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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

holidays, christmas, family, hours, work, voted, fact, marijuana, drugs, talking, gay, put, cracker barrel, jimmy, give, community, non discrimination policy, problem, remember, houston

## SPEAKERS

Chris Harrison, Roy

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Chris Harrison 00:00

And we're back to after hours here. And Jimmy's voice is completely left as you can hear it is different now. This is Chris, I'm sitting in now. We're now going to go to the for 22 hours early, the cultural baggage report. And Dean, are you there?



00:19

I'm here, Chris. Yes. Hi. Hey, thank you very much for letting me on this evening.



Chris Harrison 00:24

Well, we figured we'll put you in between Christmas carols. Well, we'll find something with balls of holly or something with something green and leafy for the for the close out music,



00:32

a good idea, something green and leafy, quiet and quiet. Right. Okay. I have a story I wanted to report on that I think most of the listeners may have seen in Monday's Chronicle. The RAND study came out indicating that marijuana does not lead to hard drugs that it is not a gateway drug. This counter is a basic principle of America's drug policy. When they concluded that marijuana does not lead teenagers to experiment with hard drugs like heroin or cocaine. This study rebutted the theory that marijuana acts as a so called gateway. And it is a key argument, which has been a key argument against legalizing pot in the United States. Here's a quote kids get their first opportunity to use marijuana years before they get their first exposure to hard drugs. This was from Andrew Morrell, the lead author of the land, the RAND study. He says marijuana is not a gateway drug. It's just the first thing kids often come across. He goes on further to say that to a certain extent, we are diverting resources away from hard drug problems by spending money on marijuana control. This is not having downstream consequences on the use of hard drugs. Now a friend of mine, Rob Campea, runs the Marijuana

Policy Project in Washington DC and he has declared war on the drugs are. They have filed a formal complaint of prohibited personnel practice with the Office of Special Counsel charging the White House drugs are John Walters with violating federal law by using his official authority and influence for the purpose of affecting the result of an election. Specifically the election that included question nine in Nevada, the marijuana initiative. This is a quote from campaign during the fall campaign, John Walters declared war on the law and war on the truth. Today, on behalf of US taxpayers, we are declaring war on the drugs are for his illegal and dishonest activities. And then I don't know it's getting to be football season. Don't know if you had heard Mark step nightsky. used to play for the Dallas Cowboys has now come out in favor of ending the war on marijuana. He's now president of the Texas chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws. And here's a quote from him. He says guys who drink a lot of beer the night before a game, get a hangover, you don't get a hangover from marijuana. He goes on further to say marijuana advocates believe their drug is no threat to the integrity of sports. They point out that pot is not a performance enhancing drug. So should we why should we care if athletes tend to smoke a J after they shoot the J. And again, Mark will be my guest on the cultural baggage radio show on KPFT. This is going to be on Friday, December 27. Right in the middle of the bowl game season, and show airs at midnight. And once again, Chris, I appreciate you guys giving me the chance to share this information with your listeners. Well, it's

 Chris Harrison 03:46

such an important issue in our community, especially now with the the AIDS drugs. Funding being cut off a lot of AIDS patients are so used marijuana to help with the the other meds that you're taking and to increase their appetite. I do have to say I have to find it very ironic that a former Dallas Cowboy is leading the charge for anti drug to for the legalization of drugs. Considering how much trouble cowboys have gotten into

 04:14


well over the years, but he should be able to find some allies from his former teammates, I would think. And I think there is that effort underway. Again, it's it's tough for celebrities to speak out, because so many of

 04:26

them, it is on such a controversial subject. Right?

 04:31


They don't want to lose that potential commercial endorsements right before. But anyway, Mark will be on the 27th I think it ought to be a great show. Give us a chance to you know, he was in Sports Illustrated. We can ask him. Well, who else who else is going to step up with Mark?

 Chris Harrison 04:49

Of course now and work. Okay, so you gave it the time when you're going to be on the air. You also have a website?

 04:57

I do. Actually I do. Just got a brand new website right now it's just set up to point visitors to most of my other data, but it's easier to remember. It is the unvarnished truth.org And one big long word unvarnished. truth.org Okay.

 Chris Harrison 05:18

Thanks for calling in this week, Dr. Dean Becker is the host of the cultural baggage 420 show here on KPFT. And as Jimmy always likes to point out the only regularly scheduled straight person on after

 05:32


hours and quite glad to be associated with you guys. Thank you. Thank

 Chris Harrison 05:36

you for calling in. Okay, we are going to, let's see, what what, what music am I going to hit here? First of all, we're waiting for Roy to come in for the after hours news of US magazine. We're gonna be covering some news, some other information. And we're also going to be talking about the holiday season and how that affects our community. So we'll have some of our regular irregulars in here. I think we're going to play the one song I always love at Christmas time. And I'm surprised Jimmy hadn't played it yet. It is from Jane Barlow. I've read the cover deich long haul. And you are only going to hear this on after hours, Queer radio with attitude. And we are back to after hours. And this is the news and views magazine. And by unpopular demand. Big Roy and I are sharing the studio. And but the difference is I get to kill his mic whenever I want to.

 06:53

Oh, you kill my mic, all of that. Anyway.

 Chris Harrison 06:56

I don't get to push the buttons that often. So that was still playing. Stop. Okay. That was Jane Barlow, Jan Barlow with deich the halls thought that was a cutie II, little song to be to be playing. And we were going to be talking the whole segment here. We were hoping to get

somebody from Montrose Counseling Center to come in and talk about depression during the holidays. And unfortunately, because of this ungodly hour, we were unable to get the head drinkers to pop in for a visit.

