

[INAUDIBLE] in which US officials aid the Colombian and Peruvian militaries in identifying, tracking, and blowing out of the sky suspected drug-running planes.

RAY: Isn't that the process by which they threw up and blew down some missionaries not long ago?

DEAN: Exactly, one bullet took out a mother and a baby, out of the 150 rounds they fired at the plane. Although this is a shoot-down policy, it violates international civil aviation regulations. And it amounts to, in my opinion, extrajudicial execution of unwary pilots.

One more item I wanted to relay here. There's a report that just came out that says following September 11, the security is not stopping drugs. Drug traffickers have proven impervious to US efforts to make the nation's borders more impermeable.

According to a new report from the World Customs Organization, an international body seeking to rationalize and harmonize customs requirements, in its annual report, customs and drugs, they found that the security measures implemented in the wake of last September's attacks on New York and Washington had a negligible effect on global drug trafficking.

But hey, at least, we busted Dionne Warwick and a lipstick case at the Miami airport.

JEWEL: Right.

DEAN: I would urge your listeners if they'd like to get involved to please visit the Drug Policy Forum of Texas website. It's at dpft.org.

JEWEL: Didn't I just hear-- I was reading today on the net that England is like centimeters away from decriminalizing marijuana use.

DEAN: Well, the reports coming out of there are crisscross. You get different reports depending on who you ask. But the main thing is they have tried this experiment in Brixton, a suburb of London, and whereby they call it their softly, softly approach. In other words, they don't arrest people for personal amounts. And now they're excited, agitated over the fact that people go there to buy and sell other drugs as well.

JEWEL: All right, well, what do they think?

DEAN: What do they think? They build a focal point and then say, look here.

JEWEL: Sell marijuana in a grocery store. You won't find drug dealers standing around the--

RAY: The pharmacy.

JEWEL: Yeah, the pharmacy. And the marijuana package--

DEAN: This is so true. Kevin Zeeze, a friend of mine, says you take a seed, and you can turn it into gold. We have achieved the alchemy in this modern age.

JEWEL: Mm-hmm, yeah. Well, they're really excited over there. The report I read was talking about people who are beginning to build cafes.

DEAN: Well, this is true. There's one that's open in Stockport. It's been open since August of last year. Every day, they got busted like the first three days. But they would open the door after the cops left, and they just kept selling. And the cops have left them alone. Stockport's a very brave city in my opinion.

JEWEL: I agree.

DEAN: They have also done expeditions where members of that cannabis club would walk in mass to the police station and turn themselves in, hand over a gram of pot or hash to the police, and demand to be arrested.

RAY: Well, the desk officer certainly appreciate it.

JEWEL: Oh, for sure.

DEAN: And you're absolutely right. In the end, do you know what happened? The police locked the door.

JEWEL: They got bored with it. And that's the idea.

RAY: My kids don't need any more today. Thank you.

DEAN: This is true. But that's what it's going to take over here is bravery. It's going to take people standing up for the rights.

RAY: Well in a larger sense, Dean, it requires people putting their butt on the line and courage to do all of this. I mean, we wouldn't have a weekend off work if it weren't for some folks in the labor business deciding that we're going to put it on the line for it.

JEWEL: And they did back then.

RAY: Gay men and lesbians wouldn't have any rights if it wasn't for somebody putting their ass out there and blocking traffic and making a nuisance of themselves. The only way to effect change is to make somebody uncomfortable.

JEWEL: Yeah.

DEAN: Exactly right.

JEWEL: Nothing wrong with the--

RAY: Good to hear you.

DEAN: Well, it's certainly good to talk with you, Ray.

RAY: OK, sir.

DEAN: All right, you all have a great evening.

JEWEL: You, too.

DEAN: OK.

RAY: Bye-bye.

JEWEL: Dean, when is your-- oh.

RAY: Oh, he's gone. His program is on Friday nights after Amy Goodman.

JEWEL: It's amazing thing. Of all the programmers or everyone who comes on KPFT, you try and give him a plug for his own show, and he hung up.

[LAUGHTER]

I know some people give an arm and a leg.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

RAY: I will be more than glad to give Dean Chow a plug. And it's on Friday nights after *The Prison Show* followed by Amy Goodman in *Democracy Now!* and then our *Cultural Baggage*.

