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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

lesbian, people, kathy, gay, nightline, work, houston, politics, great, latin america, community, inklings, city council, questions, office, grandparents, mexico, traditional, mensa, south america

## SPEAKERS

Diane Williams, Anise Parker, Greg Gordon, Kathy Hubbard, Jewel Gray, Lucy Chappelle

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00:02

Welcome, Enrique. Some critics have said that Latin America is particularly susceptible to the intolerance of lesbian gay activism because it is seen as a threat to the traditional sort of macho dominance of most social institutions.



00:17

I think it's absolutely different because of the cultural backgrounds, some Latin American countries can't come from the Catholic background. So it's different when countries come from Puritan backgrounds like this country. I think most men in Latin American countries are bisexual. And there's a lot of hidden, diverse sexual behaviors, although there are different situations in the south of South America. Whereas more liberal I'm talking about, in some way, Brazil, Argentina, Chile and Uruguay. There's another reality in the north of South America. And Mexico is maybe the other extreme of this spectrum,



00:55

being more conservative. Yeah.



00:58

Although in Mexico, you can find the most powerful gay movement in all Latin America with a longest tradition of struggling maybe because it's just close to the US. If we were



01:10

to look in the next two to five years in Latin America, Central America, South America, where would you see the biggest developments and the biggest changes, the most dramatic changes

happening?



01:21

I don't know if I can say dramatic, but the most dynamic changes you can see in the south of South America, in Santiago, Chile is going to happen in November this year, the first meeting an informal meeting of all the gay and lesbian groups of South America. They're coming 12 groups from different countries, from Venezuela, from Barrow, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Woodway, and Ecuador. And they are going to have the first meeting where they're going to discuss human rights, gay and lesbian issues. They're coming like five rows from Argentina, three from Uruguay, four or five from Chile, to from Peru. I'm from Ecuador, and one from Minnesota. And we



02:07

can what effect has the AIDS epidemic had on anti gay and lesbian violence in Latin America?



02:14

I think it's really interesting the question because I think the newer tradition of anti gay violence in Latin America, I mean, really a traditional form of ARIA. The gay version is an institution in Anglo countries, Puritan Burg ranks countries, the appearance of AIDS in in some populations, it may be the pretext for all these explicit homophobia mean the killing of gates and transistors. The admissibility is maybe the answer. Like in Mexico, Francisco Estrada was a physician in Mexico City. He was the founder and president of Grupo Abbott in Mexico, one of the most important aids agencies in Mexico City. And he was killed with another physician and another eight scientists that was working for safe sex in in Mexico, after this assassinations were committed. They appear different signs over the corpses. He was killed because he was a seed also, I mean, people with AIDS, he was killed because he was spreading the disease.



03:22

The International gay and lesbian Human Rights Commission Act in many ways, like a traditional human rights organization, what has the Human Rights Commission's relationship with Amnesty International been like,



03:33

Oh, this is funny, because it's like, the International gay and lesbian Human Rights Commission was coordinating the campaign against Amnesty International in this country when they don't have in their mandate. homosexuals and lesbians as prisoner of concepts are now after the last international meeting that Amnesty International has in Japan, they incorporate this in the mandate. Now we are trying to push them to really investigate and search about these cases where gay men and lesbians are abused. There are other human rights organizations that are really helping us I'm talking about prestigious straight human rights organization like America

watch, now is doing a report in Mexico City where they're going to incorporate a code chapter about the situation of gay and lesbian human rights. There are other non human rights organizations like but with other traditional organization like American Friends Service Committee, that is doing an incredible work international work helping gay and lesbian human rights program. For example, in Latin America. This meeting that I was talking was going to happen in Santiago, Chile, has the financial help and assistance of the American Friends Service Committee. There are other groups for example, the lawyers for human rights in Washington, DC Walla Washington office for Latin America that are helping about the surge of cases in Colombia in Bogota. They sent two lawyers to search about the cases of the assassinations of gay men and transvestites there.

05:15

We have concentrated so strongly here on Latin America, what has the Human Rights Commission done in other parts of the world?

05:22

Actually, the International gay and lesbian Human Rights Commission has started in Russia, in the former Soviet Union. And we are though also a very important work in Eastern Europe. We have important contacts and work in different places in Asia. These are the main places where we are working,

05:42

how can people around the world get involved in the work and the effort of the commission?