R

Roy 07:38

You know, I probably I told Chris earlier when he told me that he wasn't able to get him as well, I can help. I says, if they're not depressed, I can start singing. And he said, we're talking about depression, not suicidal. We don't want to make them suicidal. But

C

Chris Harrison 07:53

we do have to be serious is it the holiday season is upon us since Thanksgiving and through Christmas. These are holidays that are really meant for they're based around family. And a lot of people are either living too far away from their family of origin are separated from their family of origin. Or like the unfortunate souls like me are still a part of their family of origin.

R

Roy 08:20

You know, you can laugh but I was just thinking about that. There are some people who are with the family and are dreading the holidays because the family situation is not all that cool.

C

Chris Harrison 08:35

Or even having just with having to go back into the closet for the whole time. And then you also have some people who decide this is the time to come out

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08:47

with a very popular Christmas present. Every bit mother dad wants. Well,

C

Chris Harrison 08:52

you have to look at it this way. It's one Christmas gift that you can give that you know they're not going to be returning. No matter how hard they try. They can't give that one back.

⦿

09:01

But it's not a tie. It's something quite unique.

C

Chris Harrison 09:06

Oh yes, it won't be a tie. It's more like Ascot but one thing we just want to give a little plug here is the Montrose Counseling Center is working to help with this to help make through the holiday season in a self caring manner is the focus of the one time support group at the Montrose Counseling Center. The group is open to anyone who identifies as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered group meets at Montrose Counseling Center on Monday, December 11, from six to 8pm. It's facilitated by therapist Francis gerdts. And she's got a whole bunch of initials after her name basically, she's got an alphabet soup there.



09:48

Monday, December 11.



Chris Harrison 09:50

Yes,



09:51

that's not possible. This is Sunday. The eighth



Chris Harrison 09:59

Well, Sally if you happen to still be or Francis, which you better not be because you said you couldn't show up here. Check the calendar, please give us a call. Okay, so on some Monday in December, from six to eight if you show up down there and somebody was there to talk to you gave for the holidays, we'll cover expectations for the upcoming holiday season, and how each person can take steps to take care of him or herself. Having expectations that are too high are is one reason many people fall into the holiday blues. But it can also be a stressful time for people both financially and with time management. With so much pressure to buy gifts, Send Out Cards, make travel plans and prepare for house guests. Along with the stress of dealing with family matters, especially a family isn't accepting of one's sexual orientation or gender identity. I found it easier I just turned Jewish before Christmas. And never forget back to college Palace ism after it it says a lot of present buying



11:01

hmm that's a unique approach.



Chris Harrison 11:06

Now I can't say Jewish all the time. I love ham.





11:10

I know because you're such a good one. You're there.



Chris Harrison 11:15

Anything I didn't? Well, it's not kosher working with you your radio hog. Registration is not required but it is recommended. Anyone interested in more information about gay for the holiday support group should call the Montrose Counseling Center at 713-529-0037. There is a \$5 fee for the two hour session. And the Montrose Counseling Center is located at 701. Richmond. And the phone number again is 713-529-0037. Or you can check them out on the web at Montrose counseling center dot O R G. Is that building? It looks like 70 They took it out of 1970. Eastern Germany down there on Richmond.



12:01

Yes, the architect for that building needed to be shot. And



Chris Harrison 12:05

well no, I believe he did a community center to community service outside of his Gulag. It's the same person who designed the I believe the Chinese Consulate office



12:17

what it what it is, is a it's similar to the federal building up there on Rusk, you know, it's governmental abortion.



Chris Harrison 12:30

And also joining us in here is Jackie, insert your name here.



12:38

Jackie Thorne, like



Chris Harrison 12:40

people don't know. But you never know, we may have that one person who's just listening for the first time. But like I said, we were talking about depression and for the holidays. And there are a lot of issues in our community, just based off of the fact of family of choice family of

origin. And this is such a religious time. Considering all three of the major faiths have holidays at around this time. We've got Ramadan, you've got Hanukkah, which is just ending. And you've got the Advent season preparing for Christmas time.



13:19

And Kwanzaa for the for the African American community.



Chris Harrison 13:23

And so it's a lot of a lot of pressure of different communities and different aspects of culture that's kind of coming together at one shot here. And it does cause people a lot of issues, especially the fact that the majority of them are based off of religion or spirituality.



13:41

Chris, let me let me let me throw in a comment here. I've you know, I've dealt with with the religious aspect of the being transgendered. And my attitude is been that personally being a Christian, God made each and every one of us exactly the way we are. And God doesn't make any rash. He had a good reason for making us the way we are. And if you like, who you are, no worry about whatever anybody else says about you. But if you like yourself, what anybody else thinks about you is totally irrelevant.



14:41

Actually, you can go I always say this, you can go nuts trying to please everybody.



14:47

Exactly. You cannot please anybody else. The only person you have to please is yourself. Exactly. And if you are happy with who you are and what you are, then And what anybody else thinks about you is, you know, they irrelevant, irrelevant. Exactly. You know, and you know, my attitude is, you know, a good lifestyle is the best revenge.



Roy 15:15

Well, I always say this, even if you don't have a lifestyle, you have enough due to in your own life where you don't need to take on someone else's, you know, if they have a problem with who you are with what you're



15:28

that's their problem. And exactly, yeah,



15:31

I mean, we all have enough of our own problems in our own life and life does hands us lemon, enough lemons that we could start our own orchards, you know, individual.



15:42

Well, you know, this is this has always been, you know, my situation I, you know, I've been out for God 20 years now, here in Houston. And I go anyplace I want to using common sense, obviously. But the thing that I have realized is, is that people have a problem with how I'm dressed or how I look. That's their problem, not mine.