JEWEL: I listen to *Democracy Now!* for the first time the other night. I don't know why, but it was the first time I listened to it. And I was really mad at myself for not being smart enough to listen to this a lot longer.

RAY: Now, I have fans and supporters that say about her privileged shows and all this other things, but for an openly lesbian world-trotting, hardworking journalist, she's good at what she does.

JEWEL: Oh, I enjoyed the show immensely. I will be listening.

RAY: I actually went through the woods in East Texas one time. She was down there to cover the scheduled execution of a Canadian in the Texas killing machine. And at that exact same time, a guerilla escaped. And so there was like a roadblock every 100 yards.

And here I was with Dr. Dan, my hepatitis C authority, and Amy Goodman in Dan's SUV going from roadblock to roadblock. And Amy was so excited about doing the story, set her recorder out. And I said, Amy, all you're getting is the sound of the engine and the repeated conversation no, we're not hiding any death row inmates every 100 yards.

But whenever they finally found the body, which was down by the river, they had the roads blocked in ample distance. Amy went out and traipsed through the woods. Now, wait a minute. East Texas woods on a July night after rain, you know that there are snakes in that woods bigger than Amy.

And she went without a flashlight through the forest to get down to the scene where they were dragging the body out of the river. Absolutely I said you were in less danger in East Timor when they were shooting at you.

JEWEL: Really?

RAY: Then you're down there with water moccasins and rattlesnakes in beautiful, historical Walker County.

JEWEL: Walker. Well, one thing with *Democracy Now!* is you have two opportunities. You can listen to it now in KPFT. And also, you can check them out on the web and actually download the show for a couple of days after it happens.

RAY: And if you stick around long enough, they'll play it on Houston Access medium.

JEWEL: Yeah, or if you have with satellite TV, Deep Dish TV.

RAY: Speaking of not plugging your show and talking about Houston Access Media, on the 20th of this very month, I'm going to be recording *Ray Hill-- The Prison Years* over at the MediaSource. And it'll probably be premiere broadcast later in 26, 27.

JEWEL: I'll be watching for it. You can bet on it. I was telling you, I'm complaining about it. But there's just no way to know what's on unless you're in the know--

RAY: That's right.

JEWEL: --which is unfortunate, because a lot of people are missing good stuff on those channels because they don't know what's on.

RAY: Well, see my last show was *Ray Hill and the Sex Police*. So what I did was I whispered in one vice officer's ear. Don't watch this because I'm exposing the vice squad. And of course, he told the rest of the world.

[LAUGHTER]

JEWEL: Ray's going to kill.

CHRIS: Exposing a vice squad, huh? Welcome to the show. How tough is it?

RAY: Oh, that's the show with all the dildos in it.

JEWEL: Dildos? Did somebody say dildos?

RAY: Actually I'm kind of keeping it quiet, but I performed that show with a felony quantity of dildos.

JEWEL: I have that many.

RAY: Six or more and you're presumably a wholesale distributor.

JEWEL: I have more. I have that many. Well, some of them are just for show. Others are the fancy ones. And then you have the hormones.

RAY: They make nice decoration with the subtle flower arrangement and maybe some water running over stones inappropriately placed, but that makes the battery soggy.

JEWEL: Yeah, and that is a problem.

RAY: Now, they have eliminated those that you plug into the wall. All of them come with batteries now because with several gay men and single women living in an apartment complex, if you plug them in the wall, you could brown out the neighborhood.

JEWEL: Yeah.

CHRIS: Yeah, it's very--

JEWEL: And your microwave stopped working, yeah.

CHRIS: The different wattage in that. The sad part about if there is--

RAY: Three phase 220 is just about right.

JEWEL: Yeah, that would explain why at certain times of the night when I'm on the computer, my computer kind of flakes out.

RAY: Yeah, that's it.

CHRIS: That's right, the local lesbians.

RAY: Oh, honey, that is not a woman's thing.

JEWEL: Yeah.

[LAUGHTER]

CHRIS: When I mentioned that tidbit about the six dildos equal a felony to my wonderful parents, my father looked at my mother and said we're both going to jail.

[LAUGHTER]

That's not the kind of information--

RAY: But they're trying to make it-- literally they're trying to make a case right now against one of Geno Baroni's clerks for a butt case. And I met her and her companion.

JEWEL: What did she do? Go round waving all six--

RAY: No, no, an undercover vice officer, a woman, came in and said, is that all you have? And she said, oh, no, honey.

