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SPEAKERS

Diane Williams, Jewel Gray, Jimmy Carper, Anise Parker



00:01

The following program contains language or images of a frank or sensitive nature that may be considered objectionable by some listener Discretion is Advised



00:12

I am what I am I have my own special creation so come to give me the all the Ovation it's more that I want little pride and it's not a blame lies not worth a damn to you can say



01:06

I am what I am I don't want praise I don't want pity bang my own drum something is pretty bangle to see things from a different angle. God life is a sham to you and shout out I am



01:49

excuses.



01:52

I do my own deck. Sometimes he says no. No deposit down till you can shout out



Jimmy Carper 02:39

Whoa it must be Saturday night at midnight because you're listening to after hours. A continuing tradition on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of after hours is ready to bring you news interviews and music gear for gay and lesbian people. Just as Gloria Gaynor says in this

NEWS INTERVIEWS AND MUSIC GEAR FOR GAY AND LESBIAN PEOPLE. JUST AS DIANE WILLIAMS SAYS IN THIS SONG, IT'S TIME TO OPEN UP YOUR CLOSETS. WE AT AFTER HOURS URGE EVERYONE TO COME OUT OF THEIR CLOSETS. BY OUR DEFINITION THAT MEANS STANDING UP FOR YOURSELF AND TAKING RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR OWN LIFE. BUT IF YOU FEEL THAT YOU CAN'T COME OUT RIGHT NOW BECAUSE OF YOUR AGE, YOUR JOB OR WHATEVER REASON. THAT'S OKAY, WE'RE HERE FOR YOU TOO. SO SIT BACK, RELAX AND ENJOY THIS WEEK'S EDITION OF AFTER HOURS



03:42

I am what I am and I do my own deck. Sometimes



J Jewel Gray 05:02

Okay, you've caught after hours tonight. This is Jewel Gray, I'm here with



D Diane Williams 05:05

Diane Williams. The team is together. And together again,



J Jewel Gray 05:10

we've got some interesting stuff going on tonight. I believe Diane has arranged with some personal close personal friends. Well, a couple was two weeks ago, three weeks ago, we talked about a nice Parker and some people called in and said a nice wasn't doing enough. So



D Diane Williams 05:29

yeah, we talked about the pros and cons of the ACT UP March and the the committee set forth to investigate that and the police investigation of it and things like that. And we got a lot of calls. And we just wanted to talk to a nice and ask her what indeed is going on and what we can do to help and what she's doing. Also, Kathy Hubbard is going to be on and Cathy's her spouse type person. Not sure exactly. We have to label that what we want to label it, but they're going to talk about what it's like to try to maintain a relationship I hope.



J Jewel Gray 06:07

So a little later, we'll take some phone calls when they're here or a little bit after they're here. Maybe both and get some opinions on what you think out there. And let the knees hear what you think. Then we're going to be doing what, what are we going to do next? We're



D Diane Williams 06:25

gonna be chatting we're gonna listen to this way out National Gay and Lesbian news. Yeah, one fifteen's about right. I'm hoping that two lovely lovely friends will come by Pauline and Dawn are

going to come by and they were at the act of March and they're going to talk about activism and getting active and what that means to them. So I hope we're going to hear from a lot of folks tonight we're gonna be taking some calls maybe not directly over the air, but we're will be taking taking some polls here. So know what you're thinking.

J

Jewel Gray 06:56

Big Daddy. Jim is not here tonight. So we have little daddy Jim taking care taking his place. Tonight. We're going to do the program with daddy. Daddy Jim be the other half of Jim squared. Jim is in Hawaii, son of a gun him. I was telling Jim Vaughn earlier that the one year Jim was in Jamaica at Christmas and sent me a Christmas card with black sand in it to remind me where he was at Christmas. I was really upset. Fine, I'm fine. I've kept that saying just for we hope you're having a great time. And I'd like to say in case they're out there listening ROI, ROI ROI for the 100th time. Roi makes my life easier. And I hope he's listening tonight. So he hears me say that.