Chris Harrison 16:12

Well, I always remember back to the first Christmas after I came out to my family. My, one of our Christmas decorations is the traditional leather strap with the jingle balls on it. Okay, my, my, my, my father had dipped a little too much into the eggnog and was willing to talk to me that day and came up to me and tried tying that leather strapped to my back and going well, you'll be the hit of Jr's here with this thing on. And because I was the only bar he knew of, at the time, thinking that leather was appropriate for anything in a gay male function. So Jr's, like I said, he knew that was the bar that I went to. Okay. His only other past experience with gay bars was daring me at the Westheimer street festival to go into Mary's. And he never got off the curb. And we never got the courage to do it. But I like the one time he's getting a little closer to some of the magnets they had on the refrigerator out in front of Mary's and it was like, mom pulled him away from there, because I don't think he's gonna see somebody he's gonna want. And those magnets were pictures usually taken from Mardi Gras was in southern decadence along the street in New Orleans, so. But this I mean, we're, we have depression, and issues in our community year round, and with fact of everybody throwing family in your face. And then then you go to the next extreme that your next two holidays that are coming up here, the big ones of New Year's and Valentine's, are really based around relationships of starting the new year with the person who you love, and with showing that love to that person on Valentine's Day. And so you have a lot of this emotional investment that you have to put in during this four months from Thanksgiving on to Valentine's. And it could cause a lot of inner turmoil with someone who may not be as well grounded as they would like to be in this kind of situation. And it's always something that you have that has to have to be worried about.



Roy 18:39

And also within the community. There are people who, in our community, who do have stable gay relationships or lesbian relationships, and they're out spending the holiday with their significant other are their, quote, family and quote, and then there's those who are by themselves. And it's very depressing in. They have different ways of dealing with it. Most notably getting drunk or getting, getting using drugs to kill the pain and it really just doesn't. Well,



19:22

the thing about it is you got to realize in Houston, we have an incredible number of support groups. And there's no reason why someone have to spend the holidays alone.



19:36

Well, not everybody feels comfortable with going to support groups.



Chris Harrison 19:42

Well, no. It Well, there's not just your your traditional support groups. Yeah, but yeah, I do understand that there are any



19:54

number of activities that a person can participate in from In the church related activities from MC CR, several of the other religious groups. And that to me, a lot of times I think a lot of people feel pressure or from the religious aspect, particularly from their families, if their family is fundamentalist, and there is not a reason in the world, as as I said before, you know, God made each and every one of us exactly the way we were, and God doesn't make any trash. And he doesn't. There are there are religious organizations if, if that's your if that's your bag, go out to MCC, er, the Gospel Fellowship Church there's there's a group that's meeting at the community center now on Sunday mornings. And so you



Chris Harrison 21:01

have several denominations how exactly gay organizations dignity, young



21:05

for the dignity and integrity and so forth like that these aren't these are the quotation marks. Gay related, but you know, it's not only the gay related, but also they they're, they're acceptive of and welcoming of the transgender community as well.



Chris Harrison 21:27

Because I'll be honest, one of the, the issues with religion and all that, and I feel strange even saying it, but it's very truthful. I was raised Roman Catholic. And, and the last time I went to MCC was a Christmas Eve, special Christmas Mass. That was several years ago. And the strangest thing was, I didn't have a problem with the gay themes and all that. My issue came with the fact that there was a female priest and I have shaken every little bit of, of Catholicism, I mean, I will, I will sit in front of the Pope Anita hamburger on the front on Good Friday. I got no

qualms with that. But I still have that that one last little burning problem thing with it. And it made me uncomfortable. And so for some people who may have those sorts of issues of how they were raised, some of these groups that are geared based off of the not the fundamentalist side of their faiths of birth, may be a good option to look into, and a way of expanding in some of that. Because I mean, we're, we talk about the Catholics and the issues they've been having lately. And recently, they came out and said that they shouldn't ordain homosexuals for in the priesthood. And



22:59

yeah, well, you know, the good portion of it anyway,



23:02

the problem the problem with the Roman Catholic Church, and homosexuality and the acceptance of females in a ministerial role is a lot like the situation that the some of the fundamentalist Protestant groups, ie Southern Baptists find themselves in with regard to drinking and card playing, and dancing and so forth like that. They painted themselves so far back into the corner, that there's no way they can get out with without, you know, losing face. And the thing you've got to realize is if you look at your Bible, and God knows I'm not a Bible scholar, but in the early church, first century church and job with women or part of that church, and they were more than just the altar guild, they they were active Aquila, and some of the others that were involved in the in the early church. You know, so this is not in to me, this is not a problem. I know that the Episcopal Church, which is what I was raised in has a real problem with with female priests. There's a group within the within the Episcopal religion that has the same attitude that the Roman Catholics have, that women should not be ordained as priests.



Chris Harrison 24:48

And then when you turn to the other spectrum, you've got the Anglican Church who the new head of it the Archbishop of Canterbury. Oh, who believes the Simpson is a good role model for the family.



24:58

I am I am overjoyed with the statements that the new Archbishop of Canterbury has made. And



Chris Harrison 25:07

thankfully for him they don't do what they do to old Archbishop's of Canterbury. It is the top of the hour. So we do need to let you know that you are listening to after hours Queer radio with attitude hear heard here on KPFT and Houston que EOS in College Station and the worldwide web at KPFT x dot O R G. And I think we're going to step out for a moment here and put some more Christmas music we are playing Queer Christmas music because this is December. And if you like what you're hearing on after hours for the Queer music, don't forget to tune in to

Queer voices the two Mondays prior to Christmas, where JD Doyle will be playing Queer music at the nine o'clock hour. So this coming up is the gogo boys. Oh, that sounds like fun. And we're going to be playing boys to the world. Like and I think this is one of those songs we can say you're only gonna hear it here. We'll be back in a moment okay, I, well, that's still going, okay. Of course, I made a mistake. I gave that great promo, promo introduction for the wrong and then I hit the wrong CD button. So what we first heard was Carol of the Bells from a new light Christmas. Great production. Oh, yes. And then we follow that up with the gogo boys. Boys to the world. Play the ones he has Mark saying they've got naughty words in them. He's not here.