JEWEL: These are just for Saturday.

RAY: Well, you don't expose more than five in the store because you don't want them coming in with axes and knocking your balls down. So there are five in the store and the clerk was just trying to be helpful.

JEWEL: You said it right.

RAY: But the problem is that the DA doesn't want the case, clutters up the docket. And if you don't think the DA who doesn't want the-- the judge really doesn't want the case because--

JEWEL: And it is definitely a who cares case.

RAY: Yeah, absolutely.

CHRIS: Oh, but I could see that on Court TV, the dildo case. We now go to the live state of Texas versus the dildo conspiracy.

JEWEL: Sharon, what do you think of this case?

SHARON: I think I have one just like that.

RAY: Well, there's a real problem. They seized all of the butt plugs.

SHARON: I've never had a butt plug, but I love saying the words butt plugs.

RAY: Well, I mean, the fact of the matter is the law is written that says that the obscene device material must be designed and manufactured for the sole purpose-- or the primary purpose of stimulating and gratifying human genitalia.

JEWEL: And that means the butt plug doesn't fit.

RAY: No, well, in some cases, it does, Jewel. I mean, not everyone considers their butt to be genitalia. I have from empirical evidence found some people that not only do that, but do that quite well, some better than others. And so--

JEWEL: TMI, TMI, too much information.

RAY: So the deal is how do you qualify the jury. You bring out a jury panel over from the jury assembly room and you said, all you butt or whatevers, raise your hand, and then the rest of you can go back.

JEWEL: I can hear the voir dire. Have you ever used a butt plug? Do you know anyone who has ever used a butt plug? Do you have any biases against butt plugs? Can you imagine a little old schoolteacher from Pasadena getting her summons come to court and that's what she has to hear?

RAY: Well, and they come in my show.

JEWEL: I know that case.

RAY: In my show, they come in three. There's the standard butt plugs, and there's the butt plug for the anorexic, and then there's the one that is a Texas--

JEWEL: Look, with drug dealers.

RAY: I have an infection.

CHRIS: A safety tip-- never sneeze with one in place.

[LAUGHTER]

I guarantee you will shoot that sucker across the room.

JEWEL: Is that from experience?

CHRIS: Maybe.

JEWEL: Maybe.

RAY: The larger size is referred to as a room with a view.

JEWEL: Right.

[LAUGHTER]

Oh.

CHRIS: I just got a visual on that, and it wasn't good.

RAY: All right, that's not what I'm here to talk about.

JEWEL: OK, yeah, don't talk about butt plugs.

CHRIS: Oh, hold on.

RAY: We have some butt plug information.

RUSSELL: Somebody just called in asking if you knew that the Supreme Court in Arkansas just ruled out sodomy.

RAY: Absolutely, and I've been following that--

RUSSELL: Leaving five states.

RAY: I've been following that case for years because the cases in-- amazingly how close these cases are, Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Kansas.

RUSSELL: Utah.

RAY: And Utah are all that are left.

RUSSELL: Minus Arkansas. That's where they got rid off it.

RAY: And Arkansas just fell off the map. And so I remember--

JEWEL: It's just meanness. That's the only reason they're keeping it on.

RAY: I remember in 1968 when Illinois was the first to decriminalize homosexual behavior.

JEWEL: So I guess that means now, it is sodomy, not homosexual conduct.

RAY: Well, I mean, since Texas homosexual conduct law, Arkansas sodomy statute had been thrown out in previous years. And then they reinstated homosexual conduct law. So we're going to get you one way or the other kind of thing.

RUSSELL: I was just trying to make sure the president--

RAY: Yeah.

JEWEL: So straight man can do this, but you can't.

RAY: Now, it's still a sodomy statute in Utah, and it's still a sodomy statute in Oklahoma. But it had been a homosexual conduct statute in Arkansas and is still bad in Texas, still a sodomy statute in Louisiana. Louisiana has been through the court system, but it's still out there dangling somewhere, going into the federal court system.

JEWEL: There's no excuse. It's just pure meanness.

RAY: Absolutely.

JEWEL: That's all it is. It's absolutely stubborn meanness.

RAY: It's voyeurism. They want to peek in my bedroom again.

SHARON: Well, again, let's see. Let's do it this way.

