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SPEAKERS

Speaker 11, Eric, Speaker 12, Michael Crawford, Urvashi Vaid, Speaker 15, Speaker 16, Speaker 13, Jimmy Carper, Speaker 17, Speaker 14

J Jimmy Carper 00:01

So, I was in Inklings this afternoon talking with Jennifer and said, Girl, I need something new and she gave it to me. It's called, and that was a very new experience for me now, let me tell you, no, no. It's a group called Second Opinion, headed up by Sally Potter, Pat Madden and Betsy Clinton. Yes.

E Eric 00:28

Is that his sister? Well, Jefferson Clinton's sister.

M Michael Crawford 00:33

Let's say yes.

J Jimmy Carper 00:34

Okay. There we go. Oh, cool. Okay. Yes. But it's a great, great, this is a great song and it's done acapella. In it's called, wait a minute, let me make sure I know what I'm doing here. Yes. It's called the battle. The ballad, that was a battle too. But it's this is "The Ballad of Anita Hill." Whoa, okay. Okay. Okay. That was that was a little group called Sugar. And I play that because,

E Eric 01:13

Bob Mould's a fag.

J Jimmy Carper 01:15

Well yes, well, Bob Mould in it who used to be in Håsker Dås and yes, he's a big fag and

M Michael Crawford 01:24

Not that big.

J Jimmy Carper 01:25

Well, how big is he?

M Michael Crawford 01:27

Well, he's not as big as I am. But he's he's, he's close.

J Jimmy Carper 01:31

Wow. Whoa, that's scary. You know.

M Michael Crawford 01:36

I'm queer. I know everything.

J Jimmy Carper 01:38

Okay. Anyway, I wanted to give, I like to get people whiplash on the show. So I went from second opinion, which is a nice little acapella number about Anita Hill right to Sugar. But this is kind of a strange thing. I played it because he's gay, but I don't know. I'm not sure if I like it. I mean, he's talking about everybody's Jesus Christ these days. I mean, that's, that's all he's talking about. Now you know, I am your Jesus Christ. And the name of the song is "JC Auto."

E Eric 02:10

Well, I liked it had a good beat, I would give it a nine out of 100, and it had definite mosh appeal.

J Jimmy Carper 02:17

Oh, yeah, boy, no kidding. Thank you. Thank you for that. Okay, now let's say we want to plug something here. I want to plug something, because I have a special interest in it.

E Eric 02:32

You have a plug?

J Jimmy Carper 02:34

Yes. And you have to send that for that state to get those two. Anyway, Jerry Halliday is going to be at Heaven on Tuesday, this Tuesday, July the 13th. And I'm plugging it because half of your cover charge is going to go to the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard. And they sure do need the money, folks. The other half is going to go to the 800 Pacific employee emergency fund, which is what, I'm not sure exactly what that's for. I think it's for anybody who works with Charles Armstrong who gets sick, right?

M Michael Crawford 03:13

If they get sick, or they get in trouble in some way, like Scott was telling me about this PWA who couldn't work very much, meaning he didn't make a very, a lot of money, meaning he couldn't afford to pay for his electricity and stuff like that. And so money from this fund was taken to pay for his utilities and so on so that it would be in the dark everything.

J Jimmy Carper 03:31

Okay, that's good. Okay, that's taking care of your own. And so that's Tuesday night, Jerry Halliday is a puppeteer. And he does, he has these these huge puppets of Betty Davis, Marilyn Monroe, Mae West cat, Katharine Hepburn, Carol Channing. And he does kind of, he's kind of a nasty. I mean, he does kind of light off humor, color, color, colored humor, of color, whatever. Exactly. If we can say that.

E Eric 04:00

It's very funny.

J Jimmy Carper 04:01

Is it? Have you seen it?

E Eric 04:03

I heard the promo that someone had. Oh, cool.

