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lesbian, gay, conference, year, homosexuals, guadalajara, war, discharge, military, policy, pledge, hours, tonight, cindy, aids, gay men, houston, marathon, garcia, told


SPEAKERS


Kay Harper, Bruce Reeves, Greg Gordon, Kevin, Judy Reeves, Cindy Friedman

 **B** Bruce Reeves 00:00
I'm Cindy Friedman from her cassette gift of love and that was the song is

 00:08
love. Now the song is we are all one planet.

 **B** Bruce Reeves 00:11
We are on one planet. I'm sorry.

 00:13
There's some great people on this planet and great people here in Houston. Bruce, I understand the phones were really ringing during that tune. That's true. And that's good to hear. Because this is our our winter marathon. If you're just joining us, I'm taking over your job. Oh go 49.1 Pacifica radio in Houston, hosted by Bruce Reeves. I'm the guest tonight. But my name is Cindy Friedman. And this is a very special time of year. And this is when we're asking you to phone in your pledge of financial support and support after hours.

 **B** Bruce Reeves 00:47
That's true. And we've got several of our regular guest hosting co host with us this evening. Jewel gray is sitting in here with me and I think Kevin is out on the lobby microphone to give us an update on where we are with our



K

Kevin 01:01

Yes, I am and we're doing very, very well. We're at \$230. So we've got some folks to think. Okay, Richard spirito and Lamar, the meanie and we have several anonymous pledgers to think



01:18

there's so many great anonymous people, you know?



01:22

Yes, there are.



01:25

Well, we we would What are their names? No. Well,

B

Bruce Reeves 01:28

we'd like to thank everyone that's pledged for KPFT KPFT is Public Radio. We're Pacific. I Pacifica station. There's five Pacifica stations. And Cindy can probably tell us what those are okay.



01:41

Oh, yeah. We're the only ones between the east and west coast. There's KPFK in Los Angeles. And there's a station in Berkeley, California. There's WBI in New York City. And there's one in Washington DC. And we're the only ones in between the two. So we're a real special place.

B

Bruce Reeves 01:59

And of course, having five stations, you know, Sister stations that that helped us out. We bring you lots of important information. Four years ago, and almost five, four and a half years ago in 1987. We brought you the March on Washington, October 1987, there was four hours of broadcast rally. And I believe they even continued taping after that, and that tapes available to us in the archives. And we'll be bringing some of that to you in the next year, as we start working towards the March on Washington for 1993, which is coming up April 3 1993. So there's lots of things coming up here on in Houston, lots of things coming up in the United States. And we we want to keep you informed about all of that. And to do that we need your support. KPFT is listener supported. There are very few paid staff positions. I think there's about five or six, some of which aren't even filled right now. And it's it's very important that we we have your support here at KPFT. All the programmers in the producers, our programs that you hear 24 hours a day on KPFT are done by volunteers.



03:07

And I think it's important to realize as was just said, If you do not want your name mentioned over the year, we want you that when you call in the operator will ask you May we say your name on the year and if you say no, we won't say it but will thank you anyway, that's true.



Bruce Reeves 03:23

And it's your support is very important to us here on KPFT. Our guest this evening has been Cindy Friedman. Cindy is a producer of the program 123 which is on from one to three Wednesday afternoons right here on KPFT. She's also a singer songwriter and has produced several albums, which are available in Inklings and Lucci has gardens here in town, and she's gonna be performing on January the 31st is the opening act for Charlie king. And that's to benefit Houston



03:56

to nonviolent action. And it's gonna make the First Unitarian Church at 5200 fan. And it's a Friday night and the concert starts at eight o'clock and tickets are available in advance at Inklings, or at the church,



Bruce Reeves 04:10

First Unitarian First Unitarian Church, so be sure and pick up your tickets early for those tickets are cheaper beforehand. So you want to be sure you don't miss that, Cindy. It's really been great to be here, Bruce, and we hope you'll come back and maybe be a guest host for for whole hours with a Saturday. That would be a treat. Sure. That'd be a lot of fun. So let's listen to one more song by Cindy. Meanwhile, remember we are in Marathon and we need your support give us a call at 526-573-8526 KPFT. Johnny Are you queer Jersey cotton. We've got a guest in our lobby right now. His name's Jim and Jim's just made a \$40 pledge and has some mean to say,