27:07

Jimmy will be calling in. Because I'm sure he's listening. Jimmy



Chris Harrison 27:12

has to get ready. He's got company he has to take to the airport. Of course, I had to turn on Roy's mic as soon as he started doing his Darth Vader impersonation again. Your red lining there's once again, this is after hours Queer radio with attitude. Unfortunately, it is 307 in the morning. So we are giving you as much attitude as we can. We are talking about the holidays. And Roy left all the news stories in here that Jimmy gave us here. Some interesting little stuff that's come up here lately. We're hopefully we're gonna becoming legal soon. Legal? Yes. Well, some things that Roy are still going to be considered illegal. But well, once once they pass the deliverance standard for you then? Well,



Roy 28:06

you know, I was telling Tim, when he got finished with this segment how that was the Supreme Court decision. We do have four justices in the US Supreme Court that we can count on. But there's that fifth one, which is the crucial one is a toss up. For instance, Sandra Day O'Connor voted in favor of the state of South Carolina, or Georgia. Georgia was the last big case. Yeah. of Georgia. She voted in favor of Georgia. But she voted. She voted in which was when she voted in favor of Georgia case. That was a setback for the gay community. But she voted for the gay community in the Colorado case. Yeah. And so she's a toss up, then we have Justice Kennedy who can go either way. Some people say he's for sure to vote for us. And some people say Don't count your chickens on that. So you know. And then there's two sections. There's two arguments being brought before it. One is the



29:20

invasion of privacy or the right to privacy law. And then there's the other part the equal protection. And so now if the equal protection if they vote in favor of us on the equal protection that will liberate us in Texas and in three other states if they vote in favor of if they vote in favor of invade invasion of privacy. That's blanket all across the country. Yeah,



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well the the Equal Protection thing is a is made Typically the fact that the Texas law only applies to gay people, homosexuals,



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and in three other states, etc. And of course, the



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problem with that, as you know, that has been promulgated by people who've been watching this is that okay? If the Supreme Court rules on the equal protection clause or the protection amendment, then the state legislature, which is scheduled to meet this year will merely apply the rule to both heterosexual and homosexual sodomy. And that will get around the Supreme Court ruling.



Chris Harrison 30:50

I unfortunately, had the wrong button pushed free checking. I can't count I thought you were on three instead of two. And we heard we heard you it was just very faint. And I couldn't figure out why in the world. I couldn't the mic wasn't working.



31:05

But we got we got a much better now. Yeah, there



Chris Harrison 31:07

you go. Yeah. Now you're redlining. But the interesting fact is you've got Rick Perry, who during during his term of before he was elected, Lord, I got here because his daddy got hairy. Once it originally said Dick, well,



31:29

no. The thing in the chronicle the Rick Perry thinks that the 21 of fix isn't appropriate law.



31:38

I can't believe he said, Yeah,



Chris Harrison 31:39

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I think our law is appropriate we have on the books. The case the court will review is the prosecution of two Houston men under a 28 year old Texas law that makes it a crime to engage in same sex intercourse. And I remember when this case came into being known, everyone was saying, Oh, it smells like it was a scam. It was a setup and all that. But let's, let's face one little thing. If I think if the gay community was going to be creating this case, if we were going to throw these getting these three people to stage this little scenario that caused the 21, six to be reviewed, I think we would have had different actors. Yes. I mean, because let's just put it in the very simple terms, it's going to be it's a hard enough sell in Texas to a jury in that of a gay male relationship. tack on the fact that was an interracial gay male relationship.

R

Roy 32:39

My goodness gracious. You know, that's another point. And you know, we can laugh about that. But face it, folks, racism and bigotry is still a very big part of American life. No. One of the defendants in this case is a black man. And the other one was a white guy, an

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Chris Harrison 33:01

older white gentleman. And

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33:05

the Civil War or the War Between the States had been over 440 years now, or 135 years. And we still have people who thinks that a black person, an African American version has absolutely no rights. No.

C

Chris Harrison 33:26

Well, we look at it this way. The incoming Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott said at Strom Thurman's 100th birthday celebration that how that the United States would be a much better place if Strom Thurmond would have won the election for president in

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33:44

1948. When he segregation Dixiecrat

C

Chris Harrison 33:48

against Harry S. Truman, and Dewey, whoever the first thing that I just remember that

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33:55

Tom is doing from New York, so, okay,



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and that is, that's why he lost. You know, it



34:05

was it was so similar in many respects to the situation where third party candidates come in Moe Hill, Ralph Nader in 2000 is a perfect example. Ralph Nader cost Al Gore the election.



Chris Harrison 34:28

I would say was probably more. Yeah, he did. Take some of Al Gore's votes. But I think more



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he took he took enough of Al Gore's votes that, you know, the Al Gore lost. Last, you know, a while even even though Al Gore had the majority of as far as the number of votes compared to what moshed Gore had more votes, but with the Electoral College system that we Have Ralph Nader coughed. Al Gore, Florida?



Chris Harrison 35:07

Well, I think a lot of Al Gore votes went also to pat buchanan due to the butterfly ballot. Yeah, well, that nailed that, too. That's all unfortunately, that's a dead. It's a dead horse we're, we're stuck with, with what we have. And unfortunately, we're looking at the fact that the same Supreme Court that ruled in the 2000 election is the one who's going to be ruling on this. The homeless Oh, no. No, it's gonna be the same exact court. As far as we know, right now. There are a couple of members of the Supreme Court who are talking about them wanting to retire. And one of those is Sandra Day O'Connor, who, whose husband made the comment during the election debacle of that we need a Republican in there so Sandra can retire. And then of course, you've got the



36:09

problem is you're gonna get no Bush is going to nominate some idiot, like Mork her somebody similar, who is going to be a radical right wing person. And that, you know, unfortunately, because of this, the nature to the Supreme Court, that person is going to be here for a long, long time. The president? Well,



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you know, I'll tell you some, you know, I've been thinking about this, too. We have progressed

as a community, far enough along where we now even in this administration. We do have gay people in high government positions. And President Bush to his credit, pushed to having the military reinstate those gate Arabic translators.



