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SPEAKERS

Scott Lewis, Jimmy Carper, Brian Bradley



00:02

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



00:13

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 in my old and it's not a blazer lives not worth a damn to you can say



01:07

I am what I am I don't want praise I don't want to bang my own drum something is noise I think it's pretty bangle things from a different angle your life is a jam to you again shout out excuses I do my own deck sometimes is notified Damn. Tell you again shout out



Jimmy Carper 02:38

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 hear for gay and lesbian people. Just as Gloria Gaynor 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



03:41

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

S

Scott Lewis 05:02

Hi, welcome to after. This is Scott Lewis here with

B

Brian Bradley 05:09

Brian Bradley.

S

Scott Lewis 05:10

And we're here celebrating, celebrating. Being clear, I guess.

B

Brian Bradley 05:17

How are you doing tonight, Scott?

S

Scott Lewis 05:19

If I was any better? I think it took a prescription to get here. I just feel real good. I'm real happy. I'm really excited. Just

B

Brian Bradley 05:25

like and you needed to refill

S

Scott Lewis 05:30

was That's horrible. You're so hateful I can't believe you're so hateful to me, Brian.

B

Brian Bradley 05:41

While everyone else is watching.

S

Scott Lewis 05:43

I know. Tonight we have just an exciting, exciting show. planned for you. Are you going to play? I think Jimmy is going to play some Fred Schneider during the career music zone. Some walk some Fred Schneider. Let me tell you I saw Fred out it out in bigger trips out in well, you might

have I don't hang out in this kind of places. But anymore. Not since I let you in. Anyway, I saw I saw I saw Fred out at bigotry central out in The Woodlands HPD

J Jimmy Carper 06:25
they have a tree Central and

S Scott Lewis 06:26
I've got a story to tell you about HP. Let me tell you I've there's a man has done it. Anyway. I'll tell you my HPD story in a second. Wait a minute. What's bigotry Central? That's a it's a city just north of here. It's called the woodland Oh, anyway,

J Jimmy Carper 06:41
we're gonna get get we're gonna

S Scott Lewis 06:42
get phone calls. We have tonight I saw Fred Schneider out at The Woodlands in concert. He is the lead singer of the B 50 twos. For those who don't know. And just Queenie as he can be. He came out in a hot pink suit, pants and jacket to match and little age t shirt. It was wonderful. They passed out before you left they passed out a set of four postcards. One of them was to the Sierra Club. One of them was to an aid organization in New York. One of them was I don't know what the other ones were too. But anyway, good. And they were already there were more postcards than that. But I just don't remember what they were. And anyway, so you know, I mailed off all my postcards, and I hope everybody else did too. And he was just wonderful. I think he wanted me he saw me back up on the hill.

B Brian Bradley 07:27
Oh, another man. It's still breathing

S Scott Lewis 07:34
well, hey, that's all it takes. So tonight we have some we have some. We're gonna have some fun we have. We have some free movie passes. We're gonna give away to a new movie that shown over at the River Oaks theater. So stay tuned for that later on. We'll take some calls in and give you some free movie passes. Papi Northcutt is going to be here at 1230 Poppy's running

B Brian Bradley 07:55

for the 178 criminal District Court.

S

Scott Lewis 07:58

Yes, which I might be in front of someday soon. So I hope she old enough to vote someday. I hope she wins. Well, thank you. I am much younger than you are. And I didn't get to vote for Roosevelt.

J

Jimmy Carper 08:08

Can't tell by looking Come on. Yeah.

S

Scott Lewis 08:14

Anyway. So we're gonna give away some movie passes. Poppy North cuts gonna be here. And we're gonna we're gonna talk about husband hunt that we did last time. When we were when we were here. Just

B

Brian Bradley 08:25

go ahead and tell him you still don't have one. And

S

Scott Lewis 08:30

what are those damn cats? Anyway? Well, we'll save that for later. We might take some phone calls then to we'll talk about the dates that I had after after the last show. Anyway,

B

Brian Bradley 08:44

has been a month. It has been a month so how did they both

S

Scott Lewis 08:47

go? There was only one. But but but we'll we'll talk about that later. In the meantime, Jimmy is here waiting patiently to do Q MZ. The queer music zone. What do you have for us tonight, Jim?

J

Jimmy Carper 09:02

I've got lots of old I've got lots of new little bit in between.



