

KPFT Houston 90.1 FM now, rather hurriedly, returns back to the air. Are we on the air, Dan? Well, good morning, Alan. Are you there?

Oh, there I am. Good morning.

[CHUCKLES]

It's so nice to be here.

To all of our wonderful KPFT listeners, this is KPFT Houston 90.1 FM.

Thanks and blessings upon our wonderful engineer who's out there slaving away at the transmitter.

Trying to keep us on the air. I'm not going to apologize for being off the air because, technically, things happen. And apparently--

You know the phrase. You know the phrase.

What's the phrase?

"Does happen."

[CHUCKLES] Oh, yeah.

That's the way we got to say it.

I can't-- I can't say that. We're kind of getting organized now because, as I said, we've been off the air since, what, 6 o'clock last evening? To those faithful "After Hours" listeners, thank you for being there. I apologize to you because we have a tremendous program scheduled for this morning that unfortunately we're not going to get to hear. We're going to reschedule the show for next Sunday morning. And if Alan will say something--

Well, I was going to say, be there or else.

Yes, be there or be split.

I was out all night telling people to listen, listen, listen, listen because it's going to be great. It's Harvey Milk and his story. And this was the ninth anniversary of Harvey Milk's assassination.

Yes. Harvey Milk was assassinated nine years ago in San Francisco.

It's hard to believe it's been nine years. I remember it and didn't understand the implications at the time.

Well, it was something that happened that a lot of us didn't understand. I nine years ago-- I don't want to say. How old was I nine years ago, baby? My lover is here, Roger. We [CHUCKLES] were on the air live. Thank you, Lord. We're back on the air.

Nine years ago. How old was I nine years ago?

Do you really want to announce it to the world?

I don't think so. I'm just glad--

They can do math.

I'm just glad they're out there listening. But I want to tell you what we had schedule for you. And we're going to play the opening for you-- if Alan will carry on while I turn around and cue this tape.

Yes. We will be broadcasting the Harvey Milk program next Sunday, so please be listening, God and the transmitter willing.

It's a tremendous program.

I've heard it now several times, and I could keep listening all night.

Oh, and I've heard it countless times myself. I mean, I've heard it played over and over, and I still love it. I cry every time I hear it still.

Yes. And a brief apology to all those people who I threatened with bodily harm if they did not listen. You're off the hook-- until next Sunday. If you don't listen next Sunday, you're again under threat of bodily harm.

It is a-- it's powerful. It's very powerful. It gives you an insight into what Harvey Milk thought the gay movement was about.

And what he said about San Francisco about the lack of concern in certain sectors of the community. If you just substitute the word "Houston," it's very applicable to our city as well.

Yes. And we started the show at 2 o'clock with hopes that the transmitter would go on at 2 o'clock, and, of course, that didn't happen. But we were running the interview that did happen at 2 o'clock, yes?

Yes, yes.

And it was-- most of the stuff that we are going to hear, we'll play this all for you next Sunday. We'll make it up to you. Most of the stuff was produced by Greg Gordon at our sister station, KPFK, in Los Angeles, and Greg was one of the lucky ones. Greg got to go down to Castro Camera in San Francisco and talk to Harvey Milk.

And if you insert "Houston," as Alan was just saying, into this tape, Harvey talks a lot about his lack of support from the gay leadership in the San Francisco Bay Area. He ran for election four times. And I really wish we could squeeze the clock and start this thing for you. But I promise you we'll have it next week, and it will be tremendous.

I want to start the program, if we can, just like we normally would. And I want you to hear what you missed [CHUCKLES] or what you could have missed. Are we ready, Alan, to do this?

I'm ready. I was born ready.

OK. This is KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. And we'll act like it was 2:00 AM, and we'll just start like the "After Hours" program normally would have started. And you'll get a taste of what you're going to hear next Sunday, so away we go.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

But the protest began with a routine police raid on a homosexual bar, the Stonewall, on Christopher Street.

[CROWD CHANTING] Say it loud! Say it proud!

We take great pride in what's happened in the gay community and what's going to happen.

The people of Dade County has said, enough, enough, enough.

[CROWD CHANTING] Human rights are here to stay. Anita Bryant go away.

There is no question in my mind that the people of California don't want homosexuals teaching in the classroom.

