dignity of man, and has no place in a peaceful world. true unity requires compassion and loving kindness towards all peoples of the earth. Peace is more than just an end to war. Conflict just as deadly are raging on hidden battlefields in our hearts and minds. Let's talk peace, real peace, racial, religious, social, economic, personal peace. Peace is possible because it begins in the heart. A sought for peace from the behind faith. And

 Harvey Milk 30:27

I'll tell you what the gay movement is about. After I got elected, I got the phone call. I knew I'd venture to get curfews when was from a 17 year old child in a small town in Minnesota. And the boy is handicapped. And the boy's parents found out that he's gay, and they want to put him in an insane asylum. That boy needs help. In the gay Moon is about the letter I got from Southwest Africa when he read about a gay person getting elected here. And that person has hope. And that 17 year old kid in Minnesota has hope. And we have gay meters not understanding that and I'm more worried about their own personal power. They're not Elite is offensive.

 32:06

You're bothered by the flu blues. You know, a serious blues like majority rule in South African form should be its own Coney Island of the mind. Its own circus of

 32:17

soul legacy, which has been left us by struggling women from among our people, and

 32:24

for 40 years Pacifica has facilitated freedom of expression for people that would not otherwise be heard. Journalist Lewis Hill founded Pacifica on the premise that responsible freedom of expression was no longer possible through a news media that earned its living through advertising. He devised listener sponsored radio as a way to protect and ensure diversity and freedom of expression on Radio. Thank you Pacifica for your 40 year commitment to freedom of speech against all odds



33:03

come out of the closet and love the closet. Be free to come out of the closet gum gum gum, I know it's a dark in there. So come out tomorrow with a screen shot and see everybody everywhere



Buddy Johnston 33:43

five to six 4005 to six KPFT. That's the number to call talking to Senator Craig Washington this morning on after hours. KPFT Houston. back and now it's magic. Yeah. So, Sunday morning at three in the morning. Almost. Someone said you're gonna get the senator up at three in the morning. That's it. He's here. He's not on tape. No. Five to six 4005 to six KPFT. Can I ask you a question about Texas? Yes. Since you're still around in Texas, this sodomy business going on this 2106 statute and Austin is that ever gonna go away?



Jimmy Carper 34:35

I mean, that's right. I hope that because you're sitting here with some criminals funny



Buddy Johnston 34:39

it's funny. I worked for the Houston Police, Houston police and did this show and did every time I every time I can I break that sodomy law. I mean, you know, is there any Do we have any hope of the legislature ever waking up not not the entire legislature because we have a lot of friends there. Obviously you wouldn't be here. Do you think we ever stand a chance of Texas waking up and coming into the 90s?



35:05

Yeah, if I didn't believe that I would, I would have stopped serving a long time ago. It's obviously frustrating. And you want things to happen right away, and they don't. And a lot of people whose minds are close and who don't think through things, and there are a lot of changes that need to be made. And we have to get back to business and making them but we can't give up hope. I think that, that will, we'll have a change, and we'll get a repeal of 2106. We have to continue to press both a legislative remedy and a judicial remedy. It seems to me and we have to, we have to carry the fight to the people. And that's part of that, that leads into something I think is very important. We need to stop letting whomever's out and I don't have a grand conspiracy theory, anything like that. I think there are a lot of people who think a lot on a lot. Like I'm a lot of issues. Three o'clock in the morning. Yeah. But we need we need a new coalition we need we need to go beyond persons who happen to be gay, and persons who happen to be interested in freedom for persons who happen to be gay, limiting themselves to gay issues, and persons who happen to be black, limiting themselves to black issues, and people who happen to be interested in freedom for black people limiting themselves to that, to those issues and women's issues, and Hispanic issues. We need a coalition made up of all of those people, we need to stop looking at each other as gay and black and Hispanic and women, at least for the period of time when we need to have a coalition because they are more of us

than they are them. But as long as they keep dividing us into camps, so that we have four different armies marching in four different directions towards a goal for each, which happens to be the same goal, but it's not defined as a common goal, right? Do we have a problem, they have, say

