

**NARRATOR:** The following program contains language or images of a frank or sensitive nature that may be considered objectionable by some. Listener discretion is advised.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

**SPEAKER:** I, James Danforth Quayle.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

**GEORGE BUSH:** I, George Herbert Walker Bush, do solemnly swear.

**SPEAKER:** That I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States.

**GEORGE BUSH:** That I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States.

**SPEAKER:** And will to the best of my ability.

**GEORGE BUSH:** And will to the best of my ability.

**SPEAKER:** Preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States.

**GEORGE BUSH:** Preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States.

**SPEAKER:** So help me God.

**GEORGE BUSH:** So help me God.

[SCREAM]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

(SINGING) What do you know, boy? Go see the show boy Tell the truth to go to see the beautiful dames.

**SPEAKER:** *Torch Song Trilogy: The Movie* is a man's story, a life story, of a man trying to find his place in the world, a world that isn't necessarily built for him. And he builds, because he's brave of spirit and true of heart, builds the place, builds a world within the world for himself to exist.

**SPEAKER:** That's right, Ma. You had it easy. You lost your husband in a nice clean hospital. You know where I lost mine? I lost my on the street. That's right. They killed him on the street. 27 years old laying dead on the street killed by a bunch of kids with baseball bats.

That's right, Ma. Killed by children. Children taught by people like you, because everybody knows that queers don't matter. Queers don't love. And those that do deserve what they get.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

**SPEAKER:** I'm here partly tonight to say some good things about Texas. I'm proud to be a Texan. I know that I could not have heard Harvey Milk's challenge to me had not something in my life in this state prepared me to hear the word of freedom that Harvey spoke to us.

I am here tonight, because it is time that all of us who love this state that gave us life, and has nurtured us, and taught us our values to stand up and claim the history of this state for freedom, and justice, and human respect away from the forces of narrow mindedness and bigotry that too often dominate the politics of the state of Texas.

[APPLAUSE]

**SPEAKER:** We must destroy the myths once and for all, shatter them. We must continue to speak out. And most importantly, most importantly, every gay person must come out.

[CHEERING]

As difficult as it is, you must tell your immediate family. You must tell your relatives. You must tell your friends if, indeed, they are your friends. You must tell your neighbors. You must tell the people you work with. You must tell the people in the stores you shop in.

[CHEERING]

And once they realize that we are, indeed, their children, that we are, indeed, everywhere, every myth, every lie, every innuendo will be destroyed once and for all. And once you do, you will feel so much better.

[CHEERING]

**SPEAKER:** Harvey, do you have a few words for KPFA?

**HARVEY MILK:** Come on out. Join us. Bring a friend.

**SPEAKER:** What do you think about the turnout so far?

**HARVEY MILK:** Well, it's never enough. Never enough. Never enough.

**SPEAKER:** And I ask, I ask people all over this country to do one thing. Come out. Come out, America. Come out.

**BUDDY**  
**JOHNSTON:** Oh, yes. Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes. Did you hear that? Come out, come out, wherever you are. Harvey Milk and, once again, we're coming at you live and in color. We're here and we're queer. Well, I am. I'm still here.

Believe it or not, after a marathon, we did a wonderful job last week. We brought in about-- I don't know. We'll have to get a total thrown out there in the lobby, but it was great. And I want to thank you for it. And I wanted to invite you to stay tuned. Bart Loeser from the AIDS Foundation is here. We're going to be talking about safe sex.

We've got tickets to give you to *Torch Song Trilogy: The Movie* playing right now here in beautiful Houston, Texas. We also have soundtrack albums to give you. So if you don't listen, baby, you're missing out. Call your friends. Call your neighbors. Call your mom and say, those faggots are on the radio again, and I just don't know what to do.

*Torch Song Trilogy* tickets, stay tuned. You could be the winner. I want to know what you're thinking about. 526-4000, that's the number to call. This is the year of Stonewall, 1989. 20 years ago, a little bar in New York City. It all happened, the birth of the gay movement as we know it.

A bunch of drag queens got together and said-- well, I can't tell you what they said, because the FCC wouldn't let me. I think that's a sin. Now, these are the Pet Shop Boys and it's a sin. This is *After Hours* on KPFT Houston, radio celebrating live from the heart of the Montrose. So stay with us. It's going to be a great show. OK? OK. 526-4000. Call me.

