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SPEAKERS

Michelle, Gigi, Jimmy Carper, Glenn Holt



00:01

and listener sponsored Houston's 90.1 KPFT the sound of Texas of Pacifica network station KPFT Houston KOLs College Station



00:34

Oh yes, you've tuned into after hours queer radio with attitude right here on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of after hours is ready to bring you news interviews, dialogue and music geared for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people and their friends. Hear it after hours, we may be diverse, but we have one thing in common. We are all out of the closet and urge everyone to come out of their closets. That means standing up for yourself taking responsibility for your own life and being proud of who you are. Realistically, we know not everyone can do that because of age job or frame of mind. That's okay, we're here for you too. So sit back, relax, and enjoy this week's edition of after hours.




Jimmy Carper 01:59


That's right, what do I do if you don't call 526-573-8526 KPFT with your pledge of support for after hours and KPFT on Jamie Carper you're here with after hours queer radio with attitude. And of course tonight is bisexual night





Gigi 02:24

haha. Nets GG here with Bennett Houston. And we've got a good lineup for tonight. Do we? Oh yes. We're gonna have Clarence Bagby. Come and talk about EBH GBH, it's a quality began to how Oh, okay, a lot of activities going on all over the whole United States and all the US territories. So you'll hear more about it. Oh, wow.


 Jimmy Carper 02:52
Oh, good. Good, good, good, good. And I have


 Gigi 02:54
to give a little plug for something else that my net is doing. Okay.

 Jimmy Carper 02:58
Before you get to that I wanted to. I want to tell people that that song that they heard. What I do is is a gold standard by Irving Berlin sung by Rufus Wainwright, the gay son of Loudon Wainwright, the third Oh, wow. He is who? He's a folk singer. People who listen to KPFT have heard him for years.

 03:25
I tried to get y'all


 03:25
in Louisiana. Sorry.

 03:29
But it's good. It's good to be back home. First day I've had off since January 11th. And I have my pledge. It's not It's not much but it'll help me. The only problem is Jimmy, you have to take it up somewhere with your teeth.


 Jimmy Carper 03:44
Okay, that's fine. I'll do it. Oh, gee, it'll be Oh, I don't know if I can do that or not Jay, maybe somebody can twist my arm. To add one more thing to say

 Gigi 03:58
Oh, yes. Barnett Houston, along with Barnett USA is gonna help co sponsor this event is putting on this bisexual South Central Regional Conference, celebrating the bisexual family of choice. Workshops by day and party by night cool. We're going to be bringing in having workshops speakers. Bisexual costume ball by discussing bisexual issues will have pagan rituals and much much more. We'll also have noted keynote speakers so Fritz Klein, he wrote the bisexual option. And Wayne Bryan he wrote bisexual characters and film and quite a few others who are

lining up I don't want to say any names yet. For more information, you can contact Gigi Raven Wilbur, that's me. Yeah. And my PO Box is 6670401 Houston, Texas 77266 Or email me at by house@flash.net. That's bi hr usc@flash.net or call us at the byline. The 713467438 is cool. And we'll get you all the info you need for a spectacular event.

 Jimmy Carper 05:28


Talking more about that as the week's go on. There's someone else in the studio. Hello. Hello. Looks like landholder to me.

 Glenn Holt 05:36

T shirt says I'm a member of hung something or other. I can't read it

 Jimmy Carper 05:41


says I tongue. Yeah. And he may be able to prove that later. I don't know.

 Glenn Holt 05:47

I already had

 Jimmy Carper 05:48


actually actually you happen. It's been such a long time. My memory was terrible. Well, baby.

 Glenn Holt 06:00

Thank you. Unfortunately, I have some rather bad news to talk about. Oh, yes.

 Jimmy Carper 06:07

What happened? happened in the community. Yeah, something

 Glenn Holt 06:09

happened in the community. I found out this afternoon because I got a call from from Fox News. They wanted somebody to give them a sound bite from cue patrol because we had somebody who was murdered in the community. I could say last night, but it's really this

morning. Yeah, because it happened about three o'clock in the morning. The only details that I have are what I got from the guy at Fox News. And that was that it was a a male person in female clothing.