J Jimmy Carper 37:28
have succeeded and the divide and conquer Exactly. And

B Buddy Johnston 37:31
in the gay community. It may be it may be true in the women's movement, and the black movement and Hispanic movement, been in the gay movement. They even have gay people splintered off and Democrats, Republicans this and that, and we're so busy fighting each other, we were never gonna get nothing. And that's

i 37:49
true. And every I mean, every one of those if you analyze it, you can find splinter groups that not only have different methodologies, but but different philosophy, ultimately, when you boil it all down, and you distill out all the impurity to have ultimately the same goal in mind, and that is the betterment of that particular group, the freedom of that group, under the Constitution as we understand it. But in the translation, something gets lost, we lose the focus that none of us are free until all of us have been weighed. A difference? You know, I mean, how can you look at at the difference between a cat can you find a difference between freedom for black people and freedom for gay persons, or Hispanic people or women, it's all part and parcel of the same hole, it seems to me. And unless we get back to business of realizing that and working toward that goal, and stop seeing each other in the image that has been portrayed for us by someone who doesn't want us to get together so that we can get an appropriate interpretation of again of the Bill of Rights, which is a fundamental cornerstone that all of us see as being what this country represents for us, I think. And as long as any of us don't enjoy all of those things, then none of us can truly say that we have it because it just depends on who's doing the deciding and who's doing the divide. You know that tomorrow, they can come and say, Well, we think that people with blue eyes should have less rights.

J Jimmy Carper 39:41
But it makes as much sense as the way it is now. Yeah, true. Yeah.

B Buddy Johnston 39:45
Five to six 4005 to six KPFT. Speaking to Senator Craig Washington this morning on after hours. Hey, thanks for holding. Yeah. Do you have a question for us?



39:55

Yes, I do. I'll ask him then I'll hang up and listen. Something about, you know, the dividing everything has to do with that. You know, it seems to me, you know, a troubling thing that a minority right wing has, you know, increasingly had power in this country, you know, and just the indication of that is taking the flag issue. And, you know, proposing a constitutional amendment or something that, you know, offends people temporarily, but you know, it's going to have a permanent effect on the country. And I was wondering how he felt about that. Similar issues.



Buddy Johnston 40:31

Okay, thanks for calling. The flag. Yeah.



40:39

I like flags. I like to flag the United States of America. But I like the Constitution more, the little jingle that I made up and used during the debate on the flag thing in Austin, was it difference between Mr. Johnson, who was the person that was convicted, as you know of the flag desecration that was ultimately the case it was decided by the Supreme Court. And Mr. North, is that Mr. Johnson wrapped himself in the Constitution and desecrated the flag, Mr. North, wrapped himself in the flag and desecrated the Constitution.



Jimmy Carper 41:18

Yeah.



41:21

The flag is important, but it's a symbol of what this country is all about. What this country is all about, didn't have very little or nothing to do with a flag, it has to do with the embodiment of principles. And you can embody the principles in a piece of cloth, the embodiment of the principles of this country, as the *raison d'être* that led us to an act of insurrection, which is what the Declaration of Independence was, it was taking it was a revolution that took away from the duly organized and constituted government of this country, something that belonged to them. It was a civil war. That's right. We, those who fought and who declared themselves independent, carefully define and set out the the principles and the the, the justification or rationalization for their conduct. But that didn't change the nature that conduct it would be the same as F in some country and some parts of the world now, you had a military Hunter, that's exactly what happened. And you know, we can historians can, can use fine words to dress up anything. I mean, we, we kill a lot of Indians and a lot of buffaloes and we call it manifest destiny.



Jimmy Carper 42:51

That's what we were taught in high school. That's right. That's right.

That's what we were taught in high school. That's right. That's right.

 42:55

It means it was God's will, that we killed the Indians and put them on reservations and kill a buffalo. I want to we're not going to talk about that tonight. On Columbus

 Buddy Johnston 43:04

Day, I heard a lady here and she does an American Indian that is a program called Peace pipes and visions. And she was talking about how Columbus came here and took the Indians as slaves and forced them to gather gold. And the ones that didn't gather gold, they cut their hands off, and most of them bled to death. But nobody taught me that it's

 Jimmy Carper 43:25

no, Christopher Columbus is the hero. Right? So you're

 Buddy Johnston 43:29

right, it depends on whose side of the story who's who's giving you the story. As to what we're gonna get. This is after hours on KPFT. And sometimes the phone's ringing off the wall. And sometimes they don't. And I don't sleep. I don't know. No, it's not that a lot of them are sitting there listening. But but they weren't caught. Well, some of them can't call because they're young, and they're back listening.