J Jimmy Carper 04:08

Okay, so I'm looking forward to it. I don't know what to expect. But I'm going to be at Heaven on Tuesday, July the 13th. At, the doors open at nine and the show will be at 11 o'clock.

E Eric 04:21

But keep in mind, it is a benefit but you don't need to wear a tuxedo.

J Jimmy Carper 04:24

No, no, no, I'm gonna you know, like, hang out. Like I always say, yeah, yeah, really. Something else I wanted to talk about. And because it really really touched me, it was an article in this week's TWIT. Oh, July 19 through 15th with the guy on the cover. But it was an article written by Nancy Ford, Nancy, who's, who's been on the show many, many times and as a wonderful comedian. But this article really hit me right between the ol' eyes because she's, she's talking about how wonderful the Pride Day Parade was and even the events afterwards. But she's doing this like she's writing a letter and she starts at dear guys well, another Pride Parade has come and gone, one more year. And she goes on and talks about all the floats and, and the, the queens and all the changes that have been, that have been in the past several years. And at the very end, she ends by thinking of you, Nancy. And in this letter, she's, she talks to four men, John Day, Joey Cundiff, Neumann Broad, and Bob Pine, all of whom have died of AIDS. But what's kind of nice about this is Nancy is still remembering, and we want to do the same thing right here. So I went through some of my old stuff, and I dug up a record done by John Day called "Unity and More in 1984." It was the official song for Pride Week in 1984. Just two years later, John Day was dead. So John, we don't want to forget you or any of the others who have died of this disease, and we will do everything we can on this show to remember and this is one of the ways Okay, John Day "Unity and More in 1984." The official song for Pride Week of that year. This has been Jimmy with QMZ, the queer music zone playing music of gay lesbian, bisexual, transgender, you name it. The queer community. Yeah, yeah, we sure did. The queer community, that's the zone. Yeah. I tried to get them all in, much as I can. We're gonna go now to a little piece from This Way Out because it is a speech by Urvashi Vaid,

M Michael Crawford 07:25

The most fabulous activist in the entire planet.

J Jimmy Carper 07:29

Yeah, she's pretty good. And it's, it's the speech she gave the keynote speech at Hartford, Connecticut's pride rally. And it's really, really good. We thought this was, this was, this is a key. So we wanted you to hear it. You ready? Ready, everybody ready? Okay.

M Michael Crawford 07:57

Yeah, we're not ready. That was just a test. It was only a test. What that really means is that because we're at the luxurious KPFT studios, there was a bit of a technical--technical difficulty.

But I think I'll tell you a little bit more about the speech that Urvashi's going to be

But let's see, why don't I tell you a little bit more about the speech that Urvashi is going to be doing. Let's see.

J Jimmy Carper 08:16

Let's try it one more time.

M Michael Crawford 08:17

Okay.

J Jimmy Carper 08:18

Let's see how we go.

S Speaker 11 08:35

Lesbian and Gay Pride Month officially concluded this past weekend, with the now traditional parades in New York City, San Francisco, Los Angeles and other major US cities. While some pride observances are scheduled for the next few months, in most localities, the celebrations took place in May and June leading up to the anniversary of the 1969 Stonewall Rebellion. One such event in Hartford, Connecticut was boosted by a nationally prominent rabble rousing keynote speaker, the former executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, Urvashi Vaid.