D

Diane Williams 07:41

I want to say thank you, Nancy for the lasagna. Magnifico. Thank you. Thank you. Happy Birthday Tracy. Pain, Happy Happy Birthday.

J

Jewel Gray 07:49

Tracy pain. Do I know that name? Oh, yeah, I do know. Oh, yeah, I do. And Nancy, I haven't had some of those on yet. But I think maybe Diane will talk me into some of that a little bit later. So you've got to kind of have an idea of what's going on later. Keep your pencil and paper handy. We're gonna give you some names and some phone numbers and the phone number to call here is 5205378 or KPFT 5262. Oh, sorry. Six, five. Little data. Jim left the room and I gave it away wrong. Oh, here comes somebody. Look at that. Who is that? Man? No, it's not a man. Oh, we have a little monitor here can see out the front door. So I see people coming in. Oh, too. So that's what's going on anyway. Well, I like KPFT. We're going to Jim made a tape for QMZ. And we're going to listen to that. And then Diane and I'll be back and probably an hour after that. Yeah, getting wild. So stick with us. We'll be back in a little while. Go for it. Jim pumc Oh, this

J

Jimmy Carper 08:53

is the QMZ the queer music zone with Jimmy. This week. They que MZ is dedicated to those men and women out on the streets tonight patrolling the Q Patrol. Coming up first we've got one of our old favorites Jamie Anderson with a song I think you'll like called I'm sorry. Yeah, Libby Roderick, it with Rosa. And you're listening to the QM Z with Jimmy and just a little secret between you and May. I'm not really here. See through the marvel of modern technology. I can be two places at once and the place I really am right now as you're hearing this is the beach at Waikiki. Yes, it's probably that's probably about right to because there's about a five or six hour time difference so it's probably six or seven o'clock. Yeah. Still on the beach. And you're not? Well, anyway, back to QMZ, the queer music zone. One last song, but it's a good one. It's one of my all time favorites. And I really like playing it, it's Bronski beat. And it's they're doing their,

their long version of small town by now, the reason I like this, this version so well is because the first chorus is really slow. It's sung as a ballad, so you can understand the words you know, Jimmy has that kind of falsetto like voice and that kind of screechie number, you know, like that note, that kind of deal. So, the beginning is really nice and slow and valid, like and you can tell what he's talking about. And it's about a boy living in a small town who needs to get out if he ever wants to be him. So without further ado, small town boy.

D Diane Williams 11:15

Hey, we're back. Boys and girls. We're at after hours on 90.1 KPFT. A lot that record. And we're here in the studio with lots of family and friends. I'm dying Williams and I'm here with jewel gray. Jewel gray and our guests this evening are anys Parker and Kathy Hubbard. Yeah. Who have have kindly consented to wake up in the middle of the night. Because this ain't easy, folks. That's right. And especially for like business folk. You know, you guys have jobs. I know you do. You have a life. That's worked

A Anise Parker 11:51

all day today. It's a matter of fact.

D Diane Williams 11:54

They were impressed. Well, I really appreciate you guys coming down. Yeah, we have lots of questions. That wasn't sure.

J Jewel Gray 12:06

What precipitated the conversation you recall last week? Okay,

A Anise Parker 12:12

yeah. What questions do you ask?

D Diane Williams 12:15

Let's jump right on in aside from the My questions of like personal questions like, how did you guys meet and how did you come out what you're coming out story? How do you How long have you been together? All that kind of good, fun stuff, which is you knew that I was going to ask anyway.

A Anise Parker 12:28

Not until I heard it on the breakthrough show. Okay, thanks.