05:49

Because the different kinds of campaigns and activities that we do I suggest, first of all, that these people contact us. Our telephone number is 415-255-8680. We work as a traditional human rights organization. So what we do is to collect information about human rights abuses, to document these cases and the mobula sighs when it's necessary, about these cases,

06:21

and since we have listeners all over the world, can you give us a mailing address as well,

06:25

of course, the International gay or lesbian Human Rights Commission, it's in the heart of the gay neighborhood in San Francisco is in the Castro. So it's 540 Castro, San Francisco, California 94114

∅

06:43

We have been speaking with Enrique RCS Latin American coordinator for the International gay and lesbian Human Rights Commission. This is Chombo pray for this way

G

Greg Gordon 07:04

oh had messed me. list goes on thanks for tuning into this way out, the International lesbian and gay radio magazine this week is Cindy Friedman, Brian newness. Colin Jones and John Bo Craig contributed program material. Thanks also to Graham Underhill, Rose Gordon and Herman via

L

Lucy Chappelle 08:21

the Capitol steps. The Thompson twins, water Polanco and Holly near with Mercedes Sosa perform some of the music you heard, and Kim Wilson composed and performed our theme music.

G

Greg Gordon 08:31

This way out is brought to you each week by a staff of community volunteers and is sustained by financial support from the community.

L

Lucy Chappelle 08:37

audio cassettes of this way up programs are available by mail individually or by subscription write to us for more information.

G

Greg Gordon 08:44

Of course, we'd also like to hear from you with any comments, suggestions or questions you might have or just to let us know you're out there listening right to this way out, Post Office Box 38327, Los Angeles, California 90038. And please be sure to include the call letters of this station.

L

Lucy Chappelle 09:00

This way out is produced by Greg Gordon and Lucia

G

Greg Gordon 09:03

Chapelle and we thank you for listening on WBC G am Miami to xx Canberra and W t t t am

Amherst among others and for supporting this local community radio station. Y'all stay tuned

J Jewel Gray 09:21

and we're back and we're back.

D Diane Williams 09:23

I had to say that because Jill wasn't ready to say and we're back.

J Jewel Gray 09:27

Oh, that was the Washington sisters. What were they doing the Washington sisters?

D Diane Williams 09:33

The Washington

J Jewel Gray 09:35

Washington sisters, teasing me about that southern

D Diane Williams 09:38

accent you know, Anthony?

J Jewel Gray 09:40

What was it? Question a question of love, Scooter says the Washington What is this global community a new idea?

D Diane Williams 09:47

I don't know. Take the paper for me. Don't read it. Just take it. Thank you just saying you're

J Jewel Gray 09:51

talking about the press. I'm really impressed with the local paper here. If you haven't read one, pick one up at your local news spot prestudy are all over town. everywhere but Randles everywhere. That's right. So let's say Randles Bucha award. Boo here. Well you saw where they

EVERYWHERE. THAT'S RIGHT. SO LET'S SAY, RANDI'S DAIRY AWARD. DO YOU HAVE, YOU SAY WHERE THEY  
they had a little disclaimer with that too wasn't their choice

D Diane Williams 10:18

I've talked to some people that were involved with that. That said that was very obviously some ballot box stuffing. So

J Jewel Gray 10:24

I don't do that surprises. We were talking Well, well, let's break this way out was up. I never it's a station joke. I never get it. I never get it's always something else.

D Diane Williams 10:42

Break through from 115.

J Jewel Gray 10:46

This way out, we were talking to a nice out in the back. While I have a random why Puff the cigarette madly. We watch. That's all we watched. We were talking about some of the things that are going on what you've wanted to finish some of what was going on earlier? Well, we were talking about some of that out there. And I wanted to talk about what a nice is, plans and future looks like I'm a big, I'm a big supporter. I have to say I'm the main shot here, but I'm a long time I supported your softball team out there, watching those bays run around young tight and have been

A Anise Parker 11:31

through all the stages of dichotomy. Rugby I played softball coach the softball team.

J Jewel Gray 11:36

That's right. And

D Diane Williams 11:38

I maintain that it's every lesbians duty in life to at least try softball wants. Everyone has to at least try once. It's like you know, some kind of thing you have to do hazing, lesbian, a hazing or something.