U Urvashi Vaid 09:08

I'm really happy to be here, and particularly honored to follow such a wonderful history is our witness today in the lesbian and gay movement. At this lesbian and gay pride in Hartford, we gather at an extraordinary moment in our lives as a people a moment right both in its promise of deliverance from the oppression we live under, and rife in the organized presence of evil that threatens our very lives. In the first few months of 1990, when Congress passed the first ever federal bill addressing sexual orientation, the federal Hate Crime Statistics Act, to the unprecedented visibility of gay and lesbian issues in the 1992 presidential campaign from our ongoing and historic fight to overturn the military policy to the elevation of lesbians to the cover of NewsWeek. None of us could have ever imagined the breathtaking scope of the cultural visibility we witnessed in this decade. Today more states than ever, count 'em, eight, including Connecticut have passed gay and lesbian civil rights laws, 42 more to go. Today open lesbians gay men, and people with HIV and AIDS serve the public trust as elected and appointed officials across the land. Today, more lesbian, gay and bisexual people live lives fully out of the closet that contained our talents for far too long. And just seven weeks ago, our national movement mounted perhaps the largest civil rights demonstration in American history. I don't have to remind you but I think the country always needs to be reminded that lesbians, gay men, and bisexuals and transgendered people seek the most simple of things. The guarantee of equality for all, the freedom to participate in society as we fully are, the creation

of a new moral order with respect to humanity and dignity, of people regardless of race, sexual orientation, gender, ethnicity, religion, ability, or other human difference. For years, lesbians and gay men have marked the anniversary of 1969 Stonewall Rebellion. Over these 24 years, we've created a tradition, first a day, then a week, and then an entire month of activities and celebration, all proclaiming our joy in who we are, and our commitment to each other towards full equality. But my friends, there is a danger in tradition, a danger of false security and a danger of complacency. The truth is that the progress we have made, while dramatic is far from permanent. And the cultural space we enjoy today, right here in Hartford is a space haunted by the specter of homophobia, homophobia that organizes in the churches and the Christian broadcast stations and conservative think tanks of this nation. Reagan ,if you'll pardon the expression, used to compare America to a shining city on the hill. Well, after 12 years of mean and callous White House leadership that strip minds the working people of this country to create a new class that lives off of us and simply manages its money after 12 years of building up weapons and then manufacturing wars in Grenada, Panama and Iraq to use them after 12 years of federal AIDS policies which murdered so many of our brothers and sisters and which perfected into a sophisticated technique, the weapon of racism to win elections, which appointed a sexual harasser to the US Supreme Court, after all these years of hopelessness. But while the repression surrounding the shining city built up by Reagan and Bush has come down. And just as they did in Berlin, in Eastern Europe and in the Soviet Union, the collapse of repression in the United States reveals the ugliness and evil that the walls hid from our sight. The mess in the economy, the resurge and racism, stifled fear that is the source of hate. Our simple civil rights agenda of equal justice under the law remains so bitterly contested and our enemies on the religious right have made our bodies themselves the battlefield on which they wage a power struggle for the control of this society. On our bodies, rages a fight about the influence and role of religion in the church and civic life. The whole nature of our secular government, with its separation of church and state is up for debate. On our bodies, a cultural war has been declared by the twin Pat's, Pat Robertson and Pat Buchanan. A battle of competing values in which the values of democracy and pluralism that we represent are opposed by the values of theocracy and fascism that they represent. On our body a battle has raged since 1988, for the control of artistic expression, targeting gay and lesbian artists in sexually explicit art, political music and political performances. On our body, a disease has been allowed to vent its unchecked fury while politicians pander to the votes of people who smugly enjoy seeing us die. On our bodies violence of the most horrific order is unleashed by bigots and thugs, most of whom beat us up to avoid their own desire for us. Word. By families who abuse gay and lesbian kids, by organized hate groups who derive the meaning of their identities from what they are not. On our bodies like the scars of discrimination, which has denied us jobs and livelihoods, and held us hostage to the worst kind of sexual harassment and fear and on our bodies in their extraordinary difference and complexity, we often find ourselves locked in a series of convulsive internal divisions, we find ourselves polarized between people of color and white between women and men between HIV positive and negative, between rich and poor, between old and young, rural and urban, much has changed but much more remains the same. I urge all of you and us as a people to not buy the straight media's hype. The underlying hatred and dislike which we face remains widespread. The real and daily discrimination our people face remains huge despite the progress we have made. AIDS kills more of my friends, and our brothers and sisters every day. And the presence of a few good men, gay or straight in the White House is reassuring, but it is not the same as liberation. Dr. Martin Luther King wrote, when people are mired in oppression, they realize deliverance only when they have accumulated the power to enforce change. These are times that call on us to act as we have never acted before, to organize ourselves into a massive electoral and political force. I call on each and every one of you, let that march on Washington be the first step in a sustained campaign, the goal of which is serious and dramatic social change by the year 2000.