State Senator John Briggs has just conceded the election.

[AUDIENCE CHEERED]

Both Mayor Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk have been shot and killed.

Dan White has been found guilty of one count each of voluntary manslaughter.

[CROWD CHANTING] Right now! Right now!

It has now broken loose. Cops are now bashing heads.

And here comes the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

Gay powers, gay politics. That's what this report is about.

Many gay and lesbian people singing out here. What's your reaction to that?

Well, I think it's terrible, if I had a rock I'd throw it at 'em.

The real message of these gay games is that every one of us is a winner.

Tonight, we are marching, as are others across America, and we shouldn't have to be.

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[INDISTINCT CHATTER]

As the president of the Board of Supervisors, it's my duty to make this announcement. Both Mayor Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk have been shot and killed.

Oh, Jesus Christ.

[CROWD COMMOTION]

The suspect is Supervisor Dan White.

Police have arrived at City Hall-- at the doors of City Hall. They've got a riot squad hereon. There's pushing and shoving going on.

[CROWD COMMOTION]

We're right here at the doors of City Hall. The police are pushing people off the steps.

[CROWD COMMOTION]

The grading in front of City Hall continues to get torn down.

[CROWD COMMOTION]

[CROWD CHANTING]

The people who have provided a human chain, it has now broken loose. Cops are now bashing heads of the people. Indeed, the people who had formed a human chain to protect City Hall are now getting bashed by police. The people-- the people who had been protecting City Hall are now getting dragged away by police.

[CROWD COMMOTION]

The police are now moving out into the crowd-- moving out into the crowd and just flailing about.

[CROWD CHANTING]

Say it so they can hear you in the capital. For love and for life, we're not going back. For love and for life, we're not going back. For love and for life, we're not going back. For love and for life, we're not going back.

[CROWD CHEERING]

I think that's Robin Tyler on the stage leading the chant-- for love or for life, we're not going back.

Good afternoon and welcome to the National March on Washington DC for Gay and Lesbian Rights and [INAUDIBLE].

[CROWD CHEERING]

Let's hear it out there.

[CROWD CHEERING]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

I'm Lea Delaria.

I'm Bruce Hopkins.

I'm a dyke.

I'm a faggot.

And we're best friends.

[CROWD CHEERING]

I want you to savor this next moment. I have the proud task of telling you that the official count of the Lesbian and Gay Rights March, the official count is over 500,000 strong. 500,000 strong. Look at you. 500,000 strong. 500,000 strong-- one of the largest marches in United States history. One of the largest marches in United States history. 500,000 strong.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

We must destroy the myths once and for all, shadow them. We must continue to speak out. And most importantly-- most importantly-- every gay person must come out.

[CROWD CHEERING]

As difficult as it is, as hard 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, you--

[CROWD CHEERING]

And once you do, you will feel so much better.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Well, Alan.

Well what?

[CHUCKLES] That's sort of what we had in mind.

Well, here we are. That's a taste of it, anyway.

Yes. It's going to be great. We'll rerun the entire thing for you next Sunday right here on KPFT Houston, where you're only going to hear--

After Hours Radio, celebrating life from the heart of Montrose.

Along with "Wilde 'N Stein."

"Wilde 'N Stein" and "Breakthrough."

"Breakthrough" and "A Woman's Place." "Wilde 'N Stein" being one of the longest gay programs on--

No, no. Not longest. Longest-running.

I keep saying that.

You keep saying "longest."

Why do I keep saying that? [CHUCKLES] I have this thing about long-- longest, long.

Uh-huh. We heard.

[CHUCKLES] And then, of course, "Breakthrough" on every Friday morning, from 8:00 AM until 11:00, right here on KPFT, and "A Woman's Place" on Tuesday evenings just before "Wilde 'N Stein." A lot of good things going on for Houston and the gay community, and we're proud to be a part of it. We're here every week with you.

We had this tremendous program called "Diminished Capacity" that we can't run for you because we go off the air at 4:00 and the program is about an hour and a half long. What we are going to do for you is play an interview that Greg Gordon did with Harvey Milk to introduce you to who Harvey was and let you get to know him just a little bit. Harvey was born where, Alan?

Oh, excuse me. [CHUCKLES] In Woodmere, Long Island.

Back on May the 22nd.