37:11

Yeah. When did that happen? I haven't heard. I haven't heard



Chris Harrison 37:13

that part. That was about a week ago. That's when they were kicked out. I had



37:20

a few days afterwards.



37:20

I didn't hear that. I



Chris Harrison 37:22

hadn't heard that. But the simple the simple fact is, yes, there are a lot of openly gay and lesbian members in the administration. But none of them are at a level where they have to go before a hearing to be appointed. These are people who are just strictly hired by the President and said you're going to serve in this position when the last openly gay person who would have to have served who have to go before a Senate committee to be elected to be nominated. That position was when President Clinton were nominated for Mel Hormel as ambassador to Luxembourg or Luxembourg converter, one of those little Belgium whatever countries in in Europe, and under Republican control, they squashed it and they squash in immediately. And the only way that Hormel actually became the ambassador, is they had to wait until the Congress was not in session. It was a recess appointment is recess appointment. And everyone raised all sorts of cane in hell about it. And basically, it didn't get much play. But the fact was, you know, Clinton did some of those recess appointments but didn't do any more than Reagan did during his eight years. And it's probably going to be doing, on average about the same amount that that you're going to be seeing George W doing during



38:47

I honestly, I honestly feel that the climate is much better, even in the executive branch. And in the legislative branch in both the Senate and the House. congressmen and senators of both parties have working relationships with a lot of gay and lesbian people on their staffs. Not every senator has has them. But there are enough that I think I honestly think that the the situation is much more favorable now than it has ever been before. I think we might I think there's a good

possibility we might win this. And I wouldn't I would not be surprised if there are openly gay people and lesbians and bisexual people who work in the US Supreme Court building itself as staffers of



39:50

debate. And oh, yeah. Has to be people in the Supreme Court.



39:57

I feel that people like Scalia and O'Connor and all the rest of them are taking a hard look at this and saying, you know, what businesses of ours, what these people do?



Chris Harrison 40:08

Well, Scalia is going to be a tough sell because the fact and very simply Scully is going to fall and



40:16

become us. And the the the basically the four justices that form the the right wing.



Chris Harrison 40:26

Well, Scalia has more more this time because very simply, Scalia wants Rehnquist his job request is is looking at I mean, Frank was can't go on



40:36

your request, what he wants to get out. And Scalia wants to be appointed Chief Justice. And that's



Chris Harrison 40:41

basically why a lot of stuff happened before the Rehnquist can't do anything else. He's presided over the number one trial that you can do in the United States.



40:51

Yeah, impeachment of the president united states so that he has no further to go.

 Chris Harrison 40:55

He can't add any more gold stripes to his gown. So there's nothing more he can do, except go off and probably be president of some law school somewhere and write some books.

 41:06

He's mumble, mumble, mumble and die.

 Chris Harrison 41:11

But now if Scalia is the one who wants to, to take over the the highchair there and and that's probably also why Sandra Day O'Connor is looking to step aside. She's I think she's considered more of the moderate conservative. And the LEA. No, no, she told me. Oh, Sandra Day O'Connor. And so that's probably reason why I think she's wanting to step aside because she sees no room for advancement on her side. Because right now she's, she's number two, I believe, because she's the second ranking on the bench press one being for longevity. Right now. She's the head. She's the Chief associate if I remember correctly. Well,

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Ruth Ginsburg, she should be getting or she still like a junior? Well,

 41:58

better Ginsburg. No, she also is wanting to retire for health reasons and legitimate health reasons. Not

 Chris Harrison 42:07

mental health reasons like others. No, she,

 42:10

she my understanding she she she had cancer and some other health problems and so forth.

 Chris Harrison 42:16

She had medical problems back when back during the Clinton presidency as well. So yeah, exactly. You know, it's amazing. We start with talking about depression. Here. We are talking about politics. We went from depression to religion to politics.



42:31

That's what happened. Remember the caucus in here?



Chris Harrison 42:36

You know, I mean, if people really want the blues, you just need to hang around for the blues Sunday that's coming up. I mean, we don't. But why don't we take a step out? And let's see if I can hit the right CD this time. Let's see. What did I cue in here? Yes, okay. We're going to do this is after hours Queer radio with attitude. I'm Chris. We've got Roy and Jackie and Stephen. The rest of the irregular regulars around here.



43:07

As I noticed I'm on the website, which surprised me



Chris Harrison 43:11

Yeah. The scary thing is even put big Roy on the website. If you haven't checked it out. KPFT dot o RG has a new website we got to do with our new KPFT logo,



43:23

which I really do like which is why they picked this which



Chris Harrison 43:26

is the new style showing that Pacifica stands for peace and you go on to the studio and the programs by list and after hours is number one. We're number one that is until the ABA review show comes they're going to be replacing dead air it's going to be all all the all the time so there'll be there'll be breeding



43:50

another job for the queen.



Chris Harrison 43:53

Just kidding deadheads go back to the go back to the bong but no they



44:00

11 44:00

what are they? What are they got? What are they gonna do? Alternate playing Mamma Mia and dancing queen.