 Jimmy Carper 43:52

That kind of transistor radios underneath the covers in the bed. We

 Buddy Johnston 43:57

know you can't call but some of you guys that listen and call us all the time, you've got the perfect opportunity here to talk to a man that served you for 10 years, and you don't call so you've only got about five or 10 minutes, because we're going to let this gentleman go home. But five to six 4005 to six KPFT. It reminds me of Vince Ryan when he was elected to City Council. And he told me one time he said if the gay community needs anything from me, we'll go down to city city hall and get it and if I can't get it, we'll take I'll take my shoe off and bang on the table until they listen to me. And if that don't work, we'll march from Montrose down to City Hall and fill the chamber and get and get them to listen to us. I said, Vince, you're going to be marching down there all by yourself. Because these folks, for whatever reason are too busy. They're not going to take the time out to get involved. What do you say to folks that don't get involved in elections and just trying to find out what are all these folks are about running for office? What's going on around them? Do you have any any thoughts on that? Well,



45:00

let's simple oversimplification is it if you don't vote, you don't have any right to complain.



Jimmy Carper 45:07

Well, it must be very difficult trying to represent people who don't who don't know what's going on and don't care.



45:16

Well, that's not the hard part, I guess, the most difficult part is the realization that everyone really should participate. I mean, in the truest sense of a Jeffersonian democracy, it works best when we all participate, you find many instances in which people are discouraged from voting, and I think that those ought to be made illegal. I mean, rather than making sodomy illegal, we ought to make it a crime for anyone to, in any way, shape, form or fashion, discourage people from participating in the electoral process by threatening to, to have them thrown in jail if they if they violate some election law or something like that. Whole watches and things like that, which is intended by some to intimidate people, keep them from going to vote. I think that elections should be honest and free of fraud. But at the same time, I don't think that we should do anything to discourage people from participating because they find 1000 excuses to keep from registering to begin with. A lot of people don't register to vote because they don't want to be called for jury selection. I mean, that's that's true. And I've



Jimmy Carper 46:29

heard that I have heard so true. Now in Switzerland, there's a law that for during elections, everyone must vote, it is a law that you do vote at seems to be kind of going on the other end of the pendulum, how would you feel about that type of system?



46:48

I would not favor. I don't think that you can compel people to do what they ought to do, and feel comfortable with the result. Because I think that if you force people to go and vote, then I'm not certain choices that they make will be based upon a free and input and unfettered choice of of what's best, they may hardly do it, because it's may not have studied the issue at all, they look up and say, Oh, my gosh, it's six o'clock, the polls gonna close at seven, it's a felony, if I don't just rush down there and vote for one person for one race and come out, I'd rather have them not vote at all, if they're not going to be serious about it. There's no way that you can require people to read material to study up on the candidates before they vote. Fortunately, unfortunately, because this is a democracy, that's the good thing about a democracy is that people don't have to think alike, and they don't have to live a life and they don't have to, to act alike in order to be able to enjoy the blessings of liberty. On the other hand, I think democracy suffers when a small number of people make the choices because every time there's an election, even if only one person voted, that election would be valid, and