J Jimmy Carper 06:41

Okay, so we don't even know if it's transgendered or right wing cross dresser or what? Yeah.

G Glenn Holt 06:46

Shot in the back. Oh, somewhere on Stanford. And apparently, I don't know, maybe the police have more information. We won't find out until normal business hours during the week. But what the what the TV reporter who interviewed me said is, uh, he lives in that area and didn't hear anything. And, and I really, you know, from the scarcity of reports, the Q Patrol has gotten like a nun. I'm really thinking that nobody else heard anything else either. So I'm, I'm really asking everybody to please be very safe out there this evening. Of course, Q patrols out. And if anybody heard anything, last night or this morning? Well, I mean, if you're in the area, yeah, heard something or saw something. Please do not hesitate to call the police. I realized that sometimes you don't want to get involved. But the only way that we can put a stop to this sort of thing is if everyone who knows anything will will at least call the police and tell them what they know.

J Jimmy Carper 07:52

Okay, so this is definitely a dead person. This is a dead body. We're ptosis body. And they was there any information about where on Stanford? Because I've heard, but I don't know. Okay.

G Glenn Holt 08:05

Well, I think that big Roy will probably have the details later on in the news. Okay.

J Jimmy Carper 08:10

Because it wasn't near Montrose or Westheimer. Okay, it was what I had heard that it was Stanford in West Bell. Okay, I know, it was definitely out of our portfolio. It's on the other. That's one street on the other side of West grey. Okay.

G Gigi 08:25

So it's really getting on the scary side.

G Glenn Holt 08:29

deep into the scary side. Yeah. Now, we've also had another report that came into patrol this evening of a bashing, or fagging I don't know which that happened. Somewhere out there in the community, of a transgendered person. Okay. There again, I don't have any details. But hopefully by the time

J Jimmy Carper 08:46

Katrina Rose was here, and she was saying that, there's there's been all kinds of stuff going around about a transgendered person getting bashed tonight.

G Glenn Holt 08:57

Okay. Well, hopefully by the time that big boy gets on with the news, he'll have some more details for us. But I just wanted to come on and mention that because I'm sure that quite a few people are going to be listening by the radio intently waiting for some details. So I've told you everything that we have.

J Jimmy Carper 09:13

So so big royal have more details in the news at 120. Hopefully, I and they say we don't need a hate crimes bill.

G Glenn Holt 09:22

Yeah. The weather has been warm. And unfortunately when the weather is warm, you know, not too hot, not too cold, can't be wet. You know, the gay bashers don't like to get their Tutsis wet or cold,

J Jimmy Carper 09:34

right? Oh, yes. And they probably are. There's probably more than

G Glenn Holt 09:39

one. Yes. So when the weather is like it is now it's important for everybody to be careful. Just follow the common sense rules. You know, don't walk alone, walk in lighted areas, all that sort of thing. And of course, Q patrol always needs more volunteers. You bet. It's an entirely volunteer organization and how can they get a hold of you? Call that magic number 528. Safe? Of course, that's 713. I have to say that now. So 37135 to eight safe.

J Jimmy Carper 10:09

Can we just say seven? And people know,

G Glenn Holt 10:12
that might be an idea? Yes. It's, yeah, the big seven,

J Jimmy Carper 10:15
the big seven, the

G Glenn Holt 10:16
big seven. Anyway, yeah. You don't have to have any kind of special qualifications or you want your diet coke. You don't have to have

J Jimmy Carper 10:26
why he doesn't come to the rehearsals.

G Glenn Holt 10:30
You don't want rehearsals. You don't have to have any special qualifications for Q patrol. I mean, even Jimmy can do it.

J Jimmy Carper 10:36
Yes, yes, I have my age and that my infirmity? I can do it. Yeah. It's

G Glenn Holt 10:41
great. You know, when you get to be our age, you can't walk around a whole lot.

J Jimmy Carper 10:47
Yeah, there's an ordinance against.

G Glenn Holt 10:51
But you can still ride in a vehicle. Okay. And that's important. Because you know, where we are the only as far as I know, we are the only citizens watched patrol under the Houston Police Department citizens watch patrol in Houston. We're the only one who's Incorporated. As a

corporation. We're certainly the one of the one of the longest live that I've ever know, kids. We've been in operation since 91. And we're assuming that I'm saying I have to say 19 in front of that was the y2k problems. Okay, so we've been in operations 9191. But yeah, I mean, we we generally



11:27

with Jimmy Jimmy was still a baby then. Careful. Be very careful.