05:01

Hi, Jim, thank you for letting me on. I'm making the donation tonight in the in the name of the AIDS mastery workshop. And I don't know how many of your listeners know what the AIDS mastery workshop is or what they know about the workshop. But I can tell them that there is a workshop coming up later this month on the 17th 18th and 19th. It's a three day event. And it's geared towards people that have HIV in their lives or HIV in their bodies. Workshop is also set up to take care of people who want to take the workshop but can't afford to take the workshop by way of a scholarship fund, so that nobody is ever turned away because of inability to pay.



Bruce Reeves 05:56

And you wanted to make the challenge. Yeah, and I want to



05:58

challenge anybody out there that knows the workshop or has been to the workshop to either meet or beat my \$40 pledge. You got to everybody's every little little help and you know, you I think you'll get a



Bruce Reeves 06:12

\$40 You'll get a CD or an LP you



06:16

can you know, your nice little gift as well. So you get something back and, you know, get to help out the station as well. Great. Thanks for



Bruce Reeves 06:24

coming on and talking to us tonight. Jim, you we are in Marathon. The numbers 526-573-8526 KPFT. Give us a call and pledge your support to KPFT KPFT is one of my favorite things. And Julie's gonna sing a little bit about



06:43

hers.



Bruce Reeves 06:47

Julie Andrews from the sound of music and that was my favorite thing. So of course we are doing a show tunes marathon tonight to coincide with our marathon to raise money for listeners supported KPFT The phone number is 526-573-8526 KPFT. We've got many of our CO hosts in the studio this evening to help answer phones and do a little talking on the radio and hopefully give me a break and a little bit right now. Okay, Harper is sitting in that chair and she's got a program coming up in a couple of weeks. She wants to talk talk about and she's got a dedication she'd like to make.



Kay Harper 07:19

Yes. Um, first of all, I am going to be co hosting with Bruce and Kevin and whoever else we can drag kicking and screaming including jewel, I think. And my first show is is the 25th and Marian pin Dino who is a local comedian is going to come be my guest, so we're gonna do funny music.





Bruce Reeves 07:42

Cindy and I talked about Marianne and their interview this evening,



Kay Harper 07:45

didn't you? I like that you're like pumping up my guest for me. I'm gonna pay you extra for that. Yeah. Unfortunately, it'll have to be in like good strokes or so that's true,



Bruce Reeves 07:56

because that's what we get paid in here and KPFT we are volunteers. We're we're here, because we enjoy doing radio. But doing radio cost money. There's many costs involved. Even if they're not paying us lots of money. They're not paying us a dime. So if you'd like to support after hours and the music you hear that you hear here, give us a call at 526-573-8526



08:22

KPFT. And you've got a dedication. Yes,



Kay Harper 08:27

I just got back from a funny women concert called a group called the therapy sisters from Austin. And there is a song off their new album that is just perfect for Jimmy. So if he's listening tonight this is for you, dear. We love you baby



08:48

shoop, taboo, both both.



Bruce Reeves 08:52

Therapy sisters doing one thing. Oh, boy,



Kay Harper 08:57


you are just doing well tonight. Aren't you





Bruce Reeves 08:59


sweetie time for that cup of coffee and sharpen and that was a special gift dedication to Jimmy and we all do love you here on KPFT. We're in Marathon. We need your listeners support to stay on the air to be with you every Saturday night. We need your support. Give us a call at 526-


on the air to be with you every Saturday night. We need your support. Give us a call at 526-573-8526 KPFT we're fixing to listen to this way out which is a weekly news program. And they usually have some special guests and stuff tonight. They've got our wrap up of 1991 where we normally bring it to you and one big 30 minute chunk but we're gonna break it up tonight and a couple of pieces because we're gonna be talking to you a little bit about listener supported radio here on KPFT. It's very important that we get your support, give us a call at 526-573-8526 KPFT KPFT is the only place in town you can hear this way out And after hours is the only show you can hear all of it. The news wrap portion is heard on Monday nights on rod and Stein show at nine o'clock. But we're the only show here on KPFT and the only show here in town that you can hear after the the entire tire this way out. Yes. And