I call on each one of you to take three steps between now and next year. First, come out to as many people as possible. There is no substitute. Just do it. Just do it, just do it, just do it. Come on! There is no substitute, no movement, no amount of broadcasting, no amount of marching substitutes for your individual acts of courage, in your family, in your neighborhood, in your school system, in your church. Just do it. Do it, do it now. Come into your movement. Please get involved. Look at all the wonderful organizations here and every darn one of them needs your love and energy. Every last one of them. My friends, don't be complacent and pretend that what happened in Colorado and Oregon cannot happen here. Religious right already has a foothold here. There's a State Chapter of Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition, the airwaves, on purpose of the state are armed against us. Let us be prepared to fight back with our own moral values, the values of justice, of courage and of kindness. Let us be prepared to meet their fear with knowledge and to meet their lives with the truth about the beauty and dignity of our lives. A gay poet W. H. Auden wrote, quote, history is the study of questions, to ask the question is to declare war. When the history of our time is written, they will know that we dare to declare war and every part of this racist and homophobic, this sexist and this unjust culture. They will note that we dared to ask society and ourselves the most radical of questions. Why not? What are we waiting for? The time for our liberation is right now. It's right here, and it will come by our own hands. What are we fighting each other about? The time for unity is right now, it's right here. And the new world order we see will come when we say we dared dream the same dreams in common. What are we afraid of? The reality of our kindness and courage is present today right here in the faces of the volunteers and those boots. It's raging in our hearts. And what are we sitting on the sidelines for, the moment to act is right now. Let us act in honor of those we love, those we have lost, and those coming up behind us. Happy Lesbian and Gay Pride

M

Michael Crawford 20:34

Okay. No, you don't sound as good as those women do. That was Urvashi Vaid and she was giving a speech at the Hartford Connecticut Gay Pride rally. And she's referred to as a rabble rouser. And I totally love her. And if she was a boy or I was a woman, I'd marry her. You're not going to say anything bad about me now that you've been trashing me off the air?

E

Eric 21:02

We have a professional relationship on the air where I respect you.

M

Michael Crawford 21:07

Thank you. We have a second set of our RuPaul tickets to give away and what was a trivia question?

E

Eric 21:13

The trivial question was okay, it's Model Palooza weekend on MTV. And you know, they're showing that special House of Style hosted by Cindy Crawford. Now she's speaking with four other supermodels Can you name two of the supermodels?

M

Michael Crawford 21:31

1, 2, 3, 4.

E

Eric 21:33

There's five altogether.

M

Michael Crawford 21:34

Yeah, they're five. And if you can, the first person to call us up at 526-5738, 526-5738 who can name two other supermodels Cindy Crawford spoke to, okay, wait a minute. Wait. Wait, let's see. Let's get everything all set up now.

E

Eric 21:55

So exciting. Okay, does anyone have MTV in the Montrose?

M

Michael Crawford 22:09

Okay, now if anyone has MTV and knows, can name two of the supermodels who Cindy Crawford talk to, okay, wait a minute. Wait, wait, wait, we have a caller. You're on the air. Can you answer the trivia question?

S

Speaker 12 22:22

Yeah, I think she spoke with Linda Evangelista and Naomi Campbell.

M

Michael Crawford 22:26

Okay, that's good enough for two of them. Okay. And Did Did you see the program?

S

Speaker 12 22:31

Yeah I saw it today. I saw it twice,

M

Michael Crawford 22:33

Twice already.