J Jewel Gray 11:51

But I guess I guess what I want to say is and I'm proud to have someone like you out there catching the light, the ones that are going to and move on and make a difference in, in my life, and certainly in the community's life. And I believe that that's I believe that that's a nice destiny. And I'm back there waving my flag. I've always been Thank you, Vanna that have a nice has particular politics and philosophy similar, I think, yeah, and have felt like that. There are few people I would really like to see representing me. But a nice fits the slot perfectly.

D Diane Williams 12:29

I find excellent. I like to find out who you look up to who you respect, not just in the gay and lesbian community, but people in general, is there somebody that you feel like is a role model? Or

A Anise Parker 12:43

in terms of politics or

J Jewel Gray 12:46

philosophy that that pushed you in the direction of politics? You know,

A Anise Parker 12:51

that I'll tell you the first politician that I ever volunteered to work for? That was George Cornelius in his first run for city council and I

D Diane Williams 13:04

he's a cool dude.

A Anise Parker 13:05

He's he is he's a good guy. And he, I just he gets you he won the Houston press most honest. Yeah. I have a lot of respect for him. I think he's one of the as a matter of fact. Wow, really good winds in the in the city. But I didn't really have gay or lesbian role models. I've been doing this for 15 years. I've been in organizations and in the community. Actually, for longer than that I came out 20 years ago.

D Diane Williams 13:39

And you were three, the two Yeah,



13:42

I was. I was 15. At the time, I'm, I'm 36 now. And at that time, there really weren't visible role models. And so I was looking to role models from other areas. And probably my number one role model in my life was my grandmother, and who I met and this wonderful woman.



Kathy Hubbard 14:03

Oh, thank you. Thank you.



Anise Parker 14:04

Yes, she, she lives. Both my grandparents live with my lover Kathy and me



Jewel Gray 14:10

chose like traditional family values to me. Yeah.



Diane Williams 14:14

That's right. Who do you look up to on the scene? Everyone around here knows that Urvashi bad is one of my like heroes



Anise Parker 14:21

or Rishi bad is wonderful. I was prepared not to be really impressed when I met her and I was just blown away.



Diane Williams 14:29

I have a picture on my mantle of me and a friend of mine, Susan, Carolyn moblie. From MCC er and her lover Anna and our wish Yvette standing in front of a porta potty in the field at Palm. March on Austin, and I gotta tell you, it's one of my favorite pictures. I don't care where it was taken. I was like, Look, I know are a matter how See, look.



Anise Parker 14:51

I hope wherever she when she gets over it. She needs a sabbatical and she's burned out and she needs a rest. She's been doing it so long and I hope Once she gets past that, that she'll come back and be active because she has a lot to offer. On the other hand, one of the reasons that she's so burned out is from attacks from her own community. And that's one of the things

that Julie and I were both sides of our community. That's one of the things that Jill and I were talking about. We have so many enemies out there that we don't have time to attack each other. It's right. We if we disagree, we have to disagree and go on.

D Diane Williams 15:24

I think if there's anybody that my politics are calm, modeled, after it's hers, I really respect the way she thinks, which is

A Anise Parker 15:30

I was following ng before Urvashi the icon in glTF was I just went blank. Oh, no. Delia Puzo Excuse me. Yeah. And she was a pioneer.

D Diane Williams 15:47

You know, I didn't realize that she was with them because from I don't know that much about her. But I read books from Larry Kramer and those days talking about her work with the Gay Men's Health Crisis, the Gay Men's Health Crisis Center in the house about the work that she did. Fighting aids in Virginia paizo led

A Anise Parker 16:08

the glTF for a number of years

D Diane Williams 16:12

National Gay Lesbian taskforce is

A Anise Parker 16:15

no no and a local hero of mine as many times as I have absolutely wanted to kill him and he won an award from the Houston gay and lesbian Political Caucus last weekend and the line was the most dangerous place in Houston is between him in a in a TV camera

D Diane Williams 16:41

the patron saint game was me. Activism. patrons that he is

A Anise Parker 16:46

what he was called by creating cancer. Yeah. What self anointed philosopher king.