S

Scott Lewis 09:06

Well, you displayed all those when you walked in through the front door. Thank

J

Jimmy Carper 09:10

you so much. Now get the hell out of here. See you later guys. Hi, this is Jimmy with QM Z queer music zone featuring music by gay lesbian and bisexual artists. And a lot of people have problems with that cue word. Maybe we should call it music for Glads gay lesbians and bisexuals. I don't know. Coming up first. I think this is the time of year we can do this kind of song and it is Fred Schneider. Especially since it's now what is it was time or art festival and all that craziness going on. And it's that kind of says hey, it's fall. So here's Fred with that. Summer inhale Oh yeah, there it was rock and roll where bar. Now we started out the QM Z with an oldie by Fred Schneider. And we played a couple of new ones and between Kathy Bo and John Michelle Albert, and now we're going to end up with an old D to something some of you may not even be aware of, because this is queer music zone. So we do music for gay, lesbian and bisexual people by gay, gay, lesbian and bisexual people. So Oh, before I leave, and start this song, I do want to say that this week and every week, they keep a troll is dedicated to those men and women out there on the streets tonight patrolling the Q patrol. I'm getting some laughs about the men and women walking the streets patrolling the streets something. Okay. So we're going to end off the pumc tonight with an another oldie. This time by Janis Joplin. Yes, that's the one and she's doing for us peace of my heart

B

Brian Bradley 11:31

and that's just a little buttons aren't that's just

S

Scott Lewis 11:33

a little hint of what's to come. All sorts of craziness is happening here that now that I

B

Brian Bradley 11:42

shall we call Jimmy back? No, Jimmy,

S

Scott Lewis 11:44

Jimmy Mack?

B

Brian Bradley 11:45

Won't you come back? Jimmy Mack, come



 S

Scott Lewis 11:48

back. Is that how they danced in the 40s? Jimmy, that's what

 B

Brian Bradley 11:54

our next program is going to be on ageism, something that you're not going to live long enough to suffer from. If you keep that up, young man. I'm old, I can handle this underwears old You're not

 S

Scott Lewis 12:05

my underwear. It's not as old and hasn't seen as many cities as yours has. Anyway, we're sitting here in the studio right now with poppy Northcutt.

 B

Brian Bradley 12:18

I don't introduce her well, I'm sorry to ask her to be here. Okay.

 S

Scott Lewis 12:22

I'm just sitting, we're sitting

 B

Brian Bradley 12:23

here in the studio with poppy Northcutt. I'm very excited to have Poppy here to dyed Poppy as the judicial candidate for district judge of 178. And we're going to talk to Poppy tonight about her entry into politics, I bet she would say that it's been 20 something years now. But this is the first time to my knowledge, the puppies running for office for sale. And I have had the good pleasure of getting to know Poppy a bit professionally and personally in the last year or so. And the gay and lesbian community, the woman's community, the choice community, we all should be very proud to have her as a candidate to stand up and speak for us and make the wise prudent decisions. I know she will when she's elected to office. So let's welcome Poppy to to our show tonight. How are you?



13:13

It's my I'm sleepy.

 B

Brian Bradley 13:15

Have you been out campaigning all day?



13:16

I've been out campaigning all day and all week and intend to keep on campaigning tirelessly until November 3,



Brian Bradley 13:23

won't tell me are you like most good Democrats? Are you tasting and smelling victory?



13:28

I'm too tired right now to taste or smell. But I am very hopeful that we're going to take back the White House and the Supreme Court and all the way down to the courthouse.



Brian Bradley 13:41

Probably Can you perhaps tell our listening audience why it's so important not only to elect the right president, but all the way down, as you say and pay close particular attention to local offices such as the bench that you would be sitting on?



13:58

Well, at the top of the level obviously, in addition to electing the president, you're really picking who's going to sit on the Supreme Court of the United States, and that's particularly crucial right now. Because on the abortion rights issue, for example, that decision Roe v Wade is only hanging in there by one vote. And Justice Blackmun, who's the author of Roe v. Wade, is very old and has already said he wants to retire. So we know that the first vacancy coming up on the Supreme Court is going to be on our side. So we certainly need somebody who's going to fill it with another pro choice person on the, you know, to be President, as you get down into the local courts. Really what's happened over the last few years is that with Reagan and Bush in office for 12 years, they filled the federal judiciary at all levels with very conservative judges who've rolled back in the area of of civil rights. So you women's rights, gay rights, black rights, all of the rights, consumer rights, all of those issues have been adversely affected. And it's gotten to the point where it used to be a long time ago, it used to be that the Supreme Court and the federal judiciary were where you went, if you were poor or oppressed, they were your hope of getting redress. You didn't go to your state courts, you didn't have that hope of getting any redress in your state courts. But now, because of the change in the courts, if you want to get some sort of relief, you have to look to your local courts in order to get that relief. So it's very important. We have elected judges in Texas, so you get to control who those people are.