May the 22nd, 1930.

And, you know, Harvey Milk ran for four terms trying to get elected to San Francisco's board.

Oh, persistence pays off. It really does, in anything, especially in politics.

And he never did get the support of the gay leadership.

Well, one group supported him the last time he ran.

Yes. But, anyway, there's another story in that. We're going to talk about that too but not until after the elections, which, by the way, are coming up this Tuesday, December the what, 2nd? 3rd?

What's tomorrow? [CHUCKLES]

Well, it's this next Tuesday, the day after tomorrow. And you need to go out and vote because District C is in a runoff, and it's a very important seat to the Montrose and support the candidate of your choice, whoever that may be. We have never and will not, because of station policy, endorse candidates for elections. Well, it's another story, but we'll tell you all about that.

And in any case, Betty and I disagree, and we would get into a violent argument right here.

Yes, and we'll tell you all about it after the election. Let's get over-- let's get through the election, and then we'll talk about it.

And then we'll give you all the dirt.

But, anyway, what we had scheduled for you this week was a thing called "Diminished Capacity" done by Greg Gordon at KPFA-- I'm sorry, KPFK.

KPFK.

And it was a wonderful program talking about Harvey Milk and all the wonderful things he did and then that horrible day nine years ago on the 27th of November when Dan White climbed into a window in the basement. This is an interesting story. Mayor Moscone was a believer in peace and didn't want to really get into any "we're going to do this" or "we're going to do that."

But they did arrest a guy one time that had a gun that had somehow gotten into the Mayor's Office. And after that happened, the mayor decided that he would have metal detectors installed in the public entrances into the City Hall to catch these crooks that were trying to get in. Well, to avoid detection, what we think, Dan White slipped into a window--

Well, why would any city supervisor come into the basement, for heaven's sake, unless he was--

He just felt like climbing. He had had a Twinkie.

Malice aforethought.

Come on. He had a Twinkie, and he snuck in through the window.

I know Fritos do it to me.

Went up to the air-- went up to the office and talked openly to San Francisco Mayor George Moscone about-- to his receptionist, rather, about Caroline Kennedy's upcoming wedding and casually discussed that. And this all came about because Dan White had been a supervisor and opposed Harvey and a lot of things that Harvey Milk had done.

And when Dan White decided one day that he couldn't be a supervisor because it didn't pay enough money, so he resigned. And Harvey Milk was very deadset against Dan being a supervisor and opposed him openly. So when it came time for the mayor to announce replacement, he decided not to replace-- give Dan White his seat back. And this upset White very much, enough that he climbed into the window of the City Hall that day in November of 1978-- the 27th of 1978.

He climbed into a window in the basement, went up to the Mayor's Office, shot and killed Mayor Moscone, then reloaded his gun and walked down the hall and went into Harvey's office. The reports say that Harvey stood up and reached out to him, and Dan White shot him several times and then walked over and put the gun up against his head and shot him a couple of more times, I guess, just to make sure he got him. I don't know why people do things like that.

But, anyway, Dan White was subsequently arrested. I think he turned himself in like an hour and a half later maybe.

Well, he went traipsing through the building.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

It was rather interesting. Let me slip this in right quick. This is what happened when Dianne Feinstein, who was one of the city-- I want to say city councilman because that's what we have here in Houston, city councilman-- but she was a city supervisor on the Board of Supervisors.

Before we do this, I want to say this is KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. We've been off the air since 6 o'clock yesterday evening. We're back on the air now, and it's almost 3:00 AM. The clock is ticking away, and we're watching it. This is "After Hours" radio, celebrating live from the heart of the Montrose. Alan's here.

Hi. How are you?

And there it goes, 3 o'clock. And we're talking about Harvey Milk because we had this wonderful Harvey Milk special which we will rerun for you next Sunday, so you just need to stay tuned for that. In the meantime, we were talking about what happened that day.

After everyone had figured out that the mayor had been killed and that Harvey Milk had been killed, there was a tremendous amount of confusion before Dianne Feinstein came down and made an announcement publicly. And any time you've seen anything like that happen-- just for example, we saw the Challenger blow up in front of us years ago-- even I say years ago-- 10, 15 years ago, when things happen, even then it didn't happen rather live.