 **Kay Harper 10:21**
and we're going to take

 **Bruce Reeves 10:23**
number one so they've they've rearranged all my tape recorders in here tonight and I'm losing my mind. But we're gonna see if we can figure out what's going on and this way outs coming up, give us a call 526-573-8526 KPFT and pledge your support KPFT you are listening to KPFT listener sponsored radio 90.1 FM, Houston

 **10:46**
and this is after hours of continuing education.

 **Greg Gordon 11:03**
Welcome to this way out the international lesbian and gay radio magazine. I'm Greg Gordon. Lucid Chapelle is recovering from some sort of flu bug that's going around. And marks like Amano and Cindy Friedman will be back next week with their first news wrap of 1992 1991 was a year that saw international upheaval on a grand scale. In the midst of it all and an integral part of it all gay men and lesbians moved with the spirit of global change. Starting this week, this way out presents an overview of the events of 1991 an examination of the major trends in the struggle for gay and lesbian liberation and the role of our movement in the historic events that dominated the headlines. As the year began, the United States technically the United Nations was just days away from beginning its annihilation of Iraq in the Gulf War. No doubt unintentionally, the war in the Gulf also led to the US mainstream media's closer examination of the Pentagon's ban on openly lesbian and gay military personnel. There was some indication during 1991 that more and more people were reconsidering that policy. Here's how this way I'll cover some of those stories.

 **12:47**
The war in the Middle East has also become a battleground for lesbians and gays in the US military.



12:54

I'm ready to go serve my country and go with my unit to the Persian Gulf. When I get back, I don't want to be discharged because of the fact that I'm a lesbian



13:03

Army Specialist, Donna Lynn Jackson wrote to her commanding officer earlier this month saying, I am an open lesbian, and I wished to be deployed as such.



13:13

I pulled out of my hand and I was reassigned to a permanent station duty station there at Fort Ord. I was detached from all my friends. They were very supportive. It's like no big deal, you know, so you're gay. So what they wanted me to go with them. Instead, I was pulled removed, attached to this other unit and then processed very quickly for discharge.



13:34

The San Francisco Chronicle reported several reservists came out to their commanders, and were told they would still be sent to Saudi Arabia, even though they might face discharge on their return.



13:46

Brigadier General M. G. Virga. Meanie, the Defense Department's director for manpower and personnel has called those media reports preposterous and categorically untrue. Quote, the policy that homosexuality is incompatible with military service remains in effect, period. It's preposterous to think we would allow homosexuals to serve an active duty in the Persian Gulf, unquote.



14:13

Meanwhile, some gay and lesbian activists are turning their energies to protesting the war



14:19

between 300,000 and half a million people marched for peace on both coasts of the United States. In Washington DC about 250,000 filled the Capitol Mall. And in San Francisco AIDS Quilt organizer Cleve Jones was one of the featured speakers



14:35

President Bush has given us a lot of reasons for fighting this war has the administration costs about for new ways to market Operation Desert Storm, a war to save our cities, awards a conquered disease award to build schools and rescue our children from despair, a war for clean air and water. A war against bigotry and ignorance. Oh, War for parks and playgrounds and homes. These are the wars America must not lose. These are the wars worth fighting. The wars are here at home in America. No blood for oil bring the Trump



15:17

AIDS activists disrupted national TV coverage of the Persian Gulf War to protest the lack of media coverage of AIDS. Seven protesters interrupted taping of the MacNeil Lehrer NewsHour, some chaining themselves to the desk. Other protesters got onto the set of the CBS Evening News chanting fight AIDS not Arabs before Dan Rather directed a commercial break