JEWEL: If they peeked in my bedroom, they sure wouldn't see anything. I mean, Jesus.

CHRIS: Well, let's see. Before we started talking about sodomy, we're talking about butt plugs.

RAY: Yeah, and butt plugs.

CHRIS: So now we're going to go on to another pain in the ass. This is the *After Hours* news and views magazine segment.

JEWEL: Whew!

CHRIS: And we're going to be--

JEWEL: Good, because I got to go tinkle.

[LAUGHTER]

CHRIS: Jewel takes a break. Thank God we don't have her on one of those cordless mics that she could take with her. It feels like *The Howard Stern Show*. We're going to be taking a look back now at the Anita Bryant. I got to start remembering. I was screwing up the thing with Anita Hill earlier and--

RAY: No, that's a different Anita.

CHRIS: Yeah, and it's a different kind of story, different kind of problems, but Anita Bryant and kind of the birth of Houston activism. I believe is what you're saying is--

RAY: Pie in the face.

CHRIS: Or it was the--

RAY: Well, actually Houston organizing gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered, organizing a folks of similar ilk that banded together to protect one another against police abuse actually started in the late '60s. Some of us were involved in the Promethean society, which was the first organization for that purpose.

And then along came, like, '69, and there was Stonewall, and the nation began a movement. And then five years after that, Anita Bryant began a countermovement after activist in Miami, Florida, convinced city council to pass an ordinance guaranteeing non-discrimination. And so initially, her movement was called Save Our Children.

And it was a movement launched in Dade County, Florida, which is in Greater Miami area. And they fought the beginnings of gay and lesbian rights movement down there. And she did that with great success by causing a referendum and then raising enormous amounts of money and beating a fledgling gay and lesbian, transgendered, and bi community with large bags of political money.

And after that, in 1977, she came to Houston. In 1975, we had founded Houston Gay Political Caucus, which is now the inclusive Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus. And we had begun doing things in '76 for Pride Week of March downtown kind of thing. And so we had some things going in here.

And it all began when a *Houston Post* columnist-- I think a recent article I read called her reporter, but she was a columnist by the name of Jane Ely-- got wind that Anita was coming in town from some lawyers who didn't want to be exposed. So Jane went out on a limb and wrote an article. And so we actually had about two weeks advanced notice of Anita coming into town.

Well, nobody quarrels like small powerless groups, and that's not any different for gay people than it is for churches. And so we got together and laid down our arms because there was the Gary van Ooteghem faction and the Ray Hill faction, and the church's faction versus the secular faction, and the student faction versus.

And so we all laid down their factional differences and went to work on putting together a demonstration about Anita. And all of us played a role. I brought to the table organizing experience from the anti-war years. Everybody brought to the table their determination to have to be sure that this woman did not come into the city and leave quietly. We were going to do something.

And so my job was security and making the negotiations and arrangements with the police department. We couldn't get a parade permit. We had to use sidewalks. It was the initial thing. And so I acquiesced. I said, well, we're going to have 300 or 400 people out there.

And the police chief-- I mean, not the police chief. The assistant chief in charge of the operation was Papi Bond. And he said no, Raymond, I don't think you can get 200 or 300 people out to anything. And Houston people just don't go to demonstrations in Houston. It is not what's going to happen. And I said, well, I'm kind of optimistic. And you may be right, but at any rate, let's plan 200, 300. And so we signed off on all that.

And Gary van Ooteghem, who was then president of the caucus, and that whole faction community decided they were going to staff the podium. And they did that rather well actually. They invited Troy Perry over from the MCC Fellowship headquarters in Los Angeles. They invited Ginny Apuzzo down from New York. They had one of the actresses on *All in the Family* come in. And they had--

JEWEL: Liz Torres.

RAY: Yeah, and they had David Goodstein, who is the publisher of *The Advocate*. So they brought in a rather prestigious podium staff for the occasion. And everybody was up to game except David who said, I don't do marches. I'll go along beside the march in my limousine. And so David Goodstein didn't march with us, but he rode along next to Troy.

And the deal was we were going to march down the sidewalks on either side of Louisiana Street and either side of Smith Street from numbers-- numbers? No, Depository II, which had been an old Earthman Funeral Home on McGowen Street right around the corner from where the Brazos--

JEWEL: River Bottom.