J Jewel Gray 16:53

He has seen Montrose.

A Anise Parker 16:56

He has been out there way out there way past where we're most of us have been years back.  
Yeah.

J Jewel Gray 17:07

Guy you don't mess with because he'll just keep coming back at you. And I think he's done that excellently in this city. There were many times when he was not doing as well politically as he wanted to be. But he always bounces right back and gets right back into the picture. And he's there.

A Anise Parker 17:27

Yeah, he's a he's a role model he. And that's something we don't we don't have to agree with everything that someone does, but we have to respect the effort and he is one of the most incredibly eloquent speakers. Oh, except brainiest speakers

J Jewel Gray 17:45

I heard at this Nightline that went on. I was talking to someone the other day about the Nightline interview that went on that he was scheduled to do some time on. And then they bumped him for some Republican women. And he started shouting from the audience. That's my man. Nightline live cross raise screaming at

A Anise Parker 18:05

them at that Nightline. When I was over there. Nightline was a joke. It was really

J Jewel Gray 18:08

sad. It was set up. Yeah.

D Diane Williams 18:10

And can you tell us like what happened? I mean, I know that I was involved with through the wack folks and through Ray but for those people that weren't aware of what happened

WEEK YEARS AND THROUGH RAY, BUT FOR THOSE PEOPLE THAT WEREN'T AWARE OF WHAT HAPPENED,  
Nightline did a show on and asked and got tickets for the community. And

A Anise Parker 18:23

it was on media distortion and whether the media was biased for or against certain groups. And they had invited people to be in the audience over certain people. If they wanted to ask questions, and they pre screened the questions and people fax their questions in and, you know, communications back and forth, and they had picked certain people to be allowed to talk. And then on the day of the Nightline broadcast, Ted Koppel said, Gosh, how can we give a show on media bias and pre screen all the questions who said that doesn't compute? And so they decided to just supposedly throw it open to the audience. Well, there were a lot of I'll say crazies there who rushed the microphones, but then they also moved people out of the way so that they could bring up the real some of the real far out right wing people catch them in line.

J Jewel Gray 19:21

I saw Ray there and I was surprised it was first time I'd seen Ray on TV his mouth was closed. Oh you know, I tell you I don't I'm I'm agree with a nice I'm not really all the time happy with Ray but I'm all the time proud of ray. So I mean, he's, he's out there when I'm sitting here on a radio program, and somebody's got to be once again back to the spectrum. Somebody's got to be in that place. And I'm glad I'm glad Tim lychees a kind of an enigma community

D Diane Williams 20:00

But that's as Scott brought his cats.

J Jewel Gray 20:04

But so he's a local favorite of yours. Yeah, yes.

D Diane Williams 20:09

I want to know a little bit. I know, I kind of asked people, you know, what kind of questions do you want to ask? A nice and Kathy and one of the biggest questions I got. And I'll ask this specifically from Suzanne, a friend of mine, Suzanne Anderson, no, no real simple question. How do you have a life, you have a job, I want to know a little bit about where you work both of you and what you do, and how you have time to maintain a job and a house. And in your case, also a family grandparents at home. And it's so time to be social and to give each other care time, things like that. And how long have you been together? I'd like to know that.

A Anise Parker 20:48

That's we've only been together two years. Oh, yeah.

D Diane Williams 20:52

That's a long time this we weren't

A Anise Parker 20:53

we were. We physically lived together for a year and we make jokes. We live together for a year before my grandparents moved in for the kids came. Which was a big change in our relationship. I've been kind of dominating the conversation. You want to introduce yourself, Kathy, tell them what you do for a living, Kathy would obey pervert.

21:22

Kathy Hubbard, and well, I work out of the home. I'm a tax consultant of a bookkeeping and tax practice. And so the office is all upstairs and then the grandparents are downstairs. And that's, we exercise

A Anise Parker 21:39

our family values. Kathy Kenny takes care of my grandparents during the day while I'm at work at my 40 hour week job, and then we take care of them together at night.