[MUSIC - PET SHOP BOYS, "IT'S A SIN"]

(SINGING) It's a sin When I look back upon my life, it's always with a sense of shame. I've always been one to blame. For everything I want to do, no matter where or when or who, have something in common too.

It's a, it's a, it's a, it's a sin. It's a sin. Everything I've ever done, everything I ever do, every place I've ever been, everywhere I'm going to, it's a sin. At school, they taught me how to be so pure in thought and word and deed. They didn't quite succeed.

For everything I want to do, no matter when or where or who, has one thing in common too. It's a, it's a, it's a, it's a sin. It's a sin. Everything I've ever done, everything I'll ever do, every place I've ever been, everywhere I'm going to, it's a sin.

Father, forgive me, I tried not to do it. To turn over a new leaf, then tore right through it. Whatever you taught me, I didn't believe it. Father, you fought me, cause I didn't care, and I still don't understand.

**BUDDY**

14 minutes after 2:00 on a Sunday morning, that means you're tuned to *After Hours* on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM.

**JOHNSTON:**

And this morning, we've got tickets for you to *Torch Song Trilogy*. We've also got some albums, and cassettes, and CDs. And you need to stay tuned, because you could win next.

And then again, if you have a lot of hair on your chest-- can I say that? No, I can think about it. If you're a nice looking man and you have a lot of hair on your body, please give me a call right now at 5-2-6-- no, I can't say that.

They say it on the other stations. Everybody's talking about sex. But me and Bart, we're not going to talk about-- well, we're going to talk about safe sex tonight. 526-4000, that's the number to call. We've got tickets for you to *Torch Song Trilogy* coming up in just a little bit, so stay with us.

[MUSIC - PET SHOP BOYS, "IT'S A SIN"]

(SINGING) Has one thing in common too. It's a, it's a, it's a, it's a sin. It's a sin. Everywhere I've ever done, everything I ever do, every place I've ever been, everywhere I'm going to, it's a sin.

**BUDDY**

526-4000, that's going to be the number to call to get tickets to *Torch Song Trilogy*. And how do you win, you

**JOHNSTON:**

might ask? Well, when you hear Harvey come on talking to his mom about all I need in my life is a little love and respect, that's your cue to call in to win. So you need to listen for that, Harvey talking about love and respect with his mom played by Anne Bancroft.

We're going to give you tickets to the-- showing right now playing at the Cineplex Odiham theaters Westheimer at Augusta, I think. This is a Adele Bertei. It's called *The Green Suit*. And you're listening to *After Hours* on KPFT in Houston celebrating life from the heart of Montrose. Listen for Harvey.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Adele Berte in *The Green Suit*. It's from the *Little Lives* CD. Beautiful music on a beautiful Sunday morning. Stay tuned. Bart Loeser from the AIDS Foundation is here. We're going to be talking about safe sex. Joe Watts and the cast from The Group Theater Workshop, we're going to be stopping by. And speaking of Joe Watts--

**SPEAKER:** Liberty is in our grasp, written and read by Joe Watts. Liberty is in our grasp. Can't stop now. Won't let it pass. Our dreams, our destinies are clear. If not this one, perhaps next year. The world will know that we are strong, our loving souls just can't be wrong.

So stretch out your arms one by one. By pulling together, the battle is won. The brave cry out for all to unite. Our human rights, they are in sight. Our pride and fate is not surpassed. Our liberty is in our grasp we are a part of this great land. Our families stood where we now stand. Our spirit will triumph. It will last, for liberty is in our grasp.

**SPEAKER:** You want to be a part of my life, I'm not editing out the things you don't like.

**SPEAKER:** Can we end this conversation?

**SPEAKER:** No. There's one more thing you better understand. I have taught myself to sew, cook, fix plumbing, build furniture. I can even pat myself on the back when necessary, all so I don't have to ask anyone for anything. There's nothing I need from anyone except for love and respect. And anyone who can give me those two things has no place in my life.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

I try to discover.

**BUDDY JOHNSTON:** And right now, we're speaking to Larry Lash with Polydor Records. Larry is the producer of the wonderful soundtrack album *Torch Song Trilogy*. Joining us by phone in New York. And Larry, what's your position with Polydor?