Glenn Holt 11:33

We've we've had straight people, of course, are welcome on patrol, transgendered, bisexual, oh, yeah, buddy, anybody who's interested in doing something positive for the community, given four and four hours a month of your time



Jimmy Carper 11:46

fact coop Patrol has been blessed by the transgender community wondering, at one point, there was like a third of the volunteers or more were transgendered.



Glenn Holt 11:57

Plus a very generous bequeath moment from the untimely death of one. Ah, yes. Which has provided some financial support for us, which we badly needed at the time. Sure. Yeah, sure. So just like the radio station, just like KPFT, cute patrol, appreciates donations as well. And of course, the same number there five to eight safe if you want to just donate something to cute patrol or a 501 C three, like KPFT is



Jimmy Carper 12:22

yes. And this is our membership drive, winter membership drive, and it is the last night of it for after hours, you won't be hearing about it until something like April or May.



Glenn Holt 12:36

That's right. So when you're making out your income tax this year, and you find that you have to send a big chunk of money into the government, because you didn't make enough enough deductible contributions to charitable organizations. Just remember that KPFT is one of those 501 C three type charitable organizations. And if you write out a check now or make a pledge to do whatever, send him some some money, then you'll be all set when tax season comes around. Next time. Yes. Thank you.



Jimmy Carper 12:38



Jimmy Carper 13:09

Well, next guest is here and greeting everyone personally.



Glenn Holt 13:13

very hands on kind of way. That's kind of fun. Yes. Okay, well, I've monopolized enough time.



Jimmy Carper 13:19

No, but I do want you to. To talk more about that. Just a little bit about our marathon going on. And then that number is 713-526-5738.



Glenn Holt 13:32

And there are people out there in the lobby waiting to answer the phone there. Yes, people



Jimmy Carper 13:37

sitting by waiting to get your call and we have all kinds of fun little goodies to give you at various levels



Glenn Holt 13:47

and goodness knows your bumper needs a sticker. Well, it



Jimmy Carper 13:51

should have a probably a backup horn.



13:56

I don't know. Hey, but



Glenn Holt 14:01

Well, we have bumper stickers. We have mugs. We do we



Jimmy Carper 14:03

do with T shirts. There's all kinds of thing depending on what you want to Oh, but depending on what what to donate money in front of hats right Someone is fondling money right now

what what to donate money in front of bats, right? Someone is donating money right now
fondling money right now and I have to extract it from someplace with my teeth and I can't
wait for that. Oh, I'll

G

Glenn Holt 14:27

give you the play by play this. This is a slender, smooth young gentleman up Yes. I

J

Jimmy Carper 14:31

think we should do this right now.

G

Glenn Holt 14:33

Can I say on the air with inviting nipples? Yes. And and always got it out? I say yes. The and and
it's not synthetic. And it's not right there. It's right there and so as the dollar bill Okay, Jimmy
has anything for KPFT Jimmy and believe me he is doing it. He's down on his knees. Now Jimmy
Watch your tongue you only you only need just so much get that bill out of there. Okay, so But
Jimmy is now he's not exactly extracting that dollar bill. He's he's sort of got sort of gotten a bit.
It's well, it's is that the dollar bill? It's getting hard. Oh, the \$5 bill, okay. Ah, interesting. Yeah,
it's Oh, you want to help? Okay. Now Jimmy has a sort of stunned, satisfied look on his face and
the \$5 bill hanging out of his mouth. And the other thing is hanging out with the other
gentleman's pants. That's true.

J

Jimmy Carper 15:40

You really doubt as being gay voices,

G


Glenn Holt 15:43


been at least 20 years since I've done play by play on the radio. And last time, it was a real
sport.