Brian Bradley 15:45

It's my understanding that 64% of the federal benches are now occupied by Reagan, Bush appointees, and that if Reagan or Bush, same difference, were to be reelected. Conceivably, they would be able to appoint as much as 80% of the present bench. And that's very

frightening. So it is important that we get not only good Democrats, but we need to diversify the bench and have more representation from people of color and women. And Poppy is one of our better options when it comes to putting one of those women in there. I don't suppose you want to blow your horn a little bit, but I will. Poppy is a graduate summa cum laude from the University of Houston law school and she did go to her commencement address. Oh, here we go. No, you did not. But you do have that diploma without good reason. Right.

 16:41

I do have the deployment. It does. I can certainly come Laude on it. But I did not go to my commencement address.

 Brian Bradley 16:46

Well, we'll have to pay close Particular attention. paid political announcement. I

 16:52

graduated in the middle of the year when they don't have a commencement address, so you have to come back months later to do that. In fact, I never went to either one of my graduations in college.

 Brian Bradley 17:05

Some of Poppy's qualifications and experiences for those who don't know her. She's a former Assistant District Attorney for Harris County, she was there for five years and helped to prosecute several 1000 criminal cases. She is a board certified criminal law specialist, board of legal specialist specialization with the State Bar of Texas. And she said 10 years experience and Trial and Appeal with all types of criminal cases. And more importantly, I think, is that Poppy is known for being a champion of victims rights and the victim in in crimes, domestic violence and gay bashing and such is more often overlooked than just your regular victim of crime. Can you tell us Papi, why you think it's important that there be someone on the bench that advocates for the victim instead of spends their entirety trying to protect as they should the accused, right?

 18:00

Well, one of the things you need to understand is that a judge really isn't an advocate, the judge is the decision maker. But the judge is the one who sets the stage for how everybody gets treated. Excuse me,

 Brian Bradley 18:15

I try not to inhale.



18:18

Anyway, the first thing that happens when a criminal defendant comes to court is that his or her bond gets set. And that's a decision that's completely at the discretion of the judge. So a lot of times, depending on the attitude of the judge, if they think the case is unimportant, they may set a very low bond or give them pretrial release bond. So they get out of jail very quickly. In cases of domestic violence in particular, that can be very dangerous, because they're very angry that they were arrested in the first place. So all they want to do is get out of there and go back and beat her up even worse than they did before. So it's it's very important how the decision is made in terms of bond. The bond says something in terms of of the value that the court places on the case, it has something to do with keeping the community safe in general. But it I think, mainly in cases of gay bashing, for example, it really reflects the attitude of the court toward the Kron. And that's the beginning after that. It may be that the judge actually assesses punishment in the case, the defendant has the option of choosing who does punishment if they're found guilty, whether it's the the jury or the judge, that does punishment. And obviously if you have a judge who is homophobic, are anti woman or whatever. That's going to affect the kind of punishment that they assess. It has affects many in the black community also thinks that whenever it's a black and black crime, for example, For the punishment is much less than if it's a black person who's victimizing a white person. And that two needs to be addressed. We need to punish people for the crimes they commit, not based on what people think of the victims of the crime,



Brian Bradley 20:17

or having the long experience in history of working in the criminal justice system that you have. Is it clear to you that there are certain groups of our population that are treated differently than others? Is it something that you have to look for ferret out? Or is it pretty evident to you as an attorney?



20:35

I think it's rather obvious, I don't think you have to look and ferret it out very much. It's fairly obvious.



Brian Bradley 20:40

And this would probably be nominally be coming from your traditional white male, heterosexual.



20:47

Yes. And it also is a matter of how old the people are, to some extent, too, I think that younger people have less fixed attitudes about those things, and the older ones do. But that's not true. Always. There are some very good older judges as well.


B**Brian Bradley 21:03**

Once you are elected, and judging from the unofficial polling that I've done from not only my friends, but strangers, I think you've got a very good chance of winning, once you sit on the bench, do you have any innovative or new ideas that you'd like to try out and as far as looking at punishment and ensuring that both sides receive the full benefit of the law?