15:46

we're gonna take a break for a commercial



15:49

February 9 Who 18th marked the Fourth Annual National Conference of the black gay and lesbian leadership forum held this year in Los Angeles, Phil Wilson, the co chair opened the conference,



16:01

President Bush vetoes the 1990 civil rights bill, and bombs Baghdad in the name of democracy, we must speak. Our government spends a billion dollars a day to kill people. But some of us have been in a war for a long time. We have been in a war against the monster more insipid, more dangerous than Saddam Hussein will ever be. This monster lives in our bodies. It is a virus and it is called HIV. Where are the Patriot missiles that will destroy this enemy? Where are the scourge of drugs and treatments we need to fight this enemy. Where are the weapons of health care and cures we need to save the hundreds of 1000s of us who are infected with HIV we must speak.



16:50

The US Army has finally settled with Sergeant Perry Watkins after a November 1990 US Supreme Court ruling ordered it to do so. The black openly gay soldier fought an almost 10 year war against the Pentagon after it enlisted and then re enlisted him knowing he is gay and then kicked him out of the army because of his sexual orientation.



17:16

I'm very honored and proud to be the first openly gay person that I am aware of who have gone into the military and retired. My effort now is to not be the last to ever do.



Bruce Reeves 17:27

Sergeant Perry Watkins will receive \$135,000 in back pay in full retirement benefits from the military. The agreement also states that Watkins will voluntarily retired from the military on February 1 with an honorable discharge and will include his promotion to Sergeant First Class retroactive to 1985.



17:45

The status of lesbians and gays in the United States Armed Forces remains controversial as fighting in the Gulf enters its second month. Dozens of gays and lesbians in uniform are telling advocacy groups that despite denials from the military, as so called Stop Loss policy is operating, which delays what would otherwise be immediate discharges until the war is over.



18:09

While most of the troops returning home from the Persian Gulf War were met with parades and celebrations. Former United States Marine Corps bro Eric E. Barker, the model marine receiving high grades for proficiency and conduct as well as high praise for energy and self motivation was being hustled out of the Corps. Barker recounted how while serving his country in the Saudi Arabian Desert, he claims he was accused by another Marine of having committed the crime of sodomy. His commanding officer fired him from his job and stripped him of his ammunition where I worked.



18:41

And where we stayed was there's like, half a mile of open roads that we had to walk to get from the camp to the headquarters building. And anyone any Arab driver had access to the roads that we traveled to get over there and without my ammunition, I was defenseless i They let me keep my rifle but it's no good without ammunition.



19:00

Barker accepted a general discharge which is less than the unconditional honorable discharge given to other troops returning from the Persian Gulf war theater. Because the Marines refused to allow testimony on his behalf, Barker waived his right to what he believed would be an unfair hearing. Now attending college in Los Angeles, he must face the prospect of job hunting with a discharge document which contains homosexuality admission as the reason for involuntary

separation from the Marine Corps for Barker as well as for 10s of 1000s of others. That means either hiding years of military service from prospective employers, or closing himself to many job opportunities in a social arena where discrimination against homosexuals is still rampant.

B

Bruce Reeves 19:44

I think that a person's sexual orientation should not be a bar to military service. Lawrence Korb,

19:50

19:50

Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower under President Reagan from 1981 to 1985, and an advisor to the current Bush administration. And toward the Human Rights Campaign fund, you will win. The only question is when

20:06

20:06

the research shows that people who are homosexuals are no greater security risks than heterosexuals, and that a person's orientation is not necessarily related to his or her conduct. He believes

20:18

20:18

President Bush is too influenced by right wing Republicans to support a policy change, but that court decisions or public pressure will bring it about. He said, once you hit the right buttons, the resistance will crumble and people will say, Why were we so worried about this?

C

Cindy Friedman 20:36

A major survey indicates that an impressive majority of US citizens of every demographic and political stripe disagree with the current policy of discharging gays and lesbians from the military. When asked should the government discharge a person just because he or she is homosexual? 81% of the respondents said no. The results of the professionally conducted telephone poll of 800 randomly selected respondents by Penan Shan associates were announced by the Human Rights Campaign fund, the largest National Gay and Lesbian political organization in the US, the fund's executive director, Tim McFeely.