C Chris Harrison 44:07

I think I sing Abba almost every day at work. I have a co worker named Fernando and every time I hear his name, I just start saying can you hear the drums Fernando? Okay, there's my temper saying but no, they they put big Roy first Fernando's Hi All I did and Whateley regulars include big Roy, Chris, Bobby, Steven David and Lee David as always in Corpus and Jimmy Carper is last night he's a producer but

44:33

he's mentioned up closer up towards

C Chris Harrison 44:36

after hours gay lesbian and trail they need to change that gay lesbian and transgendered Verity. After hours is a Queer variety show is heard every Sunday morning one to 4am a temporary time slot from our regular Saturdays midnight one. It is produced by Jimmy Carper with the help of his many assistant producers and regular staff Jimmy sublets his to one hour slots each week into different GLBT community leaders. Oh god, he's gonna spring royal leader. Oh god, I wouldn't trust him to lead and Anna Hale out of a paper bag.

45:14

Thank you very much

C Chris Harrison 45:16

community leaders to bring eight monthly viewpoints currently these time slots include bisexual after hours news magazine, transgendered Hispanic lesbian African American teen and leather community news events gossip, and we do that and GLBT music filled the rest of the time. On those lucky months with five Saturdays the show was mainly music by out gay lesbian, bisexual transgendered artists. Yeah, it goes on and on and on. I mean, not only we first but we're the longest we come first and last a long time on that happy

45:55

Oh, Chris, Chris. That's almost as bad as my sub Wait.

C Chris Harrison 46:01



Chris Harrison 46:01

Oh, you're not going there? We're going to be playing we'll



46:08

get 12 inches cut or uncut.



Chris Harrison 46:12

Speaking of cut, this is your microphone being cut off. Okay, we've got Jill Sobule. And we'll be singing Merry Christmas to the family and making Santa with a fig leaf on his no that no no, that's not a fig leaf. That's a ball of holly hanging from his. Yeah. gooseneck and of course this is after hours and we have a dedication on this next one. Yes, Stephen. Go for it.



46:52

I have a personal friend who has this past week. Really stupid move. Don't



Chris Harrison 46:58

go into too many details. Remember? HPD maybe listening honey.



47:02

That Oh God that's true. You can probably figure it out from this. The title of the song chicken Hawk is coming to town dedicated to my friend in Santa Fe at home in Santa Fe chicken. Oh yeah, it just gets the bunch better. Oh, honey, I



Chris Harrison 47:19

think we've got our topic for next month. Chicken Hawk come into town well, they were just making us cackling up a storm.



47:38

Or to be in trouble when the boss comes back. He's fine. Boy, but



Chris Harrison 47:47

no, this was a dedicated song.



47:48

Oh, it was a dedication. Yeah,



Chris Harrison 47:50

that was the gogo boys with a song they're so proud of they didn't write it on the back of the CD called Chicken Hawk is coming to town.



48:03

Well you know this sounds like my latest diet. Nothing but chicken



Chris Harrison 48:09

I know you can't afford you can't you can't afford KFC let alone what's on? What else is finger licking good out there. And before that, we played Joe Jill Sobule sobo Super Bowl with Merry Christmas to the family. And it's a very intriguing song. I mean, how many Christmas songs you know that talks about tampons. And not very? My Christmas Well, I mean, well, I guess what the string could be an ornament or



48:47

don't go there. Read Hey,



Chris Harrison 48:51

darlin. I see. There. Okay. Yeah,



48:54

why not? First, Christmas colors are red and green. I mean,



Chris Harrison 48:59

there is a line in the sand. Yeah,



49:02

but the reason why the Christmas colors are red and green is because after you've spent all that green, you'll find out you're in the red.



Chris Harrison 49:11

Then then you're halfway to Christmas Christmas year round, aren't you?



49:15

That the truth?



Chris Harrison 49:17

Actually, we did that already. Again, actually, I found that you know why there's why the you always see Robins associated with Christmas. Why? It actually comes from England, the old royal post. Their mountains, dressed in a in a red uniform, Robert Roode. And so when they started doing their stamps, to commemorate Christmas, they showed Robins delivering the mail. And that's how that how all the Robinson that came into.



49:49

I always wondered about that because Robins are not around at Christmas time they like like soccer.



Chris Harrison 49:55

Yeah, it's most birds. Unfortunately, I work in the mailing industry. So I was doing this trivia for a newsletter and I came across that and it was like, it makes sense. Now, I'm always because I couldn't fairway of red, robins and cardinals, always for Christmas. And that was based off of those people over and across the pond. And Roy wants me to plug this again. And Jimmy took all the other stuff. So this is the only Christmas event we can plug. The 16th annual Christmas song fest benefiting bearing omega. And the Center for AIDS is going to be at the Edward Hornberger center. The old shamrock Hotel on Sunday, Sunday, Sunday, Sunday at 9:30pm. Which is 18 hours from now. Ken,



50:42

can we acknowledge jury Atwood? Yes, during the driving force behind that,



Chris Harrison 50:47

well, let's put it this way. Jerry. That was the reason why I got this piece of paper in front of me. And yeah,



50:51

and he has done this for God knows how many years



Chris Harrison 50:57

and tickets at the door are \$50 But you have hundreds of people singing their asses off for Jesus. That's the official quote that I received. And that includes an open bar and a meal style buffet. Right talking about a little horse ovaries? Of course. Yeah, the order arrives. If anything was a little curlicue in the middle, this is a full meal type buffet.



51:21

14 \$50 for an open bar, yeah, I can I can handle that. And I bet you I'm not too sure jaggy. Oh, yes, I



Chris Harrison 51:31

can. Well, considering the nap. We saw you taking down the first half of the show. I mean, I walked by your car and you didn't hear me. But then again, you're cranking the radio up so loud. I was



51:43

listening to the radio. Yeah, it was actually our show.



Chris Harrison 51:47

Let's see. For those people who are looking for a place to eat, and have to be out on the highways, apparently now, Cracker Barrel is becoming a part of the family. What the Human Rights Campaign commended Cracker Barrels board of directors for voting to add sexual orientation to the company's written non discrimination policy.