Now, with CNN and a lot of other news services, when something happens, there's usually somebody there with a microphone or a camera to record it for us. But this didn't happen. And the mayor came out-- or the city supervisor came out and made an announcement, and this is kind of what she said that morning.

[INDISTINCT CHATTER]

As president of the Board of Supervisors, it's my duty to make this announcement. Both Mayor Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk have been shot and killed.

Oh, Jesus Christ.

[CROWD COMMOTION]

The suspect is Supervisor Dan White.

On November 27, 1978, San Francisco's Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk were assassinated in City Hall. Harvey Milk had served only 11 months on San Francisco's Board of Supervisors, but he had already come to represent something far greater than his office. A year before he was gunned down, Harvey Milk tape-recorded a will.

This is to be played only in the event of my death by assassination. I fully realize that a person who stands for what I stand for, an activist, gay activist, becomes the target or the potential target for somebody who is insecure, terrified, afraid, or very disturbed themselves. In doing that, I could be assassinated at any moment of any time.

I feel it's important that some people know my thoughts. I stood for more than just a candidate. I have never considered myself a candidate. I have always considered myself part of a movement, part of a candidacy. I wish I had time to explain everything I did. Almost everything was done in eyes of a gay movement.

Now that opening was taken from a film called *The Life and Times of Harvey Milk*. And I can't think of the name of the company that distributes that because we've been sitting around here playing records for the last half hour waiting to see what was going to happen. And all of a sudden our wonderful engineer out there at the tower went click, and we were on the air. So you have to excuse us for not being a little more ready for you.

But that should just tempt your taste buds. And Alan and I were just sitting here discussing this. And we know there are a lot of people out there that listen to "After Hours," and we thank you for being there with us. We thank you right now because you're the most important listener that we have.

And if you tuned in tonight to hear this Harvey Milk special, I want to tell you, it's the most important broadcast as a gay person that you will ever hear. It is, other than when they say that we have our freedom, our equal rights. That might be more important than this, but it's very, very important.

If you want to hear the interview that Greg Gordon did with Harvey Milk so that you can get to know Harvey this morning, give us a call right now at 526-4000 and we'll put that on the air for you. It's about 20 minutes long. It's a very good interview. It was recorded about six weeks after Harvey was elected to the Board of Supervisors in San Francisco. Greg Gordon from KPFK went down and talked to Harvey about the politics in San Francisco and what was going on.

And Alan and I are deciding if we want to play that or if we want to play some music or if anybody is listening out there that stuck with us until we came back on the air, and we decided. We do this program every week. And Alan's talked to them. I know my lovers talked to them. There are a lot of young people out there, and they enjoy listening to what-- not what we have to say but what the community has to say because we bring as many people as we can in here and open these microphones to them every morning.

And we know how important it is to feel good about yourself. And if you want to hear Harvey Milk and the interview right now, give us a call at 526-4000. 526-4000. We'll play that for you. I'm going to play a little song to kind of get you motivated, from Tom Robinson. And like I said, if no one calls, that's OK too. We're going to play a lot of music and have a great time.

We'll take that as feedback.

So give us a call if you want to hear the Harvey Milk interview now and not wait till next Sunday. In the meantime, let's listen to Tom Robinson. And what's the number here at the station, Alan?

526-4000.

[MUSIC - TOM ROBINSON BAND, "ALL YOU GAY WOMEN, ALL YOU GAY MEN"]

All you gay women, all you gay men, come to get us--

Well, that's Tom Robinson and "All You Gay Women, All You Gay Men." And no one's called yet, so I guess that means that no one wants to hear the Harvey Milk special than the Harvey Milk interview this morning, which is OK. Like I said, we'll save that for you next week. Yes?

I'm on the phone over here.

OK. What did you say? Is it somebody that wants to be on the air?

No, no. We're having a little discussion here.

OK.

I was just going to wait until you finished.

OK. Alan's having a little discussion back there. Like I said, I guess no one wants to listen to Harvey Milk. Just like I guessed that-- well, I'm not going to get on the soapbox, am I? Should I get on the soapbox now?

Not now.

I'm not going to do that. I think that we as a gay community should become a community. I am sick and tired of hearing about all the bickering and so on and so forth that goes on out there. And I think we need to come together as a people. And once that happens, we're going to be an incredible people to stop.