J


Jimmy Carper 15:52

See what I'll do for my station. You have to make I know it. And now, before we begin, before
we get to our next guest, I want to play a little song that has been requested. It's by an artist
named Patrick arena. And this is a brand new CD out called nightcap and he's he thinks a lot of
old standards. It's really really, here it is. The my idea of a nightcap is a nice cup of herbal tea,
flannel pajamas, glowing candles and a favorite blanket. I wanted to create an album that has a
calming effect to go along with this evening ritual. From the first notes of Andy Monroe's
elegant piano accompaniment to the last echoes of my voice. I hope that this cap, this nightcap
will serve as a tonic to end your day.


 Glenn Holt 16:48
And I mean, what do you have deep breath


 Jimmy Carper 16:56
anyway This song was requested by JD and I, of course, I want to dedicate it to Merlin and then thank him for his generous contribution. And not all of it was just money either. You're, and you're hearing it. After hours. KPFT Houston ke O. 's College Station.

 17:26
Whew,

 Jimmy Carper 17:27
that was very, very pretty. Johnny Angel, by Patrick arena, with Andy Monroe, the piano and you're hearing it all on after hours. Now, before we get into anything else, I've got a whole bunch of people to thank, first of all, Merlin, to thank for so many things, and

 Gigi 17:53
quite a mouth.

 Jimmy Carper 17:54
Yes, yes. And good faithful listeners, Steven Parker, the one that has the hunky boyfriend, you know you. Oh, yeah. One Stephens not too bad himself, made a donation to KPFT. Good old Paul made one too. We're happy that he did. So we're well on our way to our goal. And especially I want to thank Derek. Ah, now I can't pronounce his name and polish like he told me. But he used to do a lot of volunteer work here at KPFT and stopped by and dropped off a nice, generous pledge. Great. So hey, we're on our way. But we can always use more that number is 526573871352 6k P F T. In the studio. We have none other than this Mr. Clarence Bagby in the farmer. I'm so glad to have you back on.

 19:01
Well, thanks, Jerry. It's always great to be here with you. Yes. You know, Jimmy is becoming a real legend in the community. You know, was it announced on after hours the award you got from the Houston gay and lesbian Political Caucus last

 Jimmy Carper 19:17

year? Oh, yes. Okay. Well, we just want to get the news team,



19:20

acknowledging the acknowledging



Jimmy Carper 19:23

it was great that that there was a highlight of one really a pretty big highlight in my career to receive an award for such an organization.



Gigi 19:34

Well, before we move into our subject tonight, I do want to mention once again, if you're going out tonight, be safe. Go back to your cars and twos and threes. We did have apparently murdered last night and AR Yeah, and a possible bashing tonight. Yes. So there's some people out there up tonight. Good. Just she's care and buddy up when you get back to your cars



Jimmy Carper 20:03

okay Clarence last time you were here you were representing the caucus the feeling that you've moved on there's something else going on in your life because I, I am a member of hay and net. And every every time I turn on my computer there's something from this ABA organization. At first I thought that somebody misspell APA.



20:30

That's supposed to be a P. Now the B.



Jimmy Carper 20:33

B H, which stands for



20:37

equality begins at home. What does that mean? Well, what it means is that equality begins at home. And, and what we've seen in our movement is a real a real focus on national organizations and work in Washington. And several years ago, several years ago, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force began as we all remember a real campaign to tangibly do tangible work to develop a grassroots movement for the advancement of civil rights for the gay, lesbian,

bisexual and transgender community. And kind of putting our money where our mouth is, we decided that there were because a third of the states Jimmy, a third of the states don't have any kind of statewide organization at all. A third.

 Jimmy Carper 21:29

You know, I have heard that before that, Texas is one of the few that has so many organizations, because we have so many large towns well, but and from the, from the inside here, looking out, I think, Boy work, you know, everybody else is better than us.

 21:44

Well on the reality is that, that there are 14 states that don't have any type of gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered civil rights organization. Wow. That's what we're talking about, you know, an organization like the Lesbian Gay rights lobby of Texas, right? You know, that that's, that's working on those issues. And so what we realized was we needed to put our money where our mouth was when we went out and raised I think, is, as Gigi alluded to earlier, in the show, we went out and raised the National Gay Lesbian taskforce raised over a quarter million dollars, and passed out \$5,000 to every state and territory in the District of Columbia, and said, This is what you need to put on an event. And we had states and you know, Gigi seen the email. Oh, yeah. Because, you know, she's a part of that. And he she, I said the other night, and somebody looked at me and said, Are you supposed to say that? And I looked at Gigi and Gigi said, that's fun. I said, See? This stuff, baby,

 Jimmy Carper 22:41

whatever, anyone who identifies themselves as but what we

 22:47

what we realized was, to a large extent, it's about money. And their states, like, you know, and Jay, you know, we've talked about that, you know, Jay Wilbers. Here,

 Jimmy Carper 22:56

yeah.