52:09

Wow. You know what, in the reason why I say well, because I remember back in the 80s Cracker Barrel, or had their supervisors go around and ask individual employees if they were gay. And it states that they were



52:21

they're fired on the spot.



Chris Harrison 52:23

And in fact, if you can get a hold of the, it was an HBO documentary called out at work? Well, segments included a thing on Cracker Barrel, and the work that in Atlanta, they were trying to do to change the policy there.



52:40

Because not only not only employees, but if you know, if a gay couple came in and sat down, you know, in the restaurant, who they were asked to leave.



Chris Harrison 52:50

Yeah, and I've never been in a Cracker Barrel. I've driven by a couple of them. And you know, they didn't really look too appealing from the outside. Well,



52:59

I'll say this, though. Since they have voted to change their policy. I think it would be cool to community since we were so adamant about boycotting them, that we'd be just as adamant as now and supporting them.



Chris Harrison 53:17

I agree. And so it was a unanimous vote to change the non discrimination policy. And the shareholder proposal to add sexual orientation to the company's non discrimination policy would have received a majority of the votes cast. But because no sponsor was present at the meeting to introduce the proposal, no formal vote was held. So but it is it is going to be the Board of Directors put it through the shareholders didn't, okay. Even though there was people, there was enough shares, they had enough proxy votes to pass it, nobody offered it to be to be voted upon. So Cracker Barrel is now joined the fold a total of 298 fortune 500 companies includes sexual orientation in company non discrimination policies, and 180 provide domestic partnership benefits. According to the HRCS work net, which maintains the most comprehensive online database of employer policies. Well,



54:18

I know the company that I work for IPC has a very strong sexual non discrimination policy, including of transgendered folks. One of the Regional Vice Presidents of this standard, the other thing with our company is a transgender person. And I know of course, if you go working in shopping malls, you better be gay friendly.



Chris Harrison 54:47

Well, I work for a company that has a non discrimination policy. And it's interesting that some of our clients ETs are notoriously known for not having non discrimination policies. And to the point that I make a joke about the fact that there's one software package that I use, called Quark Express. And it offers a discount to nonprofit organizations. And some of my clients can't get this special nonprofit rate. But I can get it as Q Patrol, because you have to have sexual orientation as part of your non discrimination policy to get the software package for a third of the cost.



55:40

So those adults, so those that do discriminate, you really stick it to



Chris Harrison 55:45

Yeah, and that's all. And that's because cork was founded by I don't remember his first name, but his last name is Gil. And it's the founder of the gill Foundation, and openly gay man in Colorado, who has this philanthropic organization now, ball based off of this program, and before I found out that he was openly gay and handed out lots of money to groups, I didn't like that program. And amazing, it's just turn events of Well, first of all, I had to use it at work, because I didn't have a choice. But you know, I'm starting to understand more of how it works, and very glad to use a program that gay, gay, gay created, and extremely gay friendly with their organization that they have they brought out from that. Somebody chirped? Well, okay, so we have been talking about a little bit of a depression at the beginning, and turns it into religion, then turned it into politics. And now we're bringing it to food with Cracker Barrel.



56:53

But food and depression actually go hand in hand a lot of times. Well, yeah, you have, but and I do want to say this. If you're not religious, and you're not political, and you're depressed this season, get with a bunch of your friends. And because they are people that are your friends, they are your friends for a reason. I mean, you do have some some something in common, some sort of camaraderie with these folks. That and if they are alone, and you're alone, but y'all can have a great Christmas fest together. No, no, I've done that on a number of occasions. And I would feeling like, so down in the dumps, you know, I just, I just, I was like, borderline suicidal. And but I said, Why do then, and I just start calling some friends. And we just started having a gay old time. Yeah,



Chris Harrison 57:48

I mean, if you don't have your family of origin, you create a family choice, and you gather a support circle around you and just have to just go read a movie. Well,



57:58

you know, not only not only that, but to me, an uplifting experience is being able to do for

others. And there are several groups here in the Houston area during the holidays that have dinners and so forth like that, go down there and help, no help hand the food out. You know, realizing that there are people who are in more dire straits than you are. Not, not that that's particularly uplifting, but to be able to do for somebody else. And sexual orientation has absolutely nothing whatsoever to do with it. You know, it's helping your fellow man. And that's and that's what the season is all

 Chris Harrison 58:51

about. And you'll be hearing a lot of different opportunities to help out to not not just the Queer community, but the Houston community at large. Under the new policy, regime style, however, you wanna refer to it of the KPFT family now, you'll hear a lot more of those opportunities to volunteer. And if you check out the website, KPFT dot O, R G, they're putting a lot of those items out there where you can help out your fellow citizen and let them let everyone know that you're there to give them a handout, a hand up, not a handout, necessarily, but just give him give him some of the opportunity of giving back to the community.

 59:34

You know, Chris, let's face it, those of us here at after hours. We are all volunteers here and there's not one of us that get paid. I mean, if this was a paid position, I'd probably be fired. First day. No, but we're all volunteers here. And you know, I can only speak for myself. There are many Saturday evenings when I just am just too tired. I just don't want it Come in, but I feel an obligation to the community. So I do come in and it's amazing thing happens as soon as I come across the threshold. It's like, bam, I mean, you feel good. I mean that you're doing something. Maybe I'm just in the lobby just answering the phone the whole night, or, and no calls come in or something. But we do have a great time back there. Oh, yeah,

 Chris Harrison 1:00:22

we always kid that we have, we always have two shows going on here on after hours and ones on air and ones in the lobby. And sometimes the one in the lobby is much better than it was a better show. But you know, the FCC probably wouldn't let us make Howard Stern blush. Now.