D Diane Williams 21:47

We both have a pretty booming business life. I know. You do the live stuff, and I see Kathy your ads everywhere. And I know, I know. You barter with some friends of mine, the girls that made in the shade. Hi, no, Ellie and Lynn there, Greg, and I'm really friends this weekend. Yeah, I'm really supportive of both of you being supportive to the community through whatever means you can what kind of social time do you have for one another? I mean, I know that you work and you're an activist and you have I get to

J Jewel Gray 22:19

come here and

A Anise Parker 22:21

we don't watch TV. Cathy because of the nature of her job. She has its peak cycles like around tax time. I work 40 hours a week I work for Robert masback or moss banker, energy company, conservative Republican Oil Man, I've been there 11 and a half years now

D Diane Williams 22:39

and does he not love you? Yes, thank you very much.

A Anise Parker 22:43

And I also co owner of Inklings bookshop, which in the first year or so took a lot of my time but fortunately we don't have to do as much of that now. The biggest change in Kathy my relationship was when the when the grandparents moved in our whatever social life we had reserved for ourselves went away.

D Diane Williams 23:04

And how are you dealing with that?

A Anise Parker 23:07

We were making appointments with each other. We communicate on the phone a lot.

D Diane Williams 23:11

I know that upstairs downstairs phone, y'all got pretty important. The Office Kathy's office is upstairs and I know that you do a lot of phone calling back and forth whispering sweet nothings into the phone I am sure dinner's ready honey. Dinner's ready.

A Anise Parker 23:31

Great, anybody who who is an activist and and I've been doing it for a long time. Anyone who heads an organization or who's on a board, or who, who commits themselves, whether it's whether it's wack or qn, or the Gay Lesbian Political Caucus or anything, if you if you really get into it, you have to give up something else go through cycles. And you do you need to go through cycles, you know, where you give more and then you and then you back off, but you have to you have to give up something and usually it's your friends, and spending time with you. You know, we don't go to movies, we don't watch TV and we don't entertain our friends very much anymore.

J Jewel Gray 24:10

You have to have some common goal for your relationship for that. Did you guys spend a lot of time talking about this? Yes. Do you spend a lot of time we still

A Anise Parker 24:22

actually I think we agreed very early on on the goals for our relationship. We dated for eight

actually I think we agreed very early on on the goals for our relationship. We dated for eight months while Kathy from the instant actually Kathy I think society that she wanted me and she committed and we heard me

D Diane Williams 24:39  
talking down the Parker

♀ 24:43  
wonderful courtship.

D Diane Williams 24:45  
Yeah, well tell us give us all the Gaza give us all the dirt. We're talking about three sheets read over here.

J Jewel Gray 24:51  
Let me let me make a station ID before we do that. It's now two o'clock and it's KPFT Houston. You're listening to after hours continue to addition at KPFT 90.1 FM, Houston. Gym is aesthetic and there I did a run. It's everything. Okay, now. Now we're

D Diane Williams 25:11  
back to Kathy turning three sheets read

♀ 25:13  
courtesy of KPFT.

D Diane Williams 25:17  
I know that that you are a victim of the hostess syndrome.

A Anise Parker 25:22  
And because you're talking you're talking to me, I'm talking to

D Diane Williams 25:25

you anyway, I guess. And I am too and I think I'm a

**A** Anise Parker 25:30

native Houstonian, I, the victims that the hostess syndrome. Yes,

**D** Diane Williams 25:34

I know I am to just a minute ago, I was running around the station going to MIT Coke, water coke. And I realized I'm doing it again. And it's great, though. What precipitated me saying that is a little dinner that you had for Inklings. And we came over a lot of people came over. By the way, hi Inklings crowd. I know you're listening tonight, everybody over there. And the food was wonderful. And the company was wonderful. And your grandparents were great. And I really enjoyed being there. And you really, I really like knowing the side of you because for many of us, it's not a facade, but we have to we have to play professional, you know, we have to go and do our job and, and get in and be in the public eye and we present a picture of ourselves. That may be true, but it's one side of us. And if we get to know the other sides, I think that's really important.

**A** Anise Parker 26:28

I have lots of business suits. I also have a set of letters for what what. Thank you, dear.

**J** Jewel Gray 26:38

Swings a mean bat.

**D** Diane Williams 26:40

Yeah. So what kind of what kind of stuff interests you socially if you had the time, let's say I know that you said you played softball for a while was that fun? Because I'd hated softball.

**J** Jewel Gray 26:49

It didn't really like it was fun.