**LARRY LASH:** Well, that's a good question. I'm sort of making a change right now. For the past seven years, I've been primarily involved with legal and business affairs. But I come from a background in theater, and music, and opera, specifically.

And in those seven frustrating years working with lawyers, and managers, and contracts, I've been very slowly, but surely convincing the company that I do have something to offer and as far as my knowledge of music. And they've been letting me do a couple of projects here and there.

And about two years ago, I pretty much took over our theater catalog, and produced a couple of albums, and started doing some art direction. And pretty much on a fluke, I wound up going to Los Angeles on literally three hours notice to essentially put together the background score for the film of *Torch Song Trilogy*, and also wound up then taking over the production of the soundtrack album.

**BUDDY** Which is now available in record stores everywhere, we hope. And how's the sales of the album coming along?

**JOHNSTON:**

**LARRY LASH:** It's doing pretty respectably. I think we shipped out around 23,000 copies before-- the initial order was 23,000 copies. And that was with the movie just playing in eight cities, eight major markets. And in the past week, it's opened-- I think it's now got at a total of 44 screens across the country, which is still not a huge distribution, but it's, from what I understand, holding up very well at the box office.

**BUDDY** You produced the album, Larry, or co-produced the album?

**JOHNSTON:**

**LARRY LASH:** Well, I co-produced the album with Peter Matz, who has been in the industry for-- oh my goodness-- I guess, about 30 years. Peter started in New York working on Broadway musicals doing orchestrations and where they would throw the rehearsal pianist a couple of numbers for the dance sequence to orchestrate.

And Peter has worked his way up to a virtually a household word in the industry, at least in LA. And I think you'll find if you look at just about any Barbra Streisand album, that he's worked on almost all of them, I think, for the past 25 years. He's got a shelf full of-- oh, what's the TV Award? I can't remember. All I can think of is Grammy.

**BUDDY** The Emmy award?

**JOHNSTON:**

**LARRY LASH:** Emmy Awards for working on Streisand TV specials and things. And so Peter was hired to do the original underscoring for *Torch Song* and the orchestrations of the numbers that were performed by the cast of the film.

**BUDDY** How did Polydor and, subsequently, Larry Lash become involved in the project?

**JOHNSTON:**

**LARRY LASH:** See, what exactly happened, the whole procedure on this is that back in-- God, I guess it was April, Ron Fierstein, who is Harvey's brother, and lawyer, and agent, and manager, approached Polygram about doing background music for the movie, because we have one of the largest catalogs of jazz and recordings from, actually, the '30s through the '60s.

We own the Verve catalog and the old MRC catalog. And that's the best of Ella Fitzgerald, Dinah Washington, Billie Holiday, Oscar Peterson, all the really great names in jazz from those decades.

So Ron approached us and our West Coast office decided that this was, as they put it, a Lash project if they ever saw one. And I was essentially brought in as a consultant to *Torch Song* productions and New Line Cinema .

And working with Harvey, and his brother, and Paul Bogart, who directed the film, and Howard Gottfried, who produced it, we put together a list of-- God, I think we came up with about 48 titles of *Torch Songs* initially. And then I did research and came up with a list of every single artist that recorded those songs that Polygram had rights to.

We had pages and pages of this stuff. And then we sat down and went through and narrowed it down. And I came up with four hours of cassette tapes that I submitted to them that they then used on the set when they were filming to set the mood.

And they shot the whole movie over just a couple of weeks this summer. They did a couple weeks of location shots in New York and then most of it was done then in California. And I think principal photography was completed in August.

So I was, you know-- I had this flutter of activity in April and May trying to get all this stuff together. And then everything was quiet, and I thought, well, that's it. That's my involvement. Period. They'll pick what they want from those four hours, and that's it.

But then I started getting calls, frantic calls, from Howard Gottfried in September, saying, oh, gee, we really like this song, but we don't like the way Sarah Vaughan sings it. Have you got anybody else doing it? And so then I'd have to go back and research and see if I could come up with something else.

And then, finally, one day, I got home from work and there was a message on my machine to call Howard. And I did and he said, where are you? I said, well, I'm at home. I left the office a little early today. And he said, why aren't you here? You're supposed to be at a screening tonight. And I said, well, that's news to me. Nobody got in touch with me.