RAY: --River Bottom is. And we were going to march from that parking lot down those streets to Downtown Houston and then pass on either side of the Hyatt and then rally and have speeches in the library plaza, that piece of land between the old library and the-- I call it new library, but I don't think there's anybody listening that remembers when that was not a library next to city hall downtown. It's a wonderful space.

And that was the whole idea of doing it was to go down there. And we discussed it. Gary said, I think we're going to be the thousand people. I mean, this was the day before the event. He said, we put out a flyer that had an open closet door with a bunch of loose hangers hanging inside [INAUDIBLE]. Come out of the closet for one night and you may never go back in.

I remember a very strong image. Dennis Dunwoody did the actual design on that. Yeah, Dennis did the design on that. We had it all over every other movement because we had all these wonderful designers. The question is not, is the advertising department gay? The question is, is the advertising department gay enough?

JEWEL: Yeah. well, see, that's what the religious right needs. Rather than those pictogram signs going out to the Pride Parade, they need to have us design some of those.

RAY: Some of those signs are older than I am and show it. I started to chant when we passed. (SINGING) Our choir couldn't beat your choir.

JEWEL: They're professionals. They're getting paid to stand out there. They're not doing it because they're passionate about their cause.

RAY: But our choir can beat their choir.

JEWEL: Definitely, definitely.

SHARON: Our band can beat their band.

RAY: You're right. You take the lesbians and the gay men out of the Second Baptist Church choir to go flat. But at any rate, I realized that it was going to be more successful. When about 15 minutes ahead of step-off time, I looked around.

And we had 500 or 600 people in that parking lot. And then I looked at it, and there was a traffic jam of cars going around to seeing, is this crowd actually going to be big enough for me to be in it without being exposed to my parents on television?

JEWEL: I had a friend who wore a bag over her head with holes cut out of it.

RAY: Mm-hmm, and then by the time we kicked off, there were 5,000 people there. I don't know where these people parked. I mean, there's not a lot of parking in that area.

JEWEL: Yeah, still is it?

RAY: And we occupied the largest parking lot in the vicinity. Ric Specht was still alive at that time, and Specht opened up his parking lot for free parking for the event and provided the wine at the cocktails after the rally party. Specht was always good about that.

And so we marched, stepped off on time, I believe, in marches and parades starting on time. And we went two blocks over to Louisiana Street and then went down Smith Street and Louisiana Street on our plodding way to the area where we're to rally.

Now, Troy, who knows more about this than most folks, was stepping one foot just barely in front of the other. I mean, he was really-- Pippi's limousine-- the brake lights were on. Idle was too fast for Troy. And so-- excuse me, David Goodstein. Did I say Pippi again? Oh, those Freudian slips or maybe it's David slips. I don't know.

But at any rate, the limousine was just creeping along. And a young officer was assigned to be next to me. Since I was in charge of security, I had a dozen monitors to handle this enormous crowd. And so the walkie-talkie crackled. And the young officer talked to Captain Bond and said, Mr. Hill, the captain wants to talk to you. And so I said, all right.

And captain handed me the walkie-talkie, and I said, captain, what can I do for you? And he said, take the GD Street. And I said, well, which one? About the mother-- whatevers. And so I sent word by my monitors to tell the people on the sidewalk to take the street, and we took both streets.

Now, the way they had blocked it out-- the speakers were at the head of the columns. And so they all went down and went around. Some people marched around the Hyatt Regency several times, one of those Jericho things, screaming and yelling. And then we got there not by plan, but by total accident, just as Anita was introduced and came up to sing.

And they couldn't hear her sing because this was happening. And you have the Hyatt just made this big triangular space, the atrium thing. And she's up on the stage in that space trying to sing and our cancer echoing through there.

And then somebody will open a door, and it'll flood in like flounder, and so we interrupted all that. At least two dozen lawyers got up and walked out in protest, but nobody noticed because the real show wasn't on the floor. The real show was out from where we were.

And so I'm the security guy, so I'm at the back of the parade to make sure that's all right. And so I understand that the speakers got there. And I looked out, and the space was full of people. So they started speaking and they gave their speeches da, da, da, da. And then they run over and jumped in Pippi Goldstein's-- David Goldstein's limousine.

And they went off somewhere for cocktails. You know Republicans are. And they went for cocktails because-- well, I mean, Specht had provided the wines, so they were gone. And so I got there a good 20 minutes later. And the space was more than I thought. We occupied the space.