You look at the 1985 census figures in the United States. Now, this is the census from 1985, right? The total population of the United States, there were 239 million people. 239 million people. 203 million were white. This is the breakdown; 203 million were white, 29 million were Black, 17 million were Hispanic.

Now, if you follow the Kinsey Report, 24 million, or 10% of that 203 million, were gay and lesbian people. So if there are 24 million of us-- and we know the numbers are higher because these are 1985 figures-- if there are 24 million of us plus in these United States, hey, that many people don't even vote in the presidential elections. So if we as a people continue to sit around on our duffs and don't do anything, well, who cares, right? Alan, yes, what?

I just accidentally cut off the person I was talking to. If they'll call back, I'll continue the discussion.

What did they have to say? Did they want to hear Harvey Milk?

No, we were discussing-- he's doing a sociological study, and he was wanting to know, before actually having sex, when did we start feeling-- when do-- how do-- I'm trying to phrase this properly.

How did you know you were gay before you had sex?

Right. That's what he's asking. How did we know we were gay before we had sex?

You know, where did you grow up, Alan?

Here. Right here in Houston, born and raised. I just wasn't allowed to have an accent.

OK.

I wanted an accent, but they gave me a cat instead.

I'm asking-- [CHUCKLES] I was asking because I grew up in a small town in Arkansas. My name is Buddy Johnston. I'm 33 years old, born in 1954. I guess one of the baby boom babies, huh?

Yes.

And this is Alan Sands.

I was post-baby boom, I guess.

Alan's post-baby boom. He's a cute little Alan too. He comes in every week with us. And we've also got Brian Kever. Brian was born in a small town out in the Virginias somewhere, I think, or the Carolinas. I can't remember. Brian does our news every week, which we're going to hear here in a little bit. And Mark Schmidt does our sports report. We didn't record that tonight because we were hoping to play the Harvey Milk special for you.

But I know where he was.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

I'll talk to him later.

Yes.

And then Alan, of course, does our community events, community bulletin board, and we're going to hear that later on because we, of course, are not going to play our Harvey Milk stuff this morning. But, anyway, this guy called and wanted to know, how did you know you were gay? Well, when I was a little kid-- and Alan, you jump in any time you want to say anything.

When I was a little kid, I've said this before, I was in the band in junior high school. And we had a big 55-gallon drum out in the backyard that my dad used to go out and burn the garbage in. And one day, my dad took me out, and he told me. He said, look, you have to stay away from the band director. That band director is a homosexual. And I really didn't understand what that was because--

He made it sound like he was an ax murderer.

Yes. The band director's name was John. And I won't tell you his last name, although I doubt that this many years later would make any difference. But John was a nice man. He never attacked us. He was never mean to us. And he was just a good guy, but my dad said I should stay away from him because he was homosexual.

And I don't think I really had a sexual experience other than playing around with relatives. And I think everybody did that at one time or another, which all the relatives--

If you can even really call that fact.

Yes, and all the relatives all turned out to be straight and have beautiful children. And you know, that's something else I don't understand because everybody says that being gay is a choice. If I had a choice, I would be happily married with a beautiful wife and have some children because I love children, and I'd have a little house in a picket fence because you'd fit in more into the mainstream, right?

Well, yes, that's a valid viewpoint, I suppose.

There's a young man that's a priest-- and I can't think of his name-- in New York City that was speaking on a--

[AUDIO OUT]

Where the Pope came and they asked him about being gay and some of the same questions this guy that just called wanted to know. And he said, in the first place, why would anybody choose a lifestyle like this and go through all the suffering that we have to go to? Why would anybody choose that?

I can think of one person who knew from a very early age that what he was going to do was going against the grain of his entire society-- that he was going to be ostracized, his family was going to be embarrassed. I mean, his mother was very embarrassed because, for all practical purposes, he was born out of wedlock.

I mean, it just seemed he was fated to be a real rebel, raise some heck-- I shouldn't say raise the male. He was going to definitely shake things up, and he was going to say some things that he felt were necessary to be said but that were going to really offend some people and really upset them. And we-- people still talk about him. His name was Jesus Christ.

So there was one person who would choose a lifestyle that may not go along with everyone else. There are some valid reasons for choosing that kind of lifestyle.

Well, that word, "choose." Because I really didn't choose to be gay.