 Eric 22:35

Okay, now, did you see the supermodel show hosted by Lauren Hutton on the E channel?

 Speaker 12 22:41

No.

 Eric 22:42

Okay, never mind.

 Michael Crawford 22:43

Okay. Well, why don't you tell us a little bit about what you thought of the program?

 Speaker 12 22:48

Of the whole program, of the model program?

 Michael Crawford 22:50

Yeah.

 Speaker 12 22:51

Well, I thought it was kind of stupid because they were kind of like complaining about how hard it is to be beautiful and and how people don't understand them. And

 Eric 22:59

Isn't it hard, don't you?

 Speaker 12 23:01

Yeah, it is hard, but I mean, they should be used to it by now like I am.

 Eric 23:05

Aren't people threatened when you walk into restaurants and don't you order two entrees and

AVOID PEOPLE SHOCKED WHEN YOU WALK INTO RESTAURANTS AND DON'T YOU ORDER TWO CHICKENS AND french fries. Despite them.

S Speaker 12 23:12

Other people will think that hey, I can eat a lot and still look beautiful.

E Eric 23:15

Exactly.

S Speaker 12 23:16

No, you would think that they will understand that by now but

M Michael Crawford 23:20

The big question is do you use zit cream? You use, yeah. Do you use cream just like Naomi Campbell?

S Speaker 12 23:27

No, I don't, no.

E Eric 23:28

Those are some old, that's a rather old House of Style. But it had [unintelligible]. It's really cool. I'm being Linda Evangelista

M Michael Crawford 23:37

Because you are a bitch. Okay, so that means you won tickets to say RuPaul on the 24th, and we're gonna put you on hold so that Mac can get wait, wait

E Eric 23:48

Have you seen RuPaul before?

S Speaker 12 23:50

Live? No. Well he played in Dallas when I, cause I go to school in Dallas, got asked him here.

And he played in Dallas there and I missed him because I had a show to do.

 Michael Crawford 24:01

Oh, what kind of show?

 Speaker 12 24:03

I'm a dancer.

 Michael Crawford 24:04

Really?

 Speaker 12 24:05

Yeah. A real dance not a

 Michael Crawford 24:07

Wait, wait, wait, wait, wait, wait, don't be elitist here.

 Eric 24:11

Supermodel, okay.

 Michael Crawford 24:13

Now, who do you dance with?

 Speaker 12 24:15

I dance with with the school. I'm a dance major at School of the Arts at SMU.

 Michael Crawford 24:20

Oh, so that means you're not going to be dancing here anytime soon?

 Speaker 12 24:23

No.

E Eric 24:24

Have you ever performed at the Bob Hope Theatre?

S Speaker 12 24:27

Yes, I have.

M Michael Crawford 24:28

Okay, well, do you happen to know when you're going to be dancing in Dallas again so that we can announce it over the air and stuff, people can drop by?

S Speaker 12 24:34

It'll be in like October sometime.

M Michael Crawford 24:36

Okay.

S Speaker 12 24:37

I'll let y'all know then.

M Michael Crawford 24:38

Okay, cool. We'll put you on hold. So Mac, you get all the information from me.

S Speaker 12 24:42

Okay, cool.

M Michael Crawford 24:43

Okay, thanks. Boy, what a cool caller.

E Eric 24:47

She's from Dallas.

M Michael Crawford 24:49

What is that supposed to mean? Okay, it means that we no longer have any more RuPaul tickets. Well until next week.

E Eric 24:56

Bottom line is you gotta tune in next week, two more chances of winning where Michael and I won't be here. Well, Michael might be here to give you those tough supermodel.

M Michael Crawford 25:07

No, no. Remember, we're going to be out to see The Normal Heart.

E Eric 25:11

Well, I don't know. Tiffany didn't invite me, now did she?

M Michael Crawford 25:13

She meant to, she meant to.