**A** Anise Parker 26:51

I love I quit playing a long time ago and I and I coached and I would like to get back into coaching. I think I'd like to coach kids. Yeah, for change. I like the teaching side of

J jewel Gray 27:01

lesbians want to hurt each other out there. I love to watch serious. They want to hurt each other out there.

A Anise Parker 27:07

And I'm a cactus and succulent hobbyists, although it's very difficult. Fortunately, cactus and seconds don't need a lot of attention because I don't pay as much attention to them as I should. But I have several 100 plants

D Diane Williams 27:22

kind of sort of gardening. Gardening specifically.

A Anise Parker 27:28

Kathy and I are great poetry fans. We both write poetry and we go to First Friday I'll give a plug for First Friday poets over the fire in our

D Diane Williams 27:35

ouse. Yeah, that's great. I, I knew that. And I never remember that. And I should I should remember that when I think about because we do poetry here all the time when I was telling them about a book that we read from occasionally that we got that? Yeah, the Elsa good low books when I'm talking.

J Jewel Gray 27:52

Yeah, yeah, we got an Inklings.

D Diane Williams 27:55

I love you, Jewel. Where can I get it in Inklings? I need to go and look in the book. I

J Jewel Gray 27:59

got it when you things first opened. I think you bought somebody else's inventory, didn't you?

A Anise Parker 28:03

We've done that. It may have been where it came from.

D Diane Williams 28:05

Yeah. poetry book by Elsa. Good love. I also want to let people know a little bit about what you do and your background. Rice graduate. Yes. And Kathy, where did you go to school? Or did you study Community

♀ 28:19

College in upstate New York?

D Diane Williams 28:23

Community College? I went to Mensa folk,

A Anise Parker 28:28

men's Yes. Which I never did and never participated in except that was one of Catholics outlet. So I joined Mensa for for her to

J Jewel Gray 28:37

cool men's lesbians. Yeah, it happens. Getting these

♀ 28:41

speakers for men's group for the last couple of years to three years. And

A Anise Parker 28:48

yes, next. Tell them next month's speaker is going to be homosexuality and evolutionary advance. Oh, boy.

♀ 28:55

Yeah. And it's being delivered by a rocket scientist.

J Jewel Gray 28:59

Have you? Have you seen that new series on a&e called Brain six? Yeah. I watched it last program. I think it's on tonight. I mean, Sunday night, I watched the last program it was really clear to me that lesbians should be ruling the world it was really clear you gotta watch this

clear to me that lesbians should be running the world it was really clear you gotta watch this show. It was just great.

D Diane Williams 29:20

Well, it it kind of had an explanation for everything. Yeah, I'll leave it up to the listeners to go on and II

J Jewel Gray 29:26

try brain sex on any.

D Diane Williams 29:28

We should all try some maybe a little bit safer and better than all other forms of it right now at the moment, but it's the same thing. Well,

A Anise Parker 29:36

the the whole idea of safe sex is thinking about sex.

J Jewel Gray 29:42

I was really interested in in what you wanted to do from now on. We know that it's going to be tough. You have no social life and that that you work 40 hours a week, but we don't know what you're thinking about doing in the future. Like I said earlier, I'd like to run for office again. And you indicated that you were, it was on your mind.

A Anise Parker 30:08

The intention has been that I, my intention has been that I wanted to run for office and I got into the race for City Council last year, knowing that it was almost impossible to win, but with the idea that I could establish myself as a candidate, and get the gay questions out of the way, raise the profile of my profile as a candidate, but also of gay candidates, in general. And of course, my race also was in response to the fact that the city ignored the gay community when they were working on redistricting. But the idea being I would run then, and then turn around and run again, and it's still my intention to do that.

J Jewel Gray 30:56

And when you made a very good showing in your district, though, people, people not myself, but people were surprised at how, how well in your district you did, considering the timing or the month and, and why glycol was

A Anise Parker 31:11

set to pull 30% of the votes. And I didn't quite get 30% of votes. But I won precincts that I didn't need any, like 28 or 29, no, a little bit less than that. But I have my I won the precincts that I needed to win. And people saw me as a candidate rather than as a gay candidate in all the campaigning that I did, and I was really out there hustling for a number of months, I was gay baited twice, only twice by the same person. People in the city wanted to know about potholes and about having their garbage picked up and about police protection. They didn't want to know, whether I wanted didn't want me to talk about being gay. And that was really refreshing.