J

Jewel Gray 12:32

Hear it first on breakthrough. Not here. Wild radio dude. That's right. Wow, we're Yeah, this

D

Diane Williams 12:38

is the wild radio show. But basically, what what precipitated this conversation is that we were talking about the March during the Republican National Convention of the AIDS activists down fan and and the police alleged police brutality against them, and what's being done about it, and the fact that the police made their own report like, you know, days after the event a day after the event or something and said, We were fine. Everything was fine. We didn't do anything wrong. Please go away now. And then activist went well, no one asked us the police officers on duty. We're not even asked at the time. As far as I know, you probably know a little bit better than I do, what went on there. But there's many different groups of people that got together and are very angry about this. And we were talking about it on the radio and we were talking about the TSU, Thurgood Marshall School of Law Committee panel. Maybe you can tell us about that panel and how you were brought together and who it consists of and what happened. That particular Saturday any

A

Anise Parker 13:46

commission to investigate police Act, the police act of confrontation, right. It was created produce directed by Ray Hill. And actually, I think we should all be grateful to Ray for doing that. He coordinated and focused our efforts he created a public event to bring people together to talk about what happened. He coerced a panel of local activists coerced to participate. set it all up. We had, it took six hours of public testimony at Tsu and then re turned it over to us and said to the eight of us who had asked to create the there'd be the commission and said, well, now do something with it.

D

Diane Williams 14:44

Go for it. Guys. Go for it. Who was involved. Who was on this panel. Can you can you think about like

A

Anise Parker 14:49

I'm close to it chairing the panel. I was not at the event. Also on the panel who were not there were Clyde Williams representing the Bar Association for human rights and Jean Harrington. Those who are on the panel who were at the event, Norm Thompson representing the gay and lesbian Political Caucus, Randy Trizzie, representing the gay and lesbian Political Caucus, right in front of me, really walked right. Next, Greg gladden, who was with the National Lawyers Guild, Suzanne, Donovan ACLU and Nancy Brennan from the clerk Reed foundation. Yeah.

D Diane Williams 15:31

Yeah, I gotta tell you, yeah, really great. Very people, I respect their intelligence and objectivity and everything of everyone on that panel. I was there. And it was really, it was an eye opener, it was an eye opener. From start to finish. And I, I left I was on the other side, basically, what happened is we were walked into kind of a cul de sac. And on one side, there was an open field. And another side there was a sidewalk and a fence. And I got I was there with about four or five of my friends. And being in situations similar. I just made sure that all my friends were up against the fence, and I had a camera and I just started taking pictures. I got some pictures. But most of my pictures were of the civil disobedience in the fire and stuff like that. What was really happening was on the other side in the open field where people tried to run, and I thank God that I wasn't involved in that. I saw some really brutal acts.

A Anise Parker 16:37

But there were a lot of mistakes made. And people may object to me saying that there are a lot of mistakes made by the demonstrators, as well as by the police. And that's been really clear in our investigation. We've got the six hours of public testimony. We've got a dozen notarized statements from witnesses, we're still asking for people to make statements and send them in. And it was a chain of events that kept building on itself.

D Diane Williams 17:15

There were some instigators there too. Yes. And we know that and

A Anise Parker 17:19

there were deliberate provocative acts by demonstrators who aren't necessarily from the game lesbian,

D Diane Williams 17:26

gay and lesbian community oriented are not act up oriented, who are just there to promote general anarchy.

A Anise Parker 17:32

And and that's why it wasn't not all the police officers out there engaged in or by, by longshot, not all of them engaged in excessive use of force. It is it was very clear that if you ran away and headed into the darkness of the field, your chances of having a very negative encounter with a police officer were went up geometrically. Oh, yeah. But more than that, what I think what bothers the panel? I mean, obviously, excessive use of force is frightening and dangerous. We want to stop that. But a lack of coordination among the officers, the fact that they didn't seem to know what they were supposed to be telling people. You had a 2000 people they didn't know

where to go. They were asking officers for direction for what do you officers kept saying, move, get out of here. And the demonstrators say, where do we go tell us and the officers couldn't or wouldn't