Turns out I had missed an earlier call from LA that day. And quite literally, I was on a flight for LA three hours later. And it turns out that they were in the process of editing the movie. This is now, I'd say, the first or second week of October.

And they were finding that, although a lot of this music from these four hours of tapes that I put together worked really well on paper or worked when they were doing the shooting, when they were actually laying the tracks down on the master film, it wasn't working at all.

Either the dialogue was getting in the way and they needed instrumental versions, or something about the vocal performance was too distinctive, and it drew your attention way too much from the film, or things just weren't working out.

And Peter had really only been hired to do the original music. And so they really had no one acting as music supervisor. So I spent about 10 days out there working literally around the clock. I got this phone call. First thing I did was to grab a suitcase and fill it with compact disks and cassettes.

And my first day out there, I sat in Peter's office and we looked at the rough cut of the movie, and we pinpointed all of the music cues. I guess there were 40 some separate cues throughout the movie where we needed music.

And then we tried to figure out where we could use an existing recording, where Peter would write original music. Do we need a vocal? Do we need an instrumental? Should it be jazz? Should it be disco? Do we need to set a time period? And what sort of feeling do we want?

I then went back to the hotel and with the short stop at Tower Records where I charged up a couple hundred bucks, and sat up all night, and spread everything out, and sat there with my little headsets on, and came up with ideas for all of these different music cues.

**BUDDY**

Larry, what about the film itself, *Torch Song Trilogy*?

**JOHNSTON:**

**LARRY LASH:** I'm very, very proud to be associated with it. I think probably the best single element about it is Harvey's adaptation of his play. The transference from stage from a four hour stage play to a two hour and 10 minute film I think is brilliant. And I think it will be a sin if he does not get a nomination for best adaptation of a screenplay.

I think the performances down the line are incredible. Again, I'm very, very proud to be associated with it. And I think it's a very important film. And that's the one thing that all of us have in common down the line. Everybody who came into contact with this movie from Anne Bancroft down the line is that we all believed in it very, very strongly. And it was very much a labor of love.

**BUDDY**  
**JOHNSTON:** Larry, I want to thank you for taking the time to talk with us and for sending us through Polydor and Polygram records copies of the soundtrack album and cassette and CD to give away to our listeners. So thanks a lot.

**LARRY LASH:** Oh, no problem. I'm more than happy to. I think word of mouth is going to have a lot to do with the success of both this movie and the album.

**BUDDY**  
**JOHNSTON:** And before I let you go, I want to take the time to say thanks one more time to you, Larry, for taking the time to send us the soundtrack albums and cassettes to give away. And I hope the album does very well. It's a beautiful piece of work. *Torch Song Trilogy*, the original soundtrack album. We're speaking to Larry Lash, co-producer of the album in New York. And Larry, just for you, I'd like to play this little song from the LP by Kate Swift and Paul James. It's called *Can't We Be Friends*.

**LARRY LASH:** Terrific. Thank you so much, buddy.

**BUDDY**  
**JOHNSTON:** Thanks, Larry, for the CD and the album. And I'd like to give you an album right now to *Torch Song Trilogy*. If you'll call me and you're like the 10th caller, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, if you're the 10th caller at 526-4000, we'll give you a soundtrack album to *Torch Song Trilogy*.

I want to say congratulations to Nick and Kurt. They picked up tickets to *Torch Song Trilogy*. We'll also give-- let's see-- 10, 9, 8, 7-- we'll give callers seven, eight, and nine tickets to the movie, and then caller 10 the soundtrack album. So would you tell them that's what's going on?

If you're the seventh, eighth, and ninth caller, you'll get tickets to the movie. And if you're the 10th caller you'll, get tickets to-- or you'll get a copy of the soundtrack album courtesy of Larry Lash and Polydor Records.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

**SPEAKER:** Toto, I have a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore.

**BUDDY**  
**JOHNSTON:** Oh, yes, it's called, it's called sex. And I'm already getting hot. Now, if you don't believe it affects your life, kids, just turn the television on, or pick up any magazine, or look at any billboard. The magic word is sex, S-E-X. And they use it to sell you everything from chewing gum to blue jeans.