E Eric 25:15

Next Saturday night, there's whisper, whisper, whisper. I'll go anyway, because you know what, Larry Kramer is an important influence in my life, a driving force, in fact, and I will go, I will support The Normal Heart because in some cities, The Normal Heart has been protested and not been able to show.

M Michael Crawford 25:35

Yeah, that's true. It's just happened quite recently. In fact, I wanted to give the number two, it's two, I want to give the number again, for Channel 8, we're calling Channel 8 to encourage them to run the queer program In the Life. That number again, is 749-8228. Or if you want to write, you can write to Jeff Clark, KUHT TV, 4513 Cullen Boulevard. And the zip code is 77004. Now, we're gonna go to Well, early in the week on Wednesday, there was a meeting of GLPC, Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus, and our special guests, there was Sam Nuchia, the Nazi. And it's really funny because the meeting turned out even worse than I expected. And he turned out to be more of a Nazi than we expected, actually. Yeah, insulting. Yeah, condescending, arrogant, if

you stay on to our questions, but now we're gonna go to a tape, where Eric and I practice what's called grunge journalism. And we got comments from some of the people who attended the meeting. And it's going to kind of start like right smack dab in the middle with Pauline Balu. And she's actually speaking to Nuchia himself.

 S Speaker 13 26:50

Houston last year, I went to South Central to listen to your police people tell me that all the rapes occurred from everywhere else in the city except where they occurred, because they were all brought into [unintelligible]. And they were all raped two blocks down from South Central. So please, don't talk to me about violence. And don't talk to me about bridge building, when I don't see that there is .

 S Speaker 14 27:11

What are we going to do nothing will ever be solved. If we don't talk. If you take an antagonistic attitude about everything, you're doing the same thing you accuse us of doing.

 S Speaker 13 27:19

But when I've been beaten, it puts me into a a mind altered situation. And that's the attitude, defensiveness. But what are you saying to me, Chief, you're saying that, you know, we've got a thousand cases,

 S Speaker 14 27:35

You wanna have a constructive dialogue, we can do that. If you want to make a speech,

 S Speaker 13 27:39

What time is, what, what time is your office hours then? Whenever you're available, Chief.

 M Michael Crawford 27:49

A couple questions. Okay, first, tell me your name.

 S Speaker 13 27:52

My name is Pauline. How do you think the meeting went today with police chief Nuchia?

 M Michael Crawford 28:27

Do you think any good possible outcome can come from this meeting?

S

Speaker 13 28:32

Whenever there's at least dialogue, there's hope. But one way relationships have not worked in my life and I failed to see that they're gonna work in everybody's life. This has to be a two way street. You notice answer when I asked him when his office hours were? Yeah, he blew me off. Like he blew off a lot of the questions that he didn't want to answer in there. I'm tired of being blown off. I'm a lesbian woman. I'm going to stand lesbian and proud and probably wait for some cop to kill me. I won't be silent anymore.

M

Michael Crawford 29:05

Thank you.

E

Eric 29:08

As big as anything you could possibly put up there. You know, why would he squandered resources to have helicopters and paddy wagons to the extent that he did down at Randall's the time when we had over probably 50 to 75 protests and not one act of civil disobedience. Not one arrest had to be made. That was his response. That's intimidation. You know, he's lying to us and he's lying to y'all guys too, you know, eventually you're the one that takes the flack for it. You say that's not the policy you promulgate. But that's the behavior that he promulgates. And he doesn't take the flack for it until you make him but you do and we suffer consequently, bad reputation. This is not about friendship. This is about you doing your job and me fulfilling my role as a citizen too, and a great impediment to that is Dale Brown. I mean, we can name it on one person. There are gay and lesbian officers all throughout the HPD you know, until they are encouraged that they won't be kicked off the force, if they happen to put a picture of their spouse on their on their desk or whatever. And that's going to have to come from leadership, then it's not going to happen. You know,

M

Michael Crawford 30:14

Okay, can you tell me? Can you tell me your name, please?