21:19

21:19

I think 81% is a very large number. Any politician would give his or her it for the kind of approval rating. It's estimated that about 1500 people are discharged for this purpose every year. And when you think about the money that's spent in training those 1500 people and how much money is spent in processing the discharge, we're talking about spending millions of taxpayers dollars on this policy.



21:45

In response to questioning by openly gay Congressman Barney Frank, Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney suggested he disagrees with the military's policy that homosexuals present a security risk. The Defense



21:58

Secretary stressed he inherited rather than formulated the military's policy on homosexuals. Dick Cheney told the House panel that the policy for many years is that a gay lifestyle is incompatible with military service.



22:12

There have been times in the past when it's been generated on the notion that somehow there was a security risk involved. Although I must say I think that's a bit of an old chestnut.



22:23

A National Day of Action declared by the United States Student Association resulted in protests targeting ROTC, the Reserve Officers Training Corps on over 100 campuses across the country. ROTC operates under the Defense Department policy preventing gays and lesbians from serving in the military. Student actions ranged from rallies and letter writing campaigns to guerrilla theater.



22:51

After five years of waiting US Army Captain dusty Pruitt will finally have her day in court. Pruitt was honorably discharged by the Army in 1986. Three years after revealing her lesbianism in an interview with the Los Angeles Times, she's mounted a legal challenge to be reinstated, and the US Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled August 19 that the military must prove a rational basis for its 48 year old ban on gay and lesbian personnel. The court also asserted it would reject the military's traditional tactic of citing existing anti gay prejudice within its ranks as a rationale for continuing the policy.



23:35

There are seven reasons why gay men and lesbians supposedly cannot serve six of those have to do with the prejudice of others. And one has to do with the fact that gay men and lesbians are supposedly a greater security risk. We feel that if the army has to put on a defense that their own studies will bear out that gay men and lesbians are not in any way a higher security risk than anybody else. The case itself, we hope, may signal the into the department defenses, repressive policy on gay men and lesbians. I think that racism, sexism and homophobia are like three strands in a rope that's placed across various occupations and places where women,

people of color and gay men and lesbians are just not allowed to go. It says, oh, you know, white men allowed? That's it. I think that that the root of this particular issue is the fact that gay men and lesbians are the last legal group of individuals that one can persecute and people are about doing that, with all their minds.



24:35

Citing a concern over the spread of AIDS, a US federal judge upheld the ban on gays and lesbians in the military,



24:43

US District Judge Oliver gash, ruled that the armed forces have the right to ban homosexuals because they pose a high risk of transmitting aids to other soldiers. The Pentagon did not request such a ruling. They had asked that the ban on homosexuals be upheld for legal now At medical reasons, Judge gash turned down a request by Joseph Stephen to reinstate him into the Navy. Stephen was forced to resign from the Naval Academy just before graduation in 1987 when his officers learned of his sexual orientation three times during the legal proceedings, Judge gash referred to Stephen as a whole. Gregory king of the Human Rights Campaign Fund says gashes ruling is based on bigotry and ignorance. This is really serious miscarriage and reflects the lack of information that's held by even intelligent members of our legal profession. Stephens attorneys say they'll appeal the judge's ruling. The Pentagon says it will have no comment on the ruling until all appeals are ended.



Judy Reeves 25:47

And you're listening to after hours on KPFT 90.1, Houston, that was what the first part of



Bruce Reeves 25:54

that was the first part of this way out. We're we're breaking it into two parts tonight, because we are in Marathon. KPFT is listener sponsored radio, we come to you three times a year, for two weeks and ask for your support to help keep KPFT on the air. What that gets you as programming you won't hear anywhere else in the city of Houston. And it gets you programming free of commercials, commercials, no commercials. So we are a public radio station. We do come to you after hours is here every week from midnight on Saturday until four o'clock Sunday morning. And we hope that we're bringing you four hours of programming you can't find anywhere else in Houston, I'll almost guarantee it. Let me ask you a question. Sure. What do you get out of this? I mean, what do I get? All the money we're gonna raise?