D Diane Williams 18:37

tell them? Well, they told the negotiation was very scary. We asked them where I was. I've learned from experience to constantly stay in contact positively with police officers. I don't care how negative even what I'm doing even when I am engaging in civil disobedience, which Yes, I have done. You constantly talk to the officers, you know, constantly, there were several officers there on horseback that I've worked with when we you know, quote, marks took over city hall. You remember that that march on City Hall thing where there were activists running up and down the aisles inside city hall with the permission of the mayor at the time, et cetera, et cetera,

A Anise Parker 19:13

et civil disobedience X choreograph

D Diane Williams 19:17

exactly, and it was an excellent, excellent thing. Part of what was wrong here was our civil disobedience. From the actor point of view. I think it was pretty well choreographed in that we knew what we were going to be doing. What we didn't know is that what the instigators that were there were going to be doing. There were people there that were not part of the headquarters that weren't at the active headquarters that didn't understand what we were what we were willing to do what we were not willing to do. And the police department was made up of police department, Secret Service, out of town police department, FBI District Attorney, people were there. There were all kinds of people with their head in all different places, know and all different kinds of things. And it was was really odd. And it was not some

A Anise Parker 20:02

of our testimony from the act of leadership, though, has been that they made a deliberate decision not to talk to the police department in the last week before the March, and to minimize their contact with HPD during the march.

D Diane Williams 20:19

And I was I was not aware of that, because I know that we were told, and we were in headquarters, we were told that we specifically sought out to work with them. And they worked with us up to an extent and then didn't, there are two officers that I know of, and I can't think of their names right now. But they are excellent police officers and I would go to bat for those guys any day. And they were both on horseback in the middle of the fractious. And I would love to talk to them and say, Tell me what you think happened, I would love to find out who

those guys are, because I've trusted them through several. And so far those particular people have never done anything to hurt me or my friends or my cars or anything strictly by the book cops. And that's what they should have been

 A Anise Parker 21:01

some interesting things happen after this. Of course, with the Commission investigating, we're gathering information, the citizens of Houston will have an opportunity to see what they think about our side of the testimony when the videotapes of those hearings are aired on access cable. But there also, there have been some interesting meetings. Since then, we have the majority of council now saying, gee, maybe we ought to have this looked into what we have is a report by the police department in which they didn't interview anybody other than police officers,

 D Diane Williams 21:49

police higher ups, I didn't even interview most of the officers that were on duty that day.

 A Anise Parker 21:53

Absolutely. And then we are putting together a report which we have to issue next week, which concentrates on our side of it it not because we don't want to talk to the police department, but they don't really want to talk to us. We need a group that can put those two things together. I don't know that we can pick out individual officers and say these officers engaged in brutality because bad guy, good guy, bad

 ♀ 22:21

guy, good girl, bad girl.

 A Anise Parker 22:23

It was dark. It was a crazy situation. It's hard to do. But we can perhaps keep it from happening in the future.

 D Diane Williams 22:30

I saw police holding their IDs and holding their badges so we couldn't get their names.

 J Jewel Gray 22:34

So is that the long term goal, this investigative body as to

A Anise Parker 22:39

why it happened? And if we can determine why it happened,

J Jewel Gray 22:43

what will happen if the when you come to a conclusion, what will happen with that information,

A Anise Parker 22:47

we're going to present our information to City Council, to the Citizen Review Committee of the police department to the police advisory committee, to the media and accompany it with a call for a formal investigation. We're also we also have a few recommendations. Even without a complete investigation. There's some obvious things that happened that that shouldn't have happened on both sides and ways to smooth out the procedure. So it didn't happen. And you're talking

J Jewel Gray 23:20

about like the deviation from the assigned parade route and things like that.

A Anise Parker 23:24

Well, that was the parade route.

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It was absolutely that was the parade was that where it was supposed to come out was

A Anise Parker 23:30

where it was supposed to end. And that was an important thing that came out of our the testimony that we took it Tsu with. Andrew Edmondson and Paul Mellon have backed up delineating the parade route. That was the parade route. I don't think that either side really knew what that the parade route would be like, in actuality.