We spilled over there, had been maybe 25 or 30 counter-demonstrators over on city hall grounds. And whenever they saw this flood of people coming down the street, they packed whatever they had to pack and left. And we had them outnumbered.

CHRIS: I have to let you know, you are listening to *After Hours*, Queer Radio With Attitude on KPFT Houston. And we just lost KEOS College Station. If you're still getting us and you want to hear us on the web, we are at www.kpft.org.

We did have a call in earlier from closet station. She wanted to let us know that they were out there. And she didn't want to give her name, but it's good to know that we still have the listeners out there in College Station.

JEWEL: We know you're there.

CHRIS: This is the *After Hours* news and views magazine segment. We're talking with Ray Hill. And Jewel is here as well and Russell, Bobby, Jimmy. I'm Chris. And we're taking a look back at the 25th anniversary of the Anita Bryant protest when she came to address-- was it the National or State--

RAY: State Bar Association. The State Bar Association was having their meeting down here, and they had invited her on purpose.

JEWEL: Right.

RAY: I mean, queers were getting a little bit too uppity in Houston and in Dallas and other major cities. And they invited Anita Bryant to shoot around across [INAUDIBLE].

JEWEL: They gambled. They thought that this would quiet things down around here, and it did just the opposite.

RAY: And it wouldn't have happened if Jane Ely hadn't had that sharp pencil because if you don't have two weeks to organize this, it'll be a handful of demonstrators show up. But in two weeks, we were able to use gay, lesbian media. Of course, the show on KPFT at the time was the *WildeNStein* show.

JEWEL: Yeah.

RAY: And I knew how to use that sucker. And so we drummed up quite a crowd. The importance of it is somebody called it the Houston Stonewall. Well, I don't think the Anita rally and march and rally equates to a rebellion.

JEWEL: Uh-uh.

RAY: I mean, it's different people. But then the numbers are all different. This was 1976 and 1977. And in 1969, they had a real rebellion in New York called the Stonewall Rebellion. If you're not familiar with that history, it's in a lot of books. Read about it because it's an important turning point in their movement.

But only about 200 people participated in the Stonewall Rebellion. It was so different and so unique that only a handful of people were actually involved. Now, in 1994, we had the 25th anniversary of Stonewall, and so they invited Stonewall veterans to come to a party. And 2,500 people showed up, many of whom weren't born.

JEWEL: I was there. I was there. Did I say I was there, Ray? I was there.

RAY: So I mean, that can happen in incident, but the Anita rally-- well, for years, I said-- Gary and I quarreled. Gary van Ooteghem, wonderful leader, and I quarreled over the numbers. Gary insisted there were 12,000 people there, and I insisted that there were between 6,000 and 8,000 people there. And I'm pretty good at estimating numbers.

And I used to laugh at Gary and say, well, if you outlive me, there'll be 12,000. And if I outlive you, there will have been 8,000. But when he died, I acquiesced to his number. So the official number at the Anita March was 12,000.

SHARON: You're talking about--

RAY: 12,000. No, this was massive.

JEWEL: OK, I thought I read it incorrectly--

CHRIS: It was completely unexpected. No one expected that.

RAY: Nobody, no, no.

CHRIS: Not the people who win.

RAY: No.

CHRIS: You talked about it not being a rebellion. I saw it more as a birth.

RAY: Yeah.

CHRIS: It was really when Houston gay people looked around and realized that they were a community. They were enough here to make a community, and they were.

RAY: Well, we changed that night the definition of community. Prior to that night, the word "gay community" meant the part of town where the bars were.

JEWEL: Right, the bars.

RAY: And that had been moving around. People don't know that prior to Montrose being the home turf of the gay community, gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered. Actually we were on Alameda. There were some downtown bars.

But the strip along Alameda from the Pine Lounge, which was at the Holman Street down to Ken Ray's Red Devil, which was the block beyond Southmore, had about six bars. And so the gay community would've been my pub as a teenager. The gay community was where those bars and then that moved over to Montrose.

It's a very fascinating history. But the thing about crowds-- and I've been dealing with crowds. My stock and trade is confrontational politics and demonstration, and all that. And you see 500 people. 500 people will attract more than 10 times that many people simply by the inertia, the gravity.

JEWEL: What's going on? What's going on?

RAY: What's going on.