 1:00:39

I'm involved with the PWA holiday charities. And one of the things that PWA holiday charities does is at Thanksgiving and Easter, we hand out a bag of food to the people with age at the stone soup. And it's a warm, fuzzy to be there. And to see these people and see the smiles on their face and so forth. But to me What is even more fulfilling is the letters that PW holiday charities gets in after these handles handouts, saying thank you for making our Easter or our Thanksgiving with the food that you gave out. And and this is something you can't buy. It's, it's it's something that, again, you know, you are doing for someone else. And that's what the season is all about to do for someone else.

 Chris Harrison 1:02:02

And that's the important thing is that you're also making a difference. Oh, yeah. And that, I mean, Thanksgiving, there's a lot of events you have in Houston, all the clubs do the bars have Thanksgiving events, the community center, I think they're talking about putting something together for Christmas, this year, at least a drop in kind of thing. And it's always good to just get in touch with with people who may be in a similar situation and helping out those who are maybe less fortunate than you is a little bit better rewarding, because like you said, I mean, your family may have turned their backs on you. But here's someone who who really needs you and doesn't matter that

 1:02:50


you're perilous who you sleep with. Yeah.

 Chris Harrison 1:02:53

And that's that's the part is it's you have that acceptance as as a fact that you're you're you're just there to help somebody and that's the reason for the season.

 1:03:08


What about you because how do you fight to depression when it comes?

 Chris Harrison 1:03:12

I avoid the family.

 1:03:16

So you avoid the so you avoid the floor.

 Chris Harrison 1:03:18

It sounds funny. See holidays in my family. It's strange my my whole immediate family is in Houston. I live five minutes from my my mother and my father in the one brothers who still at home. I

 1:03:32

think you're probably one of the only people on this show here who is a native Houstonian

C

Chris Harrison 1:03:36

no native. I did not say that. I am not native Houstonian. Let's put it this way. us all us maybe native Houstonians or that but I'm not from Houston. I'm originally from Pennsylvania. Oh, really? Where? Let me put it this way. There are two good things that ever came out of Pottstown. Pennsylvania, Mrs. Smith, poor Pottstown. Me. Okay. So, no, I'm originally from Pennsylvania. I spent most of my life down here in Texas. Whenever I go back north everyone thinks that they hear the southern in me, while I'm down here, I slipped into Yankee speak. And so, but I moved down here 1979 kicking and screaming all the way. And

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1:04:24

you're still screaming. Yeah.

C

Chris Harrison 1:04:27

And I live close to where my parents live. My brother, his girlfriend and their daughter are about seven minutes the other direction from me. And holidays are real crazy. And I just kind of get thrown into them. Because I'm that basically that proverbial fifth wheel because both my brothers are in couples. So it's well let's plan when are you going to her house her parents house for their holiday? And when are you going to her The other brother, when are you going to her house, her parents house and figuring all that stuff out. So this basically they tell me when to show up and I show up. And holidays for me, I've, I've never really been in the holidays. When I was younger, my big holiday was New Year's. And I that doesn't even get it for me anymore. So basically, with holidays, for me, it's avoiding the family in some ways of retreating to my own. My own self, my own apartment. I often joke when when stress is, when I'm over at my, my parents house and things are getting really crazy. I pull out my keys, and I and I hold out the key to my apartment. And sometimes I'll even go as far as kissing and saying this is the most beautiful thing in the world. Because no one else in this house has that key. And I can go away from here. And sometimes it's good to escape some of those kind of rituals and tradition that you get. I know a lot of people want to experience that again, I think

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1:06:14

a lot of people have a fault. Even people who do have families, they all are expecting this. Fake Norman Rockwell Jimmy Stewart Leave It to Beaver sort of situation. Oh, It's a Wonderful Life type ending. And so many families do not have that. That reality as a as a screaming fact, I am so thankful that I'm screaming back that I don't have to be a part of all that. And

C

Chris Harrison 1:06:42

so it just depends on how you're able to you have to find your own coping skills. And I love some of the traditions of of Christmas that my family does we do. Traditional European, we have goose



1:07:03

that sounds fun. I like goose



Chris Harrison 1:07:06

we have a we make a slight my family's polish, we make a traditional Polish side dish. That's potato base that goes with the goose. And some of the other tree I like that part. But the the being together and trying to orchestrate he's gotten to that point where we're all that age where there's no longer that mystery. So like the only mystery comes between my brother and I who have this running fight about wrapping presents. He made the mistake a couple of years ago saying you know aluminum foil makes a really nice wrapping paper. So I use an entire roll of foil to wrap his gift cards that I got him. Well last year he took and wrapped one of my presents with wrapping paper, then wrapped it and wrapped in packing tape, wrapped in wrapping paper, wrapped it in duct tape and then wrapped it again. It took about 20 minutes and a pair of scissors to get into that. It was one of those little keychain things of the Crocodile Hunter that he pushes back and it goes oh crikey, he MBA out. So this year I am you're gonna get even Oh yeah, I'm talking about wrapping and rewrapping. And I know a place that will take and put stuff into an a can and seal it. And then I'm going to get that can sealed and another can. I'm thinking about even getting one of those little maze things, you know, you put you put it in the slot and you close it up and you have to put a little marble through a little maze. And then if you get it through, it opens up just just to make a little extra challenge. But hopefully we're just we're coming up here on the end of the show that everyone is going to have a safe and happy holiday season and safe and sane for the most part. And coming up next Zydeco pasar lay with the birthday girl. And I think they'll probably be getting her on that a little bit. And that's gonna be at the top of the hour. You have been listening to after hours Queer radio with attitude on KPFT and Houston que US college station and the World Wide Web at KPFT x dot O R G. We're going to go out with the South Coast curl and it is coming out for Christmas. And I'm going I don't know the song, but just based off of the title I'm going to dedicate it to a friend of mines brother who decided to give the Christmas gift that your parents can never return coming out at Christmas. See you next week.