But God forbid anyone in the country should get an erection, because then what would we do? We'd have all the preachers coming down on us. But anyway, can we say coming down on us? I guess you can like that. Come here, baby. What's going on?

**SPEAKER:** Well, I hear we're supposed to sing happy birthday to someone.

**BUDDY** Yeah, somebody's having a birthday.

**JOHNSTON:**

**SPEAKER:** Who?

**BUDDY** I don't know. Ask Roger. They're gathering. I don't know what's happening. I don't have-- can we put our clothes

**JOHNSTON:** back on?

**SPEAKER:** No.

**BUDDY** OK, hang on just a second. That's my shoe. Marilyn, I forgot to say something to Marilyn. I want your sex, Marilyn.

**JOHNSTON:** No. Oh, I know that's not right, Marilyn. And Marilyn, do you have a brother with a lot of hair on his body? Marilyn is celebrating a birthday, right?

**SPEAKER:** 18.

**BUDDY** How old?

**JOHNSTON:**

**SPEAKER:** She's 18.

**BUDDY** And she's never? No.

**JOHNSTON:**

**SPEAKER:** We don't know that.

**BUDDY** Really? OK, what are we doing?

**JOHNSTON:**

**SPEAKER:** Well, we're all going to sing Happy Birthday.

**BUDDY** To Marilyn. You ready? 1, 2, 3.

**JOHNSTON:**

[ALL SINGING]

Happy birthday to you. Happy birthday to you. Happy birthday, dear Marilyn. Happy birthday to you.

**BUDDY** Now get out of here.

**JOHNSTON:**

**SPEAKER:** Bye, Marilyn. Bye.

**BUDDY** OK, kids. Where were we. Bart, do we have to be naked to do this?

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** No, we can do it any way you'd like.

**BUDDY** OK, because we are completely naked this morning. This is naked radio. No, I don't want to say that. Somebody

**JOHNSTON:** will write and complain. It's 2:42 in the morning, about 17 minutes before 3:00. And joining us right now is Bart Loeser from the AIDS Foundation. And your official title is what?

**BART LOESER:** I'm an education coordinator. And I coordinate workshops and go out in the communities and educate people about AIDS and how to prevent getting it.

**BUDDY** And one way to do that is through what?

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Safe sex.

**BUDDY** What is safe sex?

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Well, safe sex really can be considered as something called safer sex, which means that there are certain things that you can do to avoid coming in contact with the virus, the AIDS virus itself. And we talk about in our workshops what it is you can do that can still be fun sexually and yet still avoid coming in contact with the virus or putting you at risk for AIDS.

**BUDDY** Do you know how this got started? Safe? See, that's the only thing I have problems with, because it makes it

**JOHNSTON:** sound like that sex between men isn't-- how do I want to say this-- that we've already got a society that says sex between men is wrong.

And we're taught all as children-- up until today, they're still telling us that we're wrong, and it's unnatural, and it's not supposed to feel good. And how are we going to get over the hump that sex is fine, and natural, and love between two people, whether they be of the same sex or not, is very natural and very healthy. And do you know what I'm saying?

**BART LOESER:** I agree totally. But the point is that safe or safer sex has nothing to do with being gay or straight. It all has to do with sex, because anyone who is gay, straight, or whatever is at risk for AIDS if they are sexually active.

**BUDDY** Do you have the figures on how the numbers stack up now, as far as AIDS cases in the country or in Houston,

**JOHNSTON:** without getting real statistical?

**BART LOESER:** Sure. In the country right now, we have had, since the first AIDS cases were noticed in the very early '80s, we've had a little over 82,000 cases, which, by the way, for comparison purposes, is about 10,000 more than the amount of people that died in the entire Vietnam War. And that's how many people have died so far.

**BUDDY** So what happens is a safe sex workshop?

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Safe sex workshops, what we're doing is addressing a lot of the fears that people have about sex. And a lot of the fears that people talk about, you start noticing that many of these fears are unfounded, but they are so substantial and so heightened that people are scared to even meet somebody, scared to even go out just to be introduced to somebody for fear that that might lead to something where they could possibly be exposed to AIDS.