JEWEL: I want to be part of it.

RAY: And the crowd is then large enough to make everybody in it feels safe. So we went down to the rally site as individuals, angry, determined, a feeling safe for the first time, but we came back community.

There are a couple of things that I recall. By the time I got down there, the largest crowd had assembled. And with people coming into the area, there was no way for people to come out of the area, so it was blocked. We were going to go back on the same streets that we'd gone down. And you couldn't go back to your car because people were coming down and the space was occupied.

So I bound up, and they'd already torn down the sound system and all that and left for cocktails. And I bound up on that little rise there. And I don't know if many of your listeners understand that I really don't need a lot of sound system. I have a voice that I can hurl.

JEWEL: It resonates, for sure.

RAY: And that space between the old library and the new library with all of that if you've got training as a Baptist preacher and you know how to use echo as an amplification system, it's a wonderful space. And so I got up there and I gave the best 3 and 1/2 minute speech of my life. I mean, because the crowd was with me, they quieted down as I begun speaking. Then they got quieter, so they could hear it.

And it was just a huge rise to the occasion because you're operating on pure adrenaline. And then I jumped off the podium. And there was a young John Matthews, the old curmudgeon that does the morning talk show.

JEWEL: He writes for the Neville paper-- not Neville, the Rosenberg paper.

RAY: Yeah, and he was standing there. He was the news director of a little radio station out on Fannin Street. And he had a microphone, and he said, Raymond, Raymond it's NBC National Hookup live. Well, honey, you don't give me a microphone that you can't edit. I know how to do that. I mean, I've been around a while.

And so I've got NBC National News Hookup live because this is all of a sudden, a big national event. And I proceeded after giving the best three-minute speech of my life, the best 40-second speech in my life. And I asked people all over the country. I said, it looks to me like these are normal people that look a lot like you do. And they just want the same rights everybody else wants and right you already enjoy.

And you can help. They make very good orange juice in California. And I think perhaps the sweetest orange juice comes from Texas, but if you want to help, just don't drink Florida orange juice because Anita Bryant was the spokesperson for the Florida orange juice industry. They were doing all the advertising.

Well, apparently, folks took that to heart. Three or four weeks later, the news said Florida orange juice had fired Anita Bryant because their sales were dropping precipitously. People on airplanes flying coast- to-coast were saying where does this orange juice come from?

And so I went up Wall Drive. And their own wall drive just beyond I-10 is the Texan orange juice company Tropicana Texan, which is where they can and bottle Texas orange juice. And there was a line of stainless steel tanks trucks lined up there unloading product with Florida license tags. And I said, I'm going to expose them. Then I got to think about it. When you won, you don't really have to expose anything.

JEWEL: Mm-hmm, yeah, the point had been made.

RAY: The point had been well made.

JEWEL: Yeah, and I always say that's our only real power is economic.

RAY: Absolutely.

JEWEL: Our only real power is economic.

RAY: There for a while, we had our political act together here in Houston. From '75 to '85, we just got through doing a piece on that and about that and the '85 referendum kind of like the wind out of our sails. But on our way back from the rally site, I looked over to the right. I was feeling like everybody else real good. I was seeing lesbian couples holding hands and gay couples kissing.

I mean, it was like the world was ours, and we didn't give a tinker's damn what anybody thought. And I looked over on my right. And there was a pair of blue painted legs, short legs and a couple of class pants and then a bunch of flowers, long-stemmed flowers covering the upper body torso in the face because the gay florist had brought flowers.

They thought that it was too awkward to try to march with candles, although somebody brought candles. So they brought out flowers, so everybody had flowers. And there was this blue legs with this crunch, and that parted the flowers. And there was a young Black female police officer back there with this big grin on her face.

And I said, officer, you're having a good time. And she looked up and tears was rolling down one side of her cheek. And she said, oh, yes, sir, I'm having a wonderful time. And that police officer stood instead for all of us. We had a wonderful time that night. And the flier was prophetic. People came out of the closet and never went back.

One more point-- there's a friend of mine, John Nechman, who is a junior past president of the Stonewall Lawyers Association. He was 12 years old. And he and his parents-- he's an Amerasian descent. And he and his parents were coming back from dinner somewhere.

And he was listening to this on the radio because they interrupted all of the broadcasts. This was the big story that night. It was continuous coverage on KTRH and KPRC and KIKK.