 23:00

It's been introduced.


 Jimmy Carper 23:02

I'm sorry,


 **Michelle** 23:03
I just kind of snuck in.


 23:07
And, you know, we we talked about, and we raus their states like North and South Carolina, you know, and they emailed me so excited that because they had already decided they were not going to be able to do any kind of event in 1999. And they got this \$5,000 for each state. And that makes the difference. Sure. Because obviously, you can put on an event, some kind of event with \$5,000. You can print stuff, you can mail stuff, you can publicize something


 **Gigi** 23:33
cheaper or get


 **Jimmy Carper** 23:34
people there. Yeah. All that good work.


 **Gigi** 23:36
Before we get too far. Let's talk a little bit about what this event is. Well,


 23:42
what what this event is, and of course, the task force is is the leading national progressive civil rights organization. It's the oldest civil rights organization for the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community in the country. Many of you know we celebrated our 25th anniversary last year. not exciting. Yeah, it is. And what what? And given this inclusive nature,


 **Jimmy Carper** 24:06
there's no one as inclusive


 24:08
as Carrie LaBelle. Isn't she wonderful? She,


 Jimmy Carper 24:10
she's everywhere at once.

 24:12
Well, and I will have to tell you, one of the most spiritual, just truly wonderful people that I think has touched my life personally, more than just about anybody I could name. It's been a wonderful experience getting to know her. I mean, she's just a wonderful person, really. And she has opened my mind and heart and soul to really, you know, kind of letting go of stereotypes and prejudices and attitudes, and just being willing to let people

 Jimmy Carper 24:41
be whoever they are. These are the kinds of leaders we need. She is

 24:45
just tremendous. I just, I can't tell you what a blessing it has been in my life to be a part of, of something that she's involved in. And we're really excited of course last year, y'all remember, you know, she we brought her to Houston? Yeah. People were getting used to So yeah, you know, so I think right Hill told me that they hadn't seen a taskforce executive director that frequently since Virginia Puzo, you remember Virginia, Virginia Puzo, in the early 80s, who was a task force executive director, who is now the highest appointee, gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender appointee of the Clinton administration. She's an assistant to the president offices in the White House, right? She has, we've come a long way, baby, we have a long way to go. But what is it, it's an event that is intended to draw a quality begins at home is going to draw people to every state capitol, because what we realized was, that's where the battle is, the battle really isn't in Washington, the battle is in Denver, and in Helena, and in Austin, and in Jackson, and in Baton Rouge, in Richmond, and all across the country. The battle is in the state capitals. And what we needed was event and also obviously, events in state capitals are so much more reasonable for your average person to be able to afford to go to

 Jimmy Carper 26:10
Sure. The State Capitol is what goes on there is going to affect you a whole lot more than what's going on in Washington. That's right.

 26:17
That's right, and the work that could be done there. So what what we've done is we've identified the 36. And we for the task force formed the Federation of statewide lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered political organizations. And we fund that and continue to facilitate that. And those 36 organizations that are a part of that are facilitating equality begins at home actions in their states. And then we've identified 14 other organizations in the other states, and

then also the District of Columbia, and the territories, and what they're doing, they're going to do rallies, they're going to do marches, they're going to work in Texas, we're going to have a youth rally. Sounds good. Well, that's so important to draw to draw in the younger generation, especially the youth, we're gonna have a march and then we're going to have a lobby day. And, and this is going on all over the country. And actually, I want to make sure that people know, and we'll mention this again, but I want to make sure that people know that part of this partnership, that the task force is as developed with these statewide groups includes a free membership to the task force. If you join the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force at the \$25 level, you will get a free membership basically in the task force. And you'll also get a membership in your statewide organization. And what they will do that the task force's has committed that we will send that \$25 down to the state all of it. So basically, we're giving away memberships in the interest of being partnering and promoting work. And that money is going to go to promote the equality begins at home actions that were you know, we'll talk about, you know, the stuff we're doing in Houston, Gigi is working on, you know, to make sure that we reach out and, and draw to other communities that perhaps have not been, have not seen Austin as accessible for them to go to, you know, folks that need help with, you know, \$15, to put them on our bus with us. Sure, that need help with a place to stay. Yeah. But the events are going to be great. It's just, it's really exciting. And you know, the synergy that comes together, like, like happens at creating County, yeah, or this bisexual conference that y'all are talking about how you bring all those people together, and the same

