

JEWEL: But I would not have picked that as my major thrust. But I see the people who did pick that as their major thrust as people who thought that this would be a national issue we could get local compromises with. If we can beat the military, the system-- the government that is-- The biggest legal force in our country is the military and the justice system. If we could beat it there, then we'd have to be able to beat it locally in our towns, our states, and our districts.

HOST 2: Well, I mean I think that would have been rethought if the queer movement wasn't so white and if the activists who are involved did not think that only white people had the answers. Because had you talked to Black queer activists like myself, we could have pointed out to you that when Black people were allowed in the military, nothing changed, except that, of course, we could go--

JEWEL: Oh, God. There was such a fever about that when it happened. See, most of the people who are active in our community now don't have any recall of that. We were too young. But if you look into it, there was such a fever about that. It was so ugly, and even the people who accepted that idea and made the changes, there were still-- people were murdered and beaten and brutalized, even after they were accepted in the service, because of their color.

And it was not an easy thing even after they said it was OK. It was such an ugly event in our history. One of the major events in that particular part of our history happened right here in Houston-- the riot at the--

HOST 2: Camp Logan?

JEWEL: Camp Logan, that's right. And that was right after they started admitting Blacks into the service. And that was a white-organized deliberate attempt to shade and to miscolor that particular issue, to make it appear that the Blacks had rioted when it really was not. What it was simple self-defense. And that was a major thing right here in Houston. If you don't know your own Texas history, I would suggest looking it up.

The world did not come to an end because we accepted Blacks in the military, I agree with you. Nobody should be in, but the world did not come to an end and it would not come to an end if they started allowing openly gay people. But what about the NAACP and the other Black groups that were fussing that this is not-- there's no way that this is similar-- our civil rights struggle and the Black civil rights struggle?

HOST 2: It wasn't all the groups who were saying that it's not the same.

JEWEL: NAACP said it was OK. They agreed with us.

HOST 2: I will tell you that it's not the same because it's not the same. And all those white queer activists who are running around claiming, but it's just like with Black people in the military, are completely and totally clueless. It is not the same. I mean, there are similarities but--

JEWEL: Some basic similarity is the world will not stop when these people are allowed, any people are allowed to participate in a larger venue like the military or to adopt children or to have same-sex marriages. The world will not come to an end, and it did not come to an end when other things changed in our history, and it will not come to an end in the future.

HOST 2: No, it won't.

JEWEL: Nope. But I agree with you. And I've told people that very thing-- it is not the same. It is different that a Black man carries his badge on his skin, and that we carry ours inside and we have to literally speak it out for people to know it. And that we can disappear in the crowd, so to speak, where a Black man cannot or Black woman cannot. That is something they carry with them. And that this that we carry with us is an internal thing, it is a behavior rather than a skin color. And that's where the difference is.

But what I was asking you about, is I saw an article the other day that Coretta King wrote-- Actually, her son wrote it for her-- little ghostwriting. But she was comparing the struggle. Not the issues, but the struggle-- Uh-oh. It is my watch. Turn my alarm off. --But the struggle of the Black civil rights movement and the difficulties, and the same things are being said about the queer civil rights movement, that oh, if we let this happen, this is going to happen and that is going to happen. And she said that's not the case.

But I've heard other Black groups, mostly very religious Black groups, who are saying, hey, don't compare this. And the guy in the military who did his little speech, Colin Powell, and a couple of the other big Black generals, who say, uh-uh, this is not the same. It is not the same. Well, I think the fact is that they're wearing these birds on their shoulders-- can tell you that their testimonial is tainted. They are definitely government cronies, Colin Powell.

HOST 2: And they're homophobes. I mean, no one's ever said just because you're Black doesn't mean you can't be bigoted. I mean, and there is kind of a-- I mean I guess in terms of civil rights in America, the Black Civil Rights Movement is kind of the moral leader. And of course, we're considered to be completely and totally immoral. And they just don't want to be tainted with being associated with people like us.