**BUDDY** I have a friend like that. One of his best friends died-- oh, probably three years ago. And the man, the only time

**JOHNSTON:** he's naked is to take a shower. He has not touched anyone. I doubt if he's kissed anyone. I mean, just a little. And I cannot convince him that sex, if handled properly-- you know what I mean-- isn't going to kill him.

**BART LOESER:** That's right. That's what the workshops are all about is to point out to people that many of these fears-- and I noticed the way you just put it almost sounded like that it would be-- you have to be very careful, but sex can still be fun.

And what I'm saying is that you don't even have to be that fearful, that you can actually just watch out for a few things, just know about a few things about how the virus is transmitted. And once you know that, you can really put all the fun and exciting enjoyment that you used to have in sex back into your life again.

**BUDDY** So safe sex is really just using common sense?

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Yes, that's all it is. And just understanding exactly how the virus is transmitted. We know a lot of facts today. Whereas maybe two or three years ago, we were a little more unclear, today we do know how it's transmitted and what the risks actually are.

**BUDDY** What questions do people ask? You work at the Foundation. What are some of the things people call up and ask

**JOHNSTON:** most about?

**BART LOESER:** I think most people ask about how it's transmitted, how the virus is transmitted, and what is safe and what isn't. Is oral sex safe?

**BUDDY** Is it?

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Oral sex, at this point, what we are saying is that it's relatively safe. In other words, there has not been an instance yet where you could trace back a case of AIDS to coming from oral sex. It seems to indicate that almost every time that sex has been transferred-- or that the HIV virus, the AIDS virus, has been transmitted is through, usually, intercourse, sexual intercourse, or blood transfusion.

**BUDDY** Body fluids or blood, right?

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Because, generally, the way the virus is transmitted, it has to get from one person who is HIV positive. The virus has to go from them into the bloodstream of another person. It has to get to your bloodstream.

**BUDDY** How strong is the virus?

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** The virus is very weak. The virus, outside of the human body, cannot survive long at all, not more than a minute. It has to have the human blood to survive in. And otherwise, it will just break down and die. And thus, even in sexual encounters, for the virus to be successfully transferred from one person to another have to have some sort of an open cut, an open wound, or something for the virus to get into your body and into your bloodstream. It's not easy to get.

**BUDDY** So unless you've had a root canal, your oral sex is almost guaranteed, right?

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Well, the only incidence that they could trace back to oral sex was the case of a man who had just had a root canal that day and then, of course, had oral sex with somebody a little later that day. I find that a little hard to believe, but I guess some people are--

**BUDDY** Well, I haven't had a root canal yet. But if I had to pass up a-- never mind. What about precautions? What  
**JOHNSTON:** precautions can people take? What do you teach in your workshops?

**BART LOESER:** Well, one of the things I teach, of course, is about wearing condoms, because condoms today are probably the only way you can protect yourself if you plan to participate in intercourse.

**BUDDY** How do you get condoms on a group of gay men that have felt like, since they don't have to worry about getting  
**JOHNSTON:** pregnant, they're not going to put the things on?

**BART LOESER:** Well, it's the same problem as with any man, whether they're gay or straight. Getting them to use a condom is kind of a new idea. And what we try to do in the workshops is we talk about not only that you can make a condom like an erotic toy. And for many of us, it may have been. When we were growing up, it was-- to have a condom on, it was kind of a sign that you were out there doing it. That condom was a symbol of sex.

And so for many people, it does have a kind of an erotic connotation. And so we encourage people that when they have condoms and they want to try them on, try a lot of them on and play with them. Play with themselves. Try them and practice, I guess. Get a feel for what they are. Practice with magazines, videos, or with friends, or whatever, just to kind of get that connection there between the eroticism of sex and wearing condoms.

**BUDDY** What do you say to people that say it just takes all the fun out of it, they don't want to fool with it?  
**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Generally, those people are a lot pretty limited as far as what they want to do then sexually, because if you want to participate in intercourse and be safe, you have to wear a condom. It's the only way you can do it. Otherwise, you're placing yourself and your partner at substantial risk for AIDS.

**BUDDY** So if I was sitting at home and I've never used a condom before, think carefully, how would we use it? How would  
**JOHNSTON:** you describe carefully how do you use a condom?

