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00:02

I was just backstage on the phone with two wonderful artists who are members of our Hollywood community in my community. And they are watching this on television. And they wanted me to say to you how proud they are of today, and how proud they are to be members of this community love Lily Tomlin and Jane Wagner.



00:52

30 years ago, another people march on Washington, urging America to be America again. Before I began today, I must pay tribute to them, I must pay tribute to that legacy. Let us remember the hundreds of 1000s of African Americans, other people of color women unionists, and poor people who have laid the groundwork so that we could have a lesbian and gay march today. In 1963, a black gay man had a dream residence dream turned into the 1963 civil rights march. It was at that March, where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. revealed his dream. Dr. King dreamed about a world where we could all live free from the threats of hatred, bigotry and violence. He dreamed about a world where all people were treated as equals. He dreamed about a world where we would all be free. It was 25 years ago this month that an act of violence took Dr. King's life. I was 11 years old. But I remember that day. But more importantly, I remember Dr. King's words, and his dream. He said, I have a dream today. And when he spoke about the sons of former slaves, and the sons of former slave owners, he made no distinction between the straight ones and the gay one. When Dr. King sang, free at last, free at last, Thank God almighty were free at last. He included all of us. I'm a black gay man. My great grandfather was a slave. I'm a part of that dream. And so are you. The Jesse Helms who discriminates against HIV infected immigrants in 1993, is the same Jesse Helms who discriminated against black schoolchildren in North Carolina and 1954. Were a part of the dream. The Strom Thurmond, who tried to undermine the civil rights march in 1963 is the same Strom Thurmond who's trying to undermine lesbian and gay men in the military and 1993 were a part of that dream 15 years ago that Parker asked, Where will you be when they come? They will come in business suit she said to buy your home and bring bodies to fill your job. And I must ask you, where will you be bad warned that they would not come close and brown and flush the guts. The time and need for rooted are over. Today. I must take assessments, look to you and ask Where will you be when they come? Because they are here. They have names like Jesse Helms, Randall cherry, Clarence Thomas, Colin Powell and Sam Nunn. The time at NI for roses are over. They are winning the battle with other gays and lesbians in the military. They codified hate and violence in Colorado. The immigration ban on people with HIV is worse than

ever, and patients are dying every day in concentration camps at Guantanamo Bay. With self righteous sanctity, they are ready to x away our right to life. It is not enough to march on Washington on one Sunday, every five years. There were 750,000 of us and 1987 and the next day they passed the helms amendment We must resist every attempt to move us backwards. We have an obligation to ourselves and to all America. We must walk march on Washington. But we must march on Avenue New York, Sacramento, California, at Denver, Colorado. We must write letters, send telegrams make telephone calls, we must make our voices heard. And city halls, state houses, both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue, and both sides of the aisle. The Human Rights struggle for lesbian and gay people is a part of America's unfinished business. It is a part of the unfinished civil rights agenda. People are asking us, what do we want, we want to prevent people from getting HIV. We want adults to care for people with a we want a job. We want access for all Americans. We want to work without look fear of losing our jobs, because of who we are. We want to live without fear of losing our homes, because of who we are. We want to live without fear of losing our lives to violence, because of who we are. We want what every American wants, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We want America to really be America. It is really a simple matter. But just of justice, President Clinton said he has a vision of America, and you're a part of it. So I must ask you about your vision. And who's a part of it? Are your lesbian sisters a part of the vision? Are your gay brothers of color, a part of the vision? Are your brothers and sisters living with AIDS, a part of the vision? Are your sisters fighting for the right to control their bodies, a part of the vision because if we are not all a part of the vision, the vision is an illusion. And we need no more illusions. Today I say to African Americans across this country, as you work to fulfill the dream, make sure that we are part of the dream because if we're not all a part of the dream, then you're turning the dream into a nightmare. Today we marched but the dream today we marched for the vision we march for justice keep on March and keep on March and gape on March and don't let Jesse turn you around divine March and don't let them turn you around. Keep on marching to let Colin Powell journey around. Keep on marching, keep on marching, keep on marching right on the dollars.