G

Gigi 28:39

magic happens. You can see it in their eyes, their eyes light up, they glow, it's like, and it's so empowering, because all of a sudden, we're with our own, and we need that we're doing something and we're doing something. I mean, we've got things and I want you to talk a little bit about what's coming up on the state legislators agenda. Sure. What this is really about is chant making change in our community. It's really saying, We want equal rights, we're not going to take being second class citizens anymore.

U

29:12

Well, and that's why the task force that's one of the reasons that the task force committed to this partnership with the statewide groups. Because what we wanted to see, we don't want a big party. And you know, it's real easy for us to talk to people and convince them, Hey, let's go to Austin for the weekend. And you'll spend a couple hours at this March and then you'll Party Party Party, that's not too hard to convince people to do that. The hard part is the follow up. And that's why we're getting people to join these statewide organizations. Because then there's going to be that follow up and they're going to be sending, you know, J a letter and Clarence a letter and Gigi a letter saying, Hey, we're doing we need you to write your state representative or your Senator Senator on this issue. But But isn't that great?

M

Michelle 29:56

That's what's really needed. I mean, yeah, like you say, everyone would get up and go to the mall. And then they go home and forget about it. And you really need that concerted effort



30:03

and that link, it's providing that link that that's going to continue past that March 21 or 27th. That week of actions. But you wanted to talk about the legislature? Yeah. A wonderful resource. Actually, we'll talk about it tonight. But, you know, those those of the listeners that have internet access, and if you don't, you know, go to a public library and go down to the Eleanor freed, Montrose library or any public library in your neighborhood out in spring branch, you know, wherever it is that you and, and you can go to www.in.gltf.org, which is the task force's website. And there's a fully searchable online database. Well, we we have the largest program and field organizing staff of any national organization, we actually have three times the technical assistance and training staff, I



Gigi 31:01

can tell you, this website is loaded.



31:05

Well, what you can do on there, you can go and anybody in the country can search on any state. And what we've done is we have staff and you can imagine the reason I mentioned the staff is because you can imagine how much work that is to collect information on all the favorable and unfavorable GLBT legislation. Every state Yeah. Can you imagine? Yeah, a lot of people, they said they were doing that. And I just kept thinking, what four staff members. But so you can look there. But the things that are happening in Texas, of course, we have the hate crimes legislation that y'all talked about earlier. Yeah, that is so important. And you know, I talked about on the Houston voice this week, the hate crime that occurred down in Texas City, that hasn't really been talked about a whole lot.



Gigi 31:51

But seems like there's a lot of going around everywhere, that's not getting talked about near enough. And it's so



31:57

important that we hate crime legislation to remember that the legislation in and of itself may or may not actually prevent hate crimes, you know, that I understand what people say about that. But what it's about, it's about our society, taking a stand and saying these crimes are abhorrent. This is a civilized society. And we're just not going to tolerate crimes of this nature based on hate, whether it's race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, that's,



Michelle 32:30

that's it. So whether or not mean, you know, implementation is something entirely different. But to say, we're not going to stand for this, you know, that in and of itself sends such a

powerful message.



32:41

It's the official policy of our government. That's what it has to be. Now, I



Gigi 32:44

was talking to a good friend of mine the other night, and, you know, because the same issue kind of came up between me and my father at one time, he came to me and he said, Well, I'm going to be neutral at this. And my response was, if you're being neutral, and watching others attack me, you're just passively accepting the status quo. Well, and you're actually, even though it's hard state is doing, you're promoting these crimes unless you take actions against them. But there are some things you have to you can't be?