26:46

Okay, I mean, your salary,

B

Bruce Reeves 26:48

no salary, no money, no sound. Oh, I thought I was the only one around here that didn't get paid nothing. Oh, well. So we just in fun and excitement. We're here from midnight to 4am, four hours a week. And we do it because we enjoy doing radio. And we want everybody out there to find out what's going on in this world. The number is 526-573-8526 KPFT. And Jim pledged \$40 earlier and he wanted to challenge everyone that's been through the AIDS mastery workshop that Ken to make or beat his pledge of \$40. To support after hours. Our goal is \$1,200 Tonight, and we're about at 270 right now. So we do need your support, we need your calls. If if you listen to after hours every week and you you hear something here that's important to you something you can't get anywhere else. If there's any way you can see possible to pledge \$40 That can be paid with a check. We can bill you for three or four months or the whole year. If that's what you want to do. Whatever it takes to get that \$40 from you. We'll do it. We take Visa, MasterCard, and American Express. And we discover No, no discover American Visa and MasterCard.

J

Judy Reeves 28:08

And we have some of the cutest people out there on those phones that

B

Bruce Reeves 28:12

are new. They're just more than willing to talk to you. We've got Jim and Jim Vance, Jim and vents. How many gyms was that? I think there's three out there. Okay. Kevin and Kevin. Then Scott's here in turn phones, some chaps answering phones. Yes, answering phones and just bouncing back and forth. Well, good. That's what that's that's what co hosts are supposed to do is bounce, bounce, bounce bounce. Like a Yo yo, give us a call at 526-573-8526 KPFT. If you're calling from out of town, you can reach us at 1-800-333-5738. One 800 333 KPFT the local number again, it's 526573852 6k PF



29:03

T.

B

Bruce Reeves 29:04

So give us a call. We really need to talk Kevin wants to say something. How are you here?



29:09

Yes, I am here. Can you know we really didn't get where we are without people like you. If you're waiting for somebody else to make that call for you. It's not going to happen. I assure you KPFT hasn't been here for 21 years. With people not calling. You know, it's real important that you pick up the phone right now and call 5265738 and pledge your support because this is gay and lesbian radio. I understand that. You know, there are a lot of people listening that may

not be able to call and that's fine too. If you're 18 and living at home and your parents don't know you gay, you know it's okay if you can't come out. But those of you who are out there are openly gay, you need to pick up the phone. This is this is an appliance for your growth. I certainly grown a lot. And I think that as folks here at the station like you and I, these volunteer programmers, I think we all go through a phase of growth. Because KPFT was a part of my life. Before, before I was a volunteer KPFT was a part of my life before I ever pledged. And when I was sitting out there listening to after hours, when I was a teenager, I certainly never thought I would end up doing anything on this side of Kp FTS world. And it's really amazing, you know. So, you know, you need to call 526 4000 and pledge your support

B

Bruce Reeves 30:48

526-573-8526 KPFT. Give us a call. We are listening to this way out. It's a program heard every week, and on KPFT at 130. Sunday morning. It's part of the after hours program, which is gay and lesbian program, it's programming for you for our community, about our community. If, if our programming is important to you, if you listen, give us a call. If you don't want your name announced on the air tell us you want to make your pledge anonymously. We'll take your name and address and stuff down. And that's confidential information. Nobody gets that information except the person who actually I'll be sending out thank yous or whatever for the pledge. So give us a call, make that \$40 pledge or even more, there's a 90.1 club and for \$90.10 Get to a club membership, which says you know, hey, I'm, I'm a good supporting member of KPFT. And you can get either a gift certificate or three tapes or CDs. For \$40. You can get one tape or CD for \$70 will get you a t shirt or two types of CDs. And the people taking your call can help you maybe figure out a little better what what we've got going on there. But give us a call pledge your support to after hours and KPFT 526-573-8526 KPFT. Let's go back to this way out.