S

Speaker 15 30:16

Sure. My name is Anthony Rios.

M

Michael Crawford 30:18

How do you think the meeting went this evening with police chief Nuchia?

S

Speaker 15 30:21

Well, it was a pretty calm meeting for all intents and purposes. I think that it was a good step that he came, I think a lot more needs to be done as far as direct communication with the lesbian and gay community and not just perceived leaders of the gay and lesbian community. And I do say perceived leaders intentionally. Overall, I think his comments were very well rehearsed. And he said the things that he wanted to say and avoided some of the topics that were brought up, such as more details regarding the events at Gate Four and the Republican National Convention like that. Basically, it's just a baby step. And what I would say about that, though, is that in the gay and lesbian community and the transgender community, community, we can't afford baby steps while people are walking on our backs.

M

Michael Crawford 31:10

Tell me your name, please.

S

Speaker 16 31:12

Alan J. Richard.

M

Michael Crawford 31:14

Alan, do you think the meeting here accomplished anything but Sam, nu t? Did he address your concerns?

S

Speaker 16 31:19

I don't think it accomplished anything for Sam Nuchia. I think he looked really bad tonight. He, he failed to answer most of the questions and his, his one answer that rang loud and clear was no.

M

Michael Crawford 31:33

Okay. Did he address issues of concern to you?

S

Speaker 16 31:38

He, he did not address issues of concern, he, mine was one of the questions he didn't answer. He certainly didn't deny that he had said that ACT UP was nothing but law breakers. And his attitude was consistent all night, I think toward people he classified that way.

M

Michael Crawford 31:56

What do you think are the issues that should be addressed by, by the Houston Police Department?

 S Speaker 16 32:02

I think that the Houston Police Department should treat civil disobedience on the basis of the techniques used, on the basis of it being civil disobedience, and not on the basis of how they feel ideologically about the cause.

 M Michael Crawford 32:19

Can you tell me your name, please?

 S Speaker 17 32:20

Jack Valinsky.

 M Michael Crawford 32:22

Jack, you sat throughout this meeting with between the queer community and police chief Sam Nuchia. How do you think the meeting went?

 S Speaker 17 32:30

Well, I think he thought he was addressing the garden club because basically came with the facts and figures talking about how crime has been reduced and not addressing our crowd on the specific issues talking about relationships with the gay and lesbian community and the police department.

 M Michael Crawford 32:45

Do you see this as the beginnings of a better relationship between the queers in the police department? Or is it just the same old thing where it's basically a PR job, and we are expected to sit and take it?

 S Speaker 17 32:57

Well, I gotta give him some credit for showing up at a meeting like this knowing or at least I'm sure some of his people knew that there'd be some confrontational questions and things like that. But I don't think he really gained it. He didn't really grasp the idea of having openly gay and lesbian police officers. He just thought that because a question's not asked anymore, that everything seems to be fine. There still seems to be a real wall between the two communities.

M

Michael Crawford 33:23

As a gay man, what issues are important to you when dealing with HPD?

S

Speaker 17 33:27

Well, the important issues of course, crime is important. So are all those other issues, but also the issues that we have to feel safe from the police officers ourselves. That we have to feel like we're every other citizen that we're granted, knowing that we can go to them and say we're, if we're, you know, if we happen to be gay bashed that we could talk about that to them, and that if we have domestic violence that we can talk about that, you know, that that is an issue that's important to us, that we wouldn't have to hide our identity.

M

Michael Crawford 33:55

What do you think can be done to improve the relationship between queers and HPD?

S

Speaker 17 33:59

Well, I think there's, there, there is some beginnings of the fact that Annise Parker is on the, on the board of talking about police relations. I mean, that's a start, that is a start. But there's a lot more that has to be done. Until the police chief can recognize what kind of community we are and what type of people we are and who we are, then it's really hard to even have the type of dialogue.

M

Michael Crawford 34:22

Thank you.