JEWEL: In trying Anita.

RAY: Yeah, was a big story, and everybody was covering it. And his parents quickly changed the radio station. And as soon as he got home, he ran into his room and found the radio station. And he said that it was the most liberating experience he as a young gay man, not yet out or practicing or even-- but he knew it was there, and he needed us when we were there for him. So it's enormously important that we are able to role model for one another.

CHRIS: Now, does the Houston Public Library still have the Anita Bryant?

RAY: It'll be up-- well, it was supposed to be up until the end of the month, so I don't know. They're never in any big hurry to change that. On the third floor, there are three display cabinets, but there are ample photographs because it became quite a crowd attraction for Houston Public Library, which goes to show you that even their old establishment institutions are making available of our history.

And well, they should because the space-- when you go to the downtown main library branch, the new-looking building, as opposed to the old-looking building, go up to the third floor. And as you get on top of the stairs, look in the display cases there by the escalator.

CHRIS: And also if you want to find out some more on this topic, you can check out *onOutSmart Magazine*'s website. There's an article about this last month. And read up on the history of it because it's one of these things we always talk about in our community, the younger generation, which I guess I'm still allegedly considered a part of. I wasn't there for Stonewall. I wasn't even a twinkle in my parents' eyes at that time.

RAY: And that qualifies you to be a veteran at the next reunion.

RUSSELL: I have only one.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, shut up.

JEWEL: Can I ask just a second? I was looking at *OutSmart* tonight, and I was still looking at this magazine. I've really taken this magazine for granted. I was going through this magazine. This is an excellent magazine. It's well put together. It's slick. There's a balance of ads and information and articles. And what I really like about this particular *OutSmart*--

CHRIS: Now, it is the June 2000--

JEWEL: --is it's Pride pics. Yeah, the Pride Week. It's the Pride pics. They have pictures of people here, 50, 60 people in the magazine, just small pictures and little bios. And I was especially-- I really liked those. That was really cool. And that was the *OutSmart* you were looking at when you were--

CHRIS: Sure.

JEWEL: Yeah, can I read the stuff?

RAY: Yeah, you can read my handy comments, a lot of stuff you've already heard.

JEWEL: But this is actually a very well-done magazine. It's not just a bar rag. This has gone way beyond that.

RAY: Well, I think people are reading it. And people are always complaining that young people do not know what we went through to get to where we are.

JEWEL: Oh yeah, I'm always complaining that young people don't know what we went through. I'm always complaining.

CHRIS: We had a younger person stopping by, came in with some of the Hatch people and a couple of weeks or actually about a month before the Pride events, asked what Stonewall was. And in fact, one of my roommates didn't know the story behind Stonewall.

RAY: Sure.

CHRIS: And rather than going through this story, I did the clip note version. I went out and rented the movie *Stonewall*, which takes some liberties, but basically it's--

RAY: Yeah, well, it's pretty good. I watched it all.

JEWEL: I thought it was pretty good too.

RAY: I've been talking about Stonewall since Stonewall.

JEWEL: Is it the spirit of Stonewall? Not exactly.

CHRIS: Yeah.

RAY: If you want to catch it, there's a play called *Street Theater*, which really captured it. I mean, it's got all the nuances, all of the anxieties that was going on, the undercover-- I surprised people sometimes when I said, do you know what the demands were in the Stonewall Rebellion? There were formal demands.

CHRIS: Mm, OK, I did not--

JEWEL: What did the police want?

RAY: No, there were four-- well, they wanted out actually.

JEWEL: Yeah, they wanted out. What did they want?

RAY: That one was simple.

JEWEL: Please, let us out. Yes.

RAY: And that was simple, but what did the spokesperson for the Stonewall Rebellion want? Here are the demands, number 1, they wanted the Stonewall Inn repaired and reopened and licensed. It had not had a license prior to the rebellion.

Number 2, they wanted a specific transgendered person hired in housing subsidy office. She had helped a lot of gay men and lesbians get housing subsidies, so they had shelter. And she got fired for being gay and transgendered. And they wanted her rehired. And they wanted no discrimination in housing subsidy department.

They wanted undercover police officers, plainclothes police officers to stop doing undercover stings in the men's rooms in the subways. They said, you can patrol that with uniformed officers, but no undercover officers because they seduce people into getting arrested.