G

Greg Gordon 32:19

You've tuned into this way out the international lesbian and gay radio magazine as we continue our examination of the major trends and the historic events that dominated the headlines in 1991. Still, we sing still, we ask. Still we dream. Still, we hoped for a different day without the constraints of ignorance without fear and without lament so that those whom we love can return to their nest. Another major story in 1991 began in Guadalajara, Mexico, where the world's only international lesbian and gay Association had scheduled its 13th Annual Conference. delegates from all over the globe had almost literally packed their bags by the time serious trouble emerged.

i

33:16

Gabrielle Covarrubias Ibarra, the mayor of Guadalajara Mexico has told the press that the city repudiates completely, the 13th annual conference of the International lesbian and gay Association plan to be held there in July. He claims to have received letters of protest from business, social, civic and religious leaders, although he plans to use a rarely enforced law to impede any public March by the gays and lesbians. The moral civic and material association of Guadalajara has already announced its plans to march in opposition to the conference



33:55

on the ISA Bill Garcia. One of the conference directors says many Europeans were afraid to have the conference in Guadalajara. This is the CMOS excuses processes Yabba unsettles you, but we told them that the gay rights movement in Europe is more advanced, and you need to help us advance our movement here in Latin America. Garcia says it's important to have the International Conference in Mexico because it has never taken place in a Latin American country. She says the Mexican gay and lesbian movement will be strengthened by hosting the International event, and this conference will be more accessible to Latin American gays and lesbians, who for economic reasons find it difficult to attend conferences in Europe. The municipal president of Guadalajara. Gabriele Covarrubias Ybarra was quoted in the city's daily as saying he would never allow the conference to take place. But Ana Isabel Garcia says the municipal president has no legal basis to prevent it, and that both the federal and state governments have assured them that there is nothing in the Constitution that could deny them the right to hold it. Garcia says although there have been the usual anti gay pressures from the Catholic Church and right wing groups, they haven't experienced any extreme repression while organizing the event. Garcia says they have had strong support from human rights groups, women's organizations, and intellectuals in Mexico.



Cindy Friedman 35:27

The 13th annual conference of ILGA the international lesbian and gay Association, scheduled for the first week in July in Guadalajara Mexico has been cancelled. Even though Mexican law guarantees freedom of assembly. Recent public statements by Mary Barra have made it impossible for the Organising Committee to find a secure location for the conference or to guarantee the safety of participants. Robert Bray is director of public information for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and the US media spokesperson for ILGA,



36:03

the mayor announced that any hotel that signed a contract with the International lesbian and gay Association conference would be shut down immediately, he publicly announced that there would be no police protection whatsoever for delegates to the conference, that delegates to the conference would be arrested for, quote, immoral behavior, and, quote, we took that to mean being openly gay or lesbian. In other words, being ourselves. So what we were faced with was no place to have the conference at the last minute, no police protection whatsoever. And we have to have the conference in the closet. We found all those conditions unacceptable and regretfully canceled the conference.



36:48

Pedro Thiago, a member of the lesbian and gay activist group in Guadalajara and one of the Ilgar conference organizers,



36:55

Mexico is a very cathartic country. And we had the stronger position of the hierarchy of the

Catholic Church in Guadalajara, they said that this conference was going to be very bad for the people and for the traditions and against the religion.



37:19

Do you personally as a member of a gay organization, feel threatened and Guadalajara?



37:28

Yes. In the last days before the cancellation of the conference, the telephone numbers of the Organising Committee, were receiving some things like this. You This is the telephone number for the organizers of the gay Congress. And we said who are you please? We are going to



37:52

kill you on your home phones. Yeah. Wow.



37:55

And a days before a lot of graffitis almost all the graffitis like, get out from here are more sexual and die to homosexuals. And this is not going to be drama so drama like the city in the public tradition.



38:17

Metamora in English Yeah.



38:19

Yeah. And homosexuals. The reason of AIDS, all of these graffitis were in all the city in in in world like murals.



38:30

Week