D Diane Williams 23:53

I don't think the police expected that many people and I don't, I have to be honest. I mean, this may be born out of years of, of activism and nobody

A Anise Parker 24:02

checked out the parade route at night.

D Diane Williams 24:06

I checked it out during the day myself. But the thing with me is that I really feel like in a way we were set up. I mean, I know that that sounds paranoid, but I really feel in some form in some way by someone, whether it's HPD or not. We were in a way setup because there was no escape route. And the escape routes that were there were closed off to us. We were not allowed to go down them.

A Anise Parker 24:27

It should never have been picked as a site. You don't lead people and funnel people into a place 2000 Charge. Yeah, just well, let's Yeah, the pressure cooker. And we we neither side really thought that through I don't

D Diane Williams 24:45

think right well, we engage in the act of headquarters. I personally got up in front of everybody and I said we're missing something. We're missing a cooldown period. That's when the women got together and decided to do with Diane we figured that if We did a die and we would be pumped up at that point. And then if we did a passive horizontal die in 50 women or more, that would be a time that we could chant, lay down and then basically get up and disperse. And we mapped out a route from that area around the Astrodome, right. One, one exit down, you know, one entrance to the Astrodome down. And that did not come down. Obviously, that didn't happen. So,

A Anise Parker 25:26

demonstrations need some kind of closure. Logistics. Yeah. Well, for the emotions, there has to be pumped up.

J Jewel Gray 25:35

And yeah, it's been a really charged week for gay people in Houston, because of what was going on and the preparation for what was going on. So I know that everyone I knew that were going there really were charged when they got there, which I can sit back and say, could have added to the hysteria that went on there. And I was interested in what you were saying about the people that you think were there who were solely there to disrupt? Do you think they were people from our community? Or do you think these were like agitators from the RNC, perhaps people who were thinking they were working in the name of the RNC?

A Anise Parker 26:18

No, I don't think that they were from they were people working in the name of the RNC there. We've heard from people that they were represent representatives of the revolutionary communist party. These are anarchists there were folks there with their hoods with their faces covered,

D Diane Williams 26:39

basically, not the Communist Party, but the anarchists the Met. Yeah. And are what is that? resistors. There's some initials there that I'm missing. If anybody can think of those, what do you

J Jewel Gray 26:54

think you can do with an open parade like this to, to keep that kind of thing from happening? Because I can see that in the future, there's going to be a lot more of this kind of thing. I mean, I think that lately, we've been making a lot of strides and being a lot more public again. Therefore, while we've been kind of coasting, and I can see that there going to be more demonstration to learn from

A Anise Parker 27:17

events like this, we need to network better. This is not the first demonstration that's been held in Houston, there's a lot, it seems like we reinventing it, we reinvent the wheel over and over again,

D Diane Williams 27:31

I'm interested in what you think about a number of things. I've got two questions here that I want to tick off in a minute. But specifically the the people that were there, I was marching in line, pretty, pretty near the middle line, I'd say pretty close to the front, middle. And there were activists and people walking up from the streets and we were dressed, you know, in jeans and shorts and T shirts and activist attire and some of us had on suits and some of us had on whatever. But there were like six people some of the front some of the middle some at the end, they were wearing black jeans, black combat boots, black hoods, black sunglasses, bandanas over their faces, gloves. To me, something says, gosh, folks, why don't you watch those people now that may be disobeying some civil rights in order to serve those people out. But when you

A Anise Parker 28:24

engage in a demonstration like that, though, it's it's it's you're compromising with with the police department. And you either say to the officers, you police our demonstration, or you say we'll police our demonstration and in that sense, it's the responsibility of demonstration

organizers to know who's out there and to be able to say to an officer, or to the police liaison, we don't know these people. We don't know why they're here. You know, we you keep an eye on them for us.

J

Jewel Gray 29:02

To that's what I'm interested in because if

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29:04

you