**21:30**

Well, I think the whole system is challenged right now in the punishment area, we've got so much prison overcrowding and jail overcrowding that whether people want to or not, they're being forced to consider alternative sentencing, the biggest problem is money. There just isn't enough money right now in the system to provide enough alternative programs. We don't have nearly enough drug treatment programs, for example, or alcohol treatment programs for the need that we have in the community. Everybody out there has some good alternative ideas, but in order for any of them to work, we're going to have more money to do


B**Brian Bradley 22:09**

about community service, how much leeway does the court have in monitoring the community service hours that a person is given in instead of a jail sentence research, having been in more than one courtroom, I've heard discussion that the judge will give you you know, 300 hours of community service instead of six months in jail. Does that really happen? Do they do good Bible credible work? Or do they just choose some Avenue and go up there and just, you know, sign in?

**22:41**

Well, the defendant doesn't choose what kind of community service that he or she does. They're, they're sent to the community service coordination out of the probation department. And they're assigned to a particular function. It's not their choice. It's the program coordinators choice rather than than the defendants choice.


B**Brian Bradley 23:01**

Does the judge have any say so in what the accused or the what avenue he or she may be assigned to?

**23:11**

Well, I suppose that they could have some I know, there have been some judges who had particular assignments. I don't remember which judge it was that had people working on the battleship, Texas, I think it was Judge Powell, for example, at one point, but

 B**Brian Bradley 23:27**

what does that teach someone? What did the Battleship Texas have to do with the crime they committed?



23:31

I'm not sure that it had anything to do with the crime that committed although it does teach someone discipline and they're responsible for what they do, and they're going to have to make some sort of payment back to society. And that it may also establish then the notion to them that the offense that's committed is not just committed against the person who's the direct victim, but all society is the victim, and they owe something to all of society. I think that's the basic idea behind it. But whether it teaches them anything specific about the particular crime or not, I don't know. I don't think it probably probably doesn't. In those cases, I really think that it's probably better that the the judges themselves are not picking and choosing the particular programs. I think that's why you have coordinators, and you pay them for their specialty areas, to make those assignments rather than judges making the individual assessments of and putting putting people into their pet programs.

 B**Brian Bradley 24:33**

Well, do you think there's any value to be received from assigning someone to community service somewhere within the scope of the parameters of the crime that they committed, for instance, if you were convicted of a lesser degree in a gay bashing case, perhaps you would be assigned to work somehow in a community service that outraged or served the gay and lesbian community or if you committed, you know, not a major of major offense against a woman? Domestic violence, for instance, sign into some type of work that would educate them and make them see just what how much more they added to some of the victim by A.



25:14

Well, in the domestic violence situation, I don't think that most women shelters would want to have a batter coming over to work at their shelter is the problem because they try to keep that very confidential the location. Sometimes in the alternative, they might order they make payment to a battering center, I suppose. Theoretically, you could try to have that going on where you sent them to work in the community. But you also have to understand that if they're engaging in bashing the community that's that was victimized might not really want them. Yeah, it might be more preferable to try to do a little more direct treatment and try to put them into some sort of counseling session. Rather than possibly stirring up even more problems, I

 B**Brian Bradley 26:08**

suppose I'm just over the age and the mindset that I think there should be more rehabilitative value received from the sentence than just punitive measures taken against someone I just reread the Malcolm X biography, as told to Alex Haley, and the seven years that Malcolm X

spent in prison. He was guilty of his crime, he admitted it, and he was a pimp and a drug addict and a drug user and a pusher. But there was no value to him as a human being no redemptive value of when he was sent to prison. And most often, I think we're sending people to jail and warehousing them for the crimes that they commit. And they're coming out smarter and more smart criminal than when they went in. So just hoping that somewhere in this big system of judicial and correctional facilities that we can somehow teach people the error of their ways, if you will, without getting too lofty about it.



27:05

Well, I think that that you're correct, that we are sending way too many people. And we're incarcerating way too many people are not using enough creative approaches. Because as well, part of the problem, we have two to two different things that we have to deal with Brian because on the one hand, we can't afford as a matter of money, we just can't afford to lock everybody up. And well beyond that. We can't afford societally to do it. Even if we could afford it monetarily, because of the overall impact of doing that. As you said, they come out worse than they go in whenever you send a lot of these people away. But we do need to send odd offenders away and make sure they stay there a long time because they really are a danger to society. I think that we need to do everything we can with the ones who are rehabilitated able to rehabilitate them that we do have some that there's just not a whole lot of rehabilitation that's probably going to come through. Not sure thanks.