J Jewel Gray 32:03

What one does with the social life that they don't have, is not very interesting anymore, is it?

A Anise Parker 32:08

It's no, no, fortunately, not beyond that. I think

D Diane Williams 32:12

what I thought was really refreshing was the fact that, you know, you're in a committed relationship, and you're able to take your, your, your spouse, girlfriend, lover, partner, whoever you want to put a label on and call each other, and hold hands and go on a podium and say, I'm an East Parker, and this is my partner, spouse, lover, soulmate, whoever, and we're here today to blah, blah, blah. And you know, that's not always something that people feel comfortable doing. And I think that I saw you do that a couple of times.

A Anise Parker 32:43

I do. I'm very comfortable with it. But the important part is that Kathy is comfortable with it. You know, when you the downside of that coming out and becoming an activist is that you limit your pool of potential partners. Because people who aren't, when you think about all the things, you have to negotiate in a relationship, and in a gay lesbian relationship, you also have to negotiate how far out of the closet you both are. And it's sometimes difficult to find someone who's equally out of the closet and I have tried to be I have been in a relationship with someone who was very much in the closet and it was a

J Jewel Gray 33:21

possibility for you

33:22

first met what was to the closet and not to the relationship, successful relationship you have to be committed.

**A** Anise Parker 33:28

And unfortunately, Kathy is involved in Kathy's has served on the board of hippy she's active in Mensa. She's the editor of the Houston area League of PC users user journal. So she's got her own avenues that she's involved in. And the one the one,

**D** Diane Williams 33:48

the one I just want to say too, that the one has really grown. Yeah, I mean, I'm so proud and impressed of and with the wand, the newsletter of women spaced in the Houston lesbian women's community and

**A** Anise Parker 34:00

he gets put together on our dining table. I have nothing to do with it whatsoever. It does, but it gets put together on our dining table. I'm very proud of that.

**J** Jewel Gray 34:09

Show that you appreciate and you're thinking about another run it at the City Council or when you look at the fire

**A** Anise Parker 34:19

when you look at to potential offices, the smallest districts, the easiest to win are probably state rep seats. We are represented very ably by Deborah Dannenberg. You look around further and their state Senate seats the next highest up there or you look at city council. I was born here in Houston. Both my parents were born here in Houston. I'm really geared toward the city. You don't have the glamour issues in city politics that you have if you were in the state legislature, you know do with with abortion. You don't deal with the sodomy laws and I would love to be there. But the devil is there now and she's doing a good job I'm and I'd have to go with Austin to do that. And I'm more committed to the city. So I'm still looking at city council but that

**D** Diane Williams 35:19

think what you can do at age 35 in the city council and then maybe H 40. In state rep or Congress or wherever you want to do

A Anise Parker 35:27

little, little little pieces at the time, I have to get elected to something.

J Jewel Gray 35:31

But but you got to start with what is it Michael Jackson with Michael Jackson says with the man in the mirror, you gotta start with what you see every day looking back at you. And and take care of that. Sorry.

A Anise Parker 35:43

If I never get elected to public office. I don't think I will regret that some people they have an ambition. And if they don't achieve that ambition, they have a hole in their life. And I don't have that hole.

J Jewel Gray 36:00

Just something you ever expected when you were younger? No, did you see this coming? That you were gonna be I mean, I was July nerdy

A Anise Parker 36:07

kid that you know, the brain and class, the shy kid that didn't know how to talk and know this is so far from from what I ever imagined so far what my family ever imagined. My mother is very ashamed of the fact that I'm involved in politics, I think she had difficulty getting used to know she had difficulty getting used to the gay and lesbian stuff. But the just politics in general, I don't know which one bothers her more, that I'm openly gay about it or that it's politics.