**BART LOESER:** Well, first of all, you've got to understand that a condom can tear. And even a slight tear as you're putting it on could make for greater tear during intercourse. So you want to be careful with it. When you're taking it out of the package, if you've got sharp fingernails or something be, careful when you're putting it on.

Also, remember that a condom goes on only one direction. So what you might want to do is put the condom on your finger first and start to pull it down a little bit. And if it starts to roll, you know you've got it on the right side. If it doesn't, turn it over, and that's the side you use.

Then, of course, what the first thing you need, if I can say this, is you need an erect penis, because you cannot put a condom on if it's not erect. And what you want to do then is put it on the tip of the penis and squeeze the air out of the very tip, because you want to get rid of any air pockets that you could possibly have, because air pockets could make it tend to break in those areas.

So you just squeeze a little bit of the air out. If somebody is uncircumcised, you want to pull down the uncircumcised skin before putting on the condom. Then you roll the condom down all the way to the base of the penis, and then you're free to go at it.

But do remember, and this is one of the key reasons why condoms do break-- and people may not be aware of that-- is that all condoms, the ones that are sold on the market, except for the lambskin ones, are made out of latex, and that's rubber.

Rubber products or latex products will be weakened substantially by the use of any type of oil products. That means mineral oils, baby oils, suntan lotions, Vaseline, hand creams, any of these convenient type of creams that you might normally use as a lubricant.

**BUDDY** Beside most of our beds.

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Right. You cannot use those. Vegetable oils, Crisco, any of the old fashioned lubricants that we knew cannot be used with condoms. What you need to do is buy the specialized type of lubricants that are water soluble and water-based.

And those are things such as KY Jelly. There are products that they're called Probe, Slip, Foreplay, many different products. There's Elbow Grease. As long as you get the gels and it says on there that they're water-based, then you've got something that's safe to use with the condom.

**BUDDY** Most of that, believe it or not, can be found at Walgreens and places like that.

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Right.

**BUDDY** It's pretty incredible. At Walgreens, they have the super weekend size.

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** They have a lot of different sizes. But also, you have to go to the specific stores. Some of the stores outside of the Montrose area, I realize the Walgreens on Montrose and West Gray, those do have a large supply of different types of lubricants.

But beyond that, some of the other drugstores may have a more limited supply. But I would keep looking for a lubricant that is good. KY Jelly tends to dry out a little too much. And that's the other problem that you have in wearing condoms is that you want to be sure to use a good lubricant and use enough of it.

You can never use too much lubricant, because you want to keep the thing lubricated. Because during the friction that's involved with intercourse, it could possibly lead to a breaking of the condom. That's why you want to use lubricant.

**BUDDY** What other things happen in the workshops?

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** In the workshops, we mainly deal first of all with feelings, how people feel about sex, how they feel about AIDS. And we discuss those feelings just outright with the group. Then we get to a fun part of the workshop where we discuss all the different types of sexual things that you can do that's safe.

And basically, in doing so, what we're pointing out is that you're almost unlimited as to what you can do sexually that's fun, exciting, erotic. And the only thing that limits you is your own creativity. You could go on forever. We can think of hundreds of different things that you can do with touching someone or something that you can do orally with someone. And we just go on and explore all the different areas. And it's a lot of fun. It gives people a chance to be creative and point out what they think is their favorite.

**BUDDY** Any future workshops planned? Something coming up soon that we should know about?

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Well, I plan usually to workshops a month at the Foundation office on Essex Lane. That's 3927 Essex. And so I'll have two a month that I advertise. And then, of course, we're starting a new thing, which is home workshops where people can either choose to host a workshop for their friends and they invite their friends over to their house or to a place. And we come out there and bring all our stuff and have a workshop there for their friends. Sure.

And we also have the type where we're going to sign people up. I'm developing a new gay outreach group. And this is a group that I also want to start doing outreach for the heterosexual community later on as well in doing safe sex workshops and signing people up to come to them, because a lot of people don't realize-- when they hear about these workshops, they think, oh, it's just how to wear a condom and there's nothing to that. I don't need to go to one of those workshops. And they don't realize how much fun these workshops really are.