Well, I guess, he didn't choose to be Christ either.

It's just something that happened. And I don't understand why it happened. And like I said, again, if I had my-- if I had a choice. And I did have a choice because I was engaged to be married at one time to a very beautiful woman that I love very much in high school. And three or four days before the wedding, I took her home and I said, look, this isn't going to work because I love you very much.

And I still love her very much, but I knew that I would take her home and drop her off and then go out to the gay bars and pick up a man. And what kind of life would that have been for her? And you know, it wasn't easy because this was years ago. I was 17 years old. My family found out and I openly told them, and they threw me out of the house just as fast as they could pack my stuff up. And I found myself on the streets alone, and that was a very frightening experience.

I mean, I moved to Nebraska. I stood on the streets in the snow at 3:00 in the morning trying to pick up a trick. And you wonder, what the hell are we doing out here? I mean, what's going on?

Is this life?

And there's got to be more to life. And there is more to life, and that is being proud-- being proud of who you are.

Perhaps it's not so much it's making a choice or what you were born as but taking what you've got and running with it.

Yes.

Doing great. The best revenge is a great lifestyle. I love that phrase because it's so incredibly true.

That's true.

Since I quit worrying about who was going to find out and, God, what would happen if they found out, I've been having a great time.

My sex life has even gotten better.

Well, that point aside--

[LAUGHS]

That point aside, the anxiety is gone. And I noticed now that I am more willing to sit down and listen to someone else's problems than to try and tell them all of mine, which I think is one of the most important things we can do is sit down and listen to someone else's problems for a little while.

And you know, I've said it before, and a lot of people that know who we are that come down here every week, we're just volunteers here at KPFT, like about--

We don't get paid for this.

90% of the people. And I work for the city. I work for the city of Houston. And when I first started doing this program-- because Buddy Johnston is my name and my name was going to be printed in the Montrose Voice and the TWT and other places-- I went to my supervisors and I said, look, hey, I'm going to do a radio program. And we're going to be doing it for the gay community, and we're going to invite people from the community in to tell their side of the story. And I just want to tell you that this is going to happen. I'm not ashamed of it or I wouldn't be doing it.

And it wasn't that I was trying to get some kind of pat on the back from them. I just wanted them to know. And I think that they respected me more and respect me more because I told them. And it's just like Harvey Milk said at the beginning of the show, you have to come out. And it's not easy. Don't get me wrong. I'm not saying it's easy.

My lover still has not really fully come out to his family. And it's not an easy thing to do. In fact, we spent Thanksgiving over there, and I love his family very, very much, but it's so hard sometimes to go in and smile and have everybody look at you and you wonder that-- everything's OK and you really can't tell them what is and what isn't.

And once you come out to anyone, you don't have anything to hide. It's an incredible feeling. When I came out at work, I didn't have any place else to come out. And it's a wonderful feeling. And there are places and people to help you. Years ago, when I went to the bars, you snuck into an alley-- and Brian and I were talking about this last night when he taped the news. You went to the bars. You snuck in through usually an alley door. The bars all weren't lit up like the bars here in the Montrose and around the Montrose with big neon signs flashing.

And, God forbid, anybody should see your car from--

Oh, yes. So we parked two or three blocks away to make sure that the vice squad didn't see us park so they wouldn't follow us and harass us all week. And you snuck in and you hope to God that no one saw you go in. And then once you were in there, you were very careful as to who you talked with because even though you were inside, you really didn't know who was in there.

And although I was fortunate I never was arrested, I had gone to bars and heard about the police coming in and just carrying everybody out and locking them up. And see, that's something that you don't understand here in Texas. We are criminals. I said one day on this show that it was homosexual criminal radio, and someone called up the next day and they said, oh, you shouldn't say that.

It's true.

We are criminals. The sodomy laws on the books in this state say that loving is wrong. And just like Harvey Milk said, there may be laws that say you cannot marry or you cannot file a joint income tax return or you may not be able to live in some homes because you're gay or you may not be able to hold jobs. They can pass all of those laws they want to.

But let me tell you something. There is no law on this planet or in this universe that says you cannot love someone. I love Roger very much. That love is between me and my God-- whatever I believe that to be, whether it be God or Buddha or the force from Star Wars or whatever-- and Roger. And between the three of us, that's our business and no one else's.