D Diane Williams 36:36

Guy, my mother's my mom is terrified that I'm my mom has always been involved in politics. And she works with the election department in hairs. My mother works at the elections department of the Harris County court office or whatever in administration building. And she loves me anyway, or loves me. And I'm trying to say not despite him, think what to say about that, man, she loves me, and she loves me, thank you. But she's anxious for me to go into politics. And that is like the last thing on my personal agenda. And she's kind of okay with the, with the ganem. The gayness

A Anise Parker 37:12

what people have to get over if they get into politics is that no matter what you do, you have to follow your conscience. But no matter what you do, there will be a certain number of people who just hate it, and we'll trash you for it. And you can work really hard and do your best. And

you're gonna get slammed by somebody. And there are a lot of people who can't handle that aspect of it.

J Jewel Gray 37:33

can't please all people all the time. How do

D Diane Williams 37:36

you grandparents feel about your relationship? Are they I'm pretty sure they're, they're pretty aware. What do you think?

♀ 37:43

Well, they fake they love us both. And

A Anise Parker 37:47

I know you're absolutely crazy. But Cathy's poking me like I don't want to talk anymore. They're absolutely crazy about her. I don't think they articulate that we're in a lesbian relationship. And I have to understand my grandmother was born in 1899.

J Jewel Gray 38:02

It's to do with religion doesn't exist.

A Anise Parker 38:04

It doesn't exist. And I mean, I mean, she certainly knows what lesbians are in

J Jewel Gray 38:08

special friendship. She was single, she was a single woman

A Anise Parker 38:11

until she was 36 years old. And she was she was taught school for years. And she does know lesbians. But she doesn't think of us in that way. Although she'll make statements about Kathy, comparing Kathy to my sister's husband in how nice they both are. So she is conscious conscious of that, but not not putting the words on it. But they've been great. They've been it's

been taking care of my grandparents been the most one of the most horrible things I've ever had to go through. But it's also one of the most rewarding too. It's, it's both at the same time, big

 Jewel Gray 38:45

responsibility.

 Diane Williams 38:46

Well, I gotta tell you that I liked watching. The younger people relate to older people, because sometimes people get uncomfortable around seniors, because they don't think they're going to be able to relate or they don't know what to say, or they don't think that they're gonna they're gonna be able to hear them or whatever. They're don't think that whoever's going to be conscious or cognizant of what they're saying. And being from a family with lots of seniors in my family, I'm very at ease or fairly at ease anyway. And I think it's great that your friends can come in and we just came in and sat right down and talked and they were just great to talk to so

 39:24

that was that was wonderful. That meant a lot to them. They really had a great time at the party. And they were I was just really glad to see everyone spending some time with them.

 Diane Williams 39:33

We talked to books I know we talked about books with your grandma, she likes her romance stuff. You like sci fi, and you like mysteries. That's a nice with the Sci Fi and Kathy with mysteries. I'm a mystery buff myself, so that's good.

 Jewel Gray 39:48

Well, we sure appreciate y'all coming down this evening. I think we just exhausted your trunk of repertoire here. Just reached in there and grabbed a lot of stuff out and is there anything you particularly want to plug um, yeah. Sharpton, it's important to you want to use a few minutes of airtime

 Diane Williams 40:03

was specifically I know there's the Mac thing the Tropicana fundraiser at 11, called the Lebanon or the mac number for more information about that. So

 A Anise Parker 40:11

tomorrow, I want to plug again, this my condition that I'm chairing the commission to investigate. police, the police ACT UP confrontation, if you have a story to tell if something happened to you write it down a paragraph or to mail it to us. We'd like it signed. We can if you don't want your name, passed on to city council or whatever, we can make arrangements to do that. But we need to hear from people. If you don't want to go to ID you don't have to go to ID, you're gonna have you'll have a sympathetic hearing from us. But you have to contact us and that's 521 1000 our post office box 665136666513 Houston, 77266 great grade.

 41:15

And without KPFT we wouldn't be able to have these conversations with everyone. So yeah, we really, really appreciate Public Radio.

 D Diane Williams 41:24

We really are glad that y'all came on especially that you've got up in the middle of the night or stayed up in the middle of night or whatever.

 A Anise Parker 41:30

All you had to do is ask I love coming on. This was a lot of fun. Well, we'll ask again

 D Diane Williams 41:35

next time we invite you to the Slumber Party. We're going to have another slumber party with chips and chocolate chips and pillow. Yeah, we had some whack people on it. It was great. We had a great time. Okay,

 J Jewel Gray 41:46

we're gonna go to k.d. lang doing constant craving