someone would win. And people who hold public office, make decisions that affect our lives from before we're born until long after we're dead. And as long as someone makes us think that we can't fight city hall, and it's a self fulfilling prophecy. But if we do participate, and we do become involved, and we do make decisions, then we have a right in making those decisions, to make those politicians accountable to us in a way that we at least know where they're coming from, I think the mistake that we make in politics is that we either allow or require politicians to make us a promise, if elected, I will do that. And so I'm always uncomfortable with that. And I try never to do that. I would rather for the electorate to know how I think and where I stand, and who I am as a person to know a composite as well as can be done in a short period of time of who I am and where I'm coming from, then you can project on your own based upon facts situation that we don't even understand or know to exist right now what I'm likely to do, which is more important than me saying, If elected, I will vote for this against that a for this against that because the nuances of any of those things changed so much that it may not be in the pristine form that we discussed. And we discussed XYZ bill tonight. I say when I get to the Congress, United States by God, I'll be father. Well, it may not be in that form. It may have that general subject matter and general thrust. But would I be faithful or unfaithful to that promise if it's amended in such a way as to not be what exactly I understood the contract to be, then if I vote, contrary to that Denisa, Washington didn't do what He said He was going to do, which may not be true at all. The point is, if you are comfortable with me as a person, and what I'm likely to do on environmental issues, and healthcare issues and humanitarian issues and issues related to civil rights of individuals and people and the things that are important to the people in this district, then then then that's more important than nailing my hand to the wall on specific instances in which you and I may think that I'll be required to vote on these things. But but they may be altogether different than maybe 180 degrees, you can take the same bill on the same subject matter, and by the amendment process, turn it around in such a fashion that neither of us would be fine. But I promised you that I was going to vote for a bill that did XY and Z. Does that mean that I have to go ahead and vote for it? Even if it's not what you want? And what I want? I certainly

 Jimmy Carper 51:00

hope not. Yeah, that's the problem. And I would hope that die will elect somebody with with the brain power to know the difference, right?

 51:09

But if you elect people who make promises, and you make them make promises, and all you want from them is promises, and they give you the promises. And then what do you get in the bargain, you don't get anything, you get a person who said wouldn't come back and says, Well, that wasn't the same bill and you say that person's right. So then it ran off to him to do anything they want. But if you know how, I think, if you know what, fundamentally I believe you can project on on a situation that neither of us could even contemplate right now what I'm likely to do, if you're comfortable with me and my thought process as a person, then and my ability to do the research and to enter make my decision based upon an informed judgment, then that's all that you can expect. You couldn't expect me to vote the way that you would vote 100% of the time, because I represent a half million. That's right. That's right. And all the different



Buddy Johnston 52:02

five to six 4005 to six KPFT. Speaking to Senator Craig Washington this morning, hi, you're on the air. Thanks for holding.



52:10

Well, thank you very much, Senator Washington. I hate to harp on the continent gay issue. But as a matter of fact, we still are the one minority that seems to have the most organized prejudice against us. I mean, we have the Harvard versus Atlanta case, saying that the government of the states can set what we do in our bedrooms, we have the unified Code of Military Justice that says we can't serve in the military. If we are gay or perform gay acts, there's the National Immigration Service that says you can't come into this country and want to live if you are homosexual. As a general rule, what do you think it would work to the right of privacy? I mean, it says in the Constitution that we should be free from unreasonable searches and seizures in our papers, effects and homes. But the key thing seems to be a right to privacy, would you instead of wanting to support an amendment to keep us from burning the flag guarantee as a right to be private in our own home?



53:13

Well, I think that we can accomplish that without amending the United States Constitution. I think it's a matter of interpretation, not of question of language. I find it difficult to, if not impossible, to draw a distinction between the recognized right of privacy of women to make choices concerning their bodies regarding procreation, and the recognize, right of privacy of all individuals to determine who their sleeping partners are. Hmm,



Jimmy Carper 53:46

good point.



53:49

Thank you. Well,



Buddy Johnston 53:51

thanks for calling. Five to six 4005 to six KPFT need to go home and get some sleep. Yeah.



Jimmy Carper 54:01

The coffee hadn't worked another call.



54:05

Let's take another call if you'd like Sure. Yeah. I run it five to



Buddy Johnston 54:10

six 4005 to six KPFT. A couple minutes ago, you kind of kicked into high gear. I said oops. That coffee. Got them. Yeah.



54:19

It worked for a while.



Buddy Johnston 54:24

Five to six 4005 to six KPFT. That's the number of call. After hours radio celebrating life. We've got



54:33

we've solved all the world's problems because there's no one calling So



Buddy Johnston 54:37

Jimmy did you know it's almost Christmas time? You're kidding. Let's



54:41

let's split shipmonk So now we've got



Buddy Johnston 54:44

already hasn't even been Halloween. You know those Christmas ads you hear on the radio? I mean, Bronco special. Yeah, I've got one right here. All right, five to six 4005 to six KPFT talking to Senator Craig Washington. He's gonna leave in just a few minutes, I promise So if you're going to call you better call now five to six 4005 to six KPFT take advantage of it kids while the man sitting right here with this live