But you get people like Anita Bryants and Jerry Falwells and--

Who, for one, probably have never actually sat down and talked to a homosexual and had an intelligent conversation with them. I know they preach at them and they yell at them. But has any of those people ever-- I wonder-- I have to really wonder, has any of those people ever actually sat down and talked to a real homosexual?

Because I've had friends who knew me and then found out I was gay and just point blank said that if they had known I was gay before they knew me, they would never have considered even speaking to me. But since they knew me first, they loved me dearly.

And you know, Harvey Milk, in the taped interview that we didn't hear because no one called, Harvey said, well-- or Greg Gordon, the guy from KPFK asked him, well, what about the elite, the gay people that live up in the mountains or the gay people that live outside of the loop or the gay people that live out in the suburbs and spring or--

Who are quietly and happily married to their gay spouse and never go out and all that good stuff.

The police don't harass them because they don't go to the bars or they don't work for the city of Houston. So why fight for a referendum that's not going to affect them? That's how the gay community felt in Germany. When Hitler began to round people up and they went out and they took people out by the hundreds of thousands and they were executed right along with the Jews.

Well, it happened to the Jews, of course, too. They started with the Jewish seditionists and worked their way right on up the line until they had everybody. And there was no one left to protest.

But we can't just be-- we can't just concern ourselves as a community with gay rights. We have to take the same philosophy that Harvey Milk had and the same philosophy that Dr. King had. Dr. King-- and I love Dr. King dearly. Dr. King said you have to speak out against wrong because it is wrong. Dr. King preached out against the Vietnam War, which was very unpopular not only in the Black community but in the community as a whole and in the country as a whole.

He openly preached against the Vietnam War, and people asked him why did he do it because it caused such a stir. He said, I have to speak out and preach out against it because it's wrong. We speak out on this program a lot. I talk a lot about South Africa. Hundreds of thousands of people have been killed. Hundreds of people are imprisoned and still imprisoned, including people like Nelson Mandela.

And people in South Africa, the abuse and the atrocities go on. And if we as human beings continue to sit by and let it happen, then when these people get in power, they're going to do it to us. It's like the Jews-- the rich, elite Jews-- when the Germans started locking people up, they said, well, I don't have to worry because it's not going to affect me. It does affect you.

When they start coming out to get Jews, they didn't bother to ask if they were the Jew that was accepted or the Jew that was in the street. If you were Jewish, you went chook, and that's how it would be. If it was the gay community that they were after, if someone like Pat Robinson were, God forbid, elected to President and they decided they didn't want gay people who could be associated with the word AIDS, roaming the streets, and they decided to start rounding people up, it wouldn't be the accepted, the transvestites or the drag queens standing down on the corners hustling the streets. It would be the--

It would be the people working for the government, the people teaching in the schools, the people working in the hospitals. And it would go right on down the line until they got all the office workers, all the people who run the Xerox machines, all the people who fix the cars until they got them all. It's very, very frightening.

And don't think it can't happen. It has happened. It just hasn't happened here yet.

And it-- I don't know. Is it apathy? Is that the right word?

A lot of it's apathy. A lot of it's ignorance.

I want to-- let's play a song. I want to play this.

We've been very fortunate. We've lived in some very happy times here. I know we often think this has got to be the worst times ever on God's green earth, but it's simply because you haven't seen the really bad ones.

Yes. And people will say, well, nothing's going to happen because it doesn't happen to them.

We're a modern society, aren't we? We're so civilized.

Bull. That's what I can say to you. If you think that-- if you enjoy being harassed by the police, if you like the police coming into our bars

If you like worrying about a cop walking into a bar and wearing, oh, God, is he going to come up and take me away, yeah.

If you enjoy that around election time or around gay pride time, if you enjoy the church telling us how bad we are, if you enjoy people like Jerry Falwell preaching their garbage about us, then don't vote. Don't do anything. Just sit on you-- just sit on your rear end. And when they start rounding people up--

You might as well stick your hands out for the handcuffs.

Exactly. Exactly.

And go along quietly since you sat quietly.

Let's see, I'm not going to do that. I want to see us come together as a community. I want to see us grow as a community. I would like to see-- and this is something I haven't even talked to Alan about-- next year, November the 27th--