**BUDDY** How long does it take, a workshop?

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Well, the workshop lasts about three hours. But generally, people want it to go on longer with all the questions and things, because we demonstrate how to put condoms on. We have different vegetables, and fruits, and things to try them on.

**BUDDY** No live models?

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** No actual live models, but we do have some various objects that one can try putting them on. And we give them a chance to play with those games. And we go into another area that makes it a little unique, and that is we talk about the area of wellness, which is pertinent to someone who's either been exposed to the virus or anyone who hasn't.

And that wellness, of course, is trying to achieve a total health picture, and not only just physical health, but also mental health. In many of the areas of watching your nutrition, we talk about that. We talk about stress management. We talk about personal responsibility, learning to love yourself and how important that is.

And I think for the gay community, that's probably one of the most important key issues is learning to love yourself and accept yourself for who you are and not for who society tries to make you be.

**BUDDY** That's something we've preached for almost two years here. You can't enjoy having sex until you enjoy being with yourself.

**BART LOESER:** Right.

**BUDDY** And so many people in this community are told, like I said from the beginning, that it's wrong, and it's unnatural, and it's dirty, and it's not supposed to feel good, so you're not going to enjoy it anyway. And if you do it, you're going to have to sneak around some place where it's dark and muggy, and that's not really true.

**BART LOESER:** Yeah. And the type of people who don't know how to love themselves can't really learn to love others. And that's one of the main problems that you have, sometimes, with the gay relationships or most relationships.

**BUDDY** Just about, yeah.

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Until a person learns to love themselves, whether they're gay or straight, they cannot really give themselves to another person and love that person.

**BUDDY** We've got our news crew coming in. Did you want to sneak out or are you going to hang around?

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** No, I can hang around. But I also wanted to say that we are going to have another workshop this Tuesday at the Foundation office. And we'll have two more in February. And of course, just give us a call at the Foundation, and we'll let you know when we're having workshops. Everyone is welcome.

**BUDDY** And that number is?

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** It's 623-6796. Or you can call our hotline and get in touch with me there as well. And that's 524-AIDS. That's 524-2437. And so I encourage anybody to come attend the workshops, because there are a lot of fun, and everyone learns something.

**BUDDY** OK, I need to find-- oh, there's Mike. You're ready? They're ready, ever ready. It's time for the news crew to come in. And afterwards-- they'll be here in just a second. So we'll be back in a little bit with Bart. And we'll take your phone calls and have more tickets for you to *Torch Song Trilogy*.

I want to say Congratulations to Kris Lee, and Will, and Cheryl. They won tickets earlier. And Sherry Smith out in-- where's that, Mike? Hochuli? Hochuli, Texas called up and wanted a copy of *Torch Song Trilogy*. And she's going to get the cassette that's courtesy of Larry Lash and Polydor Records and Polygram Records. I believe that's all the same people.

And then Margaret Stratton with Cineplex Odiham theaters Westheimer and Augusta, they're nice enough to give us the tickets to give away also. Next week, in the *Montrose Voice* you'll be able to fill out a coupon, I believe. And we're going to have a drawing at Lobo to give you tickets, and CDs, and cassettes, and all kinds of stuff. Plus, you've got a poster that we might give away later too, right?

**BART LOESER:** Yes.

**BUDDY** Describe that to me.

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Well, it's a new safe sex poster series.

**BUDDY** Hold that up so I can see it.

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** OK. We've got three very hot men who are in various stages of taking off their clothing. And in each picture, they've all got a condom in their hand, kind of to promote safer sex and promote my workshops. And the posters are really hot and they're going to be available starting in two weeks.

**BUDDY** Wait. I'm sorry.

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Oh, they're going to be available. We're going to do our premiere showing of the posters on the 12th of February from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM at Lobo.

**BUDDY** At Lobo. How wonderful. Also, I want to say thanks to Ira over at Pepino's Pizza. Ira is at Pepino's at 416

**JOHNSTON:** Westheimer. They sent us a great old big pizza here earlier and it was fabulous. And Ira is good people. And Pepino seems to be good. They send us pizza, pizza in the middle of the night.

And I want to say hi to Ira and all the guys at Pepino's. And stay tuned, because we've got tickets and movies. And if we can get dressed, we'll get out of here. Mike, don't touch that. This is KPFT, Houston.

[MUSIC PLAYING]