33:18

Well, it's the old, it's the old adage of, you know, they came and got my neighbor across the street, and I did nothing they came in got the guy that lives to the west of me, and I did nothing. And they came and got the guy that lives to the east of me. And when they came to get me, nobody was left. Yeah. And we have to be willing to partner and I have to tell you all, that the organization that nationally has partnered so faithfully with our community has been the anti Defamation League. And they the Empire State pride agenda in New York, which is their big statewide group gives 100% of the credit for hate crimes legislation being passed in New York, they give that to the anti Defamation League, we owe them here. Because I will tell you in 1997, if they had not held the line, because they were being told, you know, if y'all will just take that sexual orientation clause out, we'll pass this and of course, for their constituency, the Jewish community, that would have worked, because they would have had ethnicity race in there. But they took a stand and they said, No, the right thing to do is to have this in there and we either want it all or none. That's great. Isn't that exciting to hear the good work that that the anti Defamation League and John Bernstein, the regional director here is just a pleasure to work with. He and I work real closely, you know, because the task force is, is very focused on not just working to advance the cause of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community, but also we believe we're part of a broader social justice movement. And that means partnering with whether it's the American Civil Liberties Union or The AFL CIO, you know, Linda Chavez Thompson fabulous speaker spoke at Creating Change last year. But let's just run down the legislation real fast. There's, there's a hate crimes bill that's being promoted. And there's an action alert that has gone out on a couple of different listservs. I know you know that y'all got one. And you know, if if you want to be on any of these listservs, you can, you can email me at CB ba gby@msn.com. So at CB, my first and middle initial and then Bagby ba GB wide msn.com. And we'll get you that information. We'll make sure you're on the list. And it's wonderful, you know, emails so great, because if you don't like it, you just click one little button and it's gone.



Jimmy Carper 35:46

Ah, isn't that? I love that. I you know, I've only been on for a couple of months. And I don't know

And, isn't that? I love that. I you know, I've only been on for a couple of months. And I don't know how I lived without it. Isn't it? Great? Yes, I feel I feel so much more a part of the community. And it is addictive unity here, but it makes the whole community in the whole United States world right there

 Gigi 36:06

with you. It's not only that, but people in the closet can come to the internet, you bet not crowded, okay. And that can take a lot of actions without being added outed.

 36:20

And they can start tool. That's right. It's a powerful tool to helping those folks start down that road toward feeling more comfortable with themselves and getting to the point where they're more comfortable discussing their the real part of their life, but to run down the legislation. So there's hate crimes legislation. There's the Texas employment non discrimination act. There's actually an a non discrimination in education bill, there's a and certainly there's all the AIDS advocacy that's going to go on, which is going to be critical in this session of the legislature just for different reasons that we can, we can talk about later. There's also the anti gay adoption bill

 Gigi 37:07

does not have to say a word about that

 37:09

we'll use a couple.

 Gigi 37:11

We have two bills coming up. One is to prevent gays and lesbians from adopting. And the other bill is to take children away from lesbian guys that have already adopted, and the state wants to pay \$10 million a year to take these kids out of homes and put them in foster care. And I used to work for the state. I know what foster cares

 37:35

like? Well, and you know,

 37:36

I mean, just nature at work.



37:38

And you know, Gigi, we've done the research on this,



Gigi 37:42

and spending 10 million to me, but we've,



37:45

we've done the research on this and gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered parents don't make aren't better parents, and they're not worse parents. They're just like everybody else. And there's no reason to single those folks out. When you have kids that are in orphanages that are crying out for love, and, and care. And to be brought into a home, I should think that the state would just jump at any opportunity from any good person that you know, everybody has to go through an evaluation process. Yeah, but it shouldn't matter if you're pink, purple or blue in the back kid.



Gigi 38:20

The other thing I've heard is that and I don't know where it's been years since I've had my sources, but the thing I've always heard is that, you know, it's child sexual orientation is firmly in place by age two, it doesn't matter what orientation the parents are kids gonna develop as they develop. Well, what they've shown



38:41

is they've they've done surveys of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender parents, and they find that those parents are not any more or less likely to have you know, gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender children doesn't have anything to do with it.



Michelle 38:57

But what does happen is their kids are more accepting and more tolerant of people of all people.