It's also this mentality where it's like if queers are going to get more civil rights or attain the civil rights or be granted them or whatever, then that's going to mean less for Black people. I mean because one thing that progressive groups have failed to do is to reconceive the very notion of civil rights. It's always looked at as this kind of pie kind of thing, and that some groups want a bigger piece of the pie, but they seem to think that that bigger piece of the pie will have to come at the expense of another group.

JEWEL: Yeah, we need a break.

HOST 2: OK, this is KPFT, Houston. That was legal. Wasn't it?

JEWEL: Mm-hmm.

HOST 2: OK, yeah, that was legal. And we're going to play a song now. Let's see. Let's see if it works.

JEWEL: Magic.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

HOST 2: Only on late nights. KPFT, Houston.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

HOST 2: OK, we're back. And we're still in marathon, we're still--

JEWEL: We're still begging for money.

JIMMY: Oh, that was attractive. Yes, the calls are not coming through the way we expect them to. So we've got to get on here and try to get across to you the importance of calling in and making a pledge to *After Hours* and KPFT.

I know we mentioned last time that we'll take your credit card, but that's only one method of payment. We'll take cash, we'll take check, we'll take-- We work out monthly payment plans. We've got a gentleman who pledges so much per month, and every month, drops off a check. Jump in here, Jewel, any time.

JEWEL: Yes, OK. Well, I guess I can only say what I said earlier. We do a lot of different programming here. And if you're listening right now, you find value in KPFT. And that's what we're wanting to do-- talk to you who listening right now, no matter where you're at. If you're 16, we think that that's old enough to appreciate that you can send us your little \$0.75 a week kind of thing.

And if you can't, like I told you last year, get your mom and dad to write us a check. Tell them KPFT is out there for them too. And you get them to write a check.

JIMMY: You don't have to tell them you're going to do it for the gay and lesbian program.

JEWEL: But encourage that. Encourage your parents, your friends, your neighbors, anybody who you-- I mean you're listening and you have a real important part of this program and any program here. You can tell your friends-- and we encourage you to tell your friends-- to listen to us. Don't sit there and listen to us in the dark. That's what we've been doing too long. Get out there and spread the word-- After Hours is here for you and friends of yours and people like you.

And that's why we want to stay and that's why we sound so desperate when we talk to you about money, because without that money, we cannot be here. A lot of people say the government supports us. Well, they give us like-- What did they say? --about 3% of our budget here. That's not enough.

JIMMY: Yeah, an incredibly small amount.

JEWEL: That's not enough. We really need you and we need you now. There are people here now willing to talk to you. And like I said earlier, they'll only flirt with you a little bit, maybe.

JIMMY: Well.

JEWEL: Maybe tickle your fancy, maybe a little marathon thing on the phones out there. And they'll talk to you now. And we'll take your credit card, we'll talk to you about working out a payment plan. When you do this, you'll feel so good about participating.

JIMMY: That's it.

JEWEL: You will really feel good about participating. And I can't--

JIMMY: Because you'll be a member of the KPFT family.

JEWEL: Not just KPFT, but you, those who are listening right now, will be a member of our family here at *After Hours* because that will support us. And that's what a family does-- they keep supporting you and they--

JIMMY: Jewel, it also sends a message to management that this show is wanted by the community.

JEWEL: This show is wanted. And that's very important message to send to *After Hours*, I mean, to the station. I wish I had that paper that describes the-- We'll have to dig that out later, and I'll talk to you about it later. --Describes the purpose of KPFT and stations like this. To spread the word about the diversity in our world. Not just gay and lesbian, but all kinds of diverse people come here and do this thing.

But we want you to know that we know you're out there listening, we know that there are probably about 250,000 people listening at any one time. And out of that 250,000 people, probably half of those people are gay and lesbian people. There are others out there who are sitting home. We've had a straight couple who've called us from their bed with their mobile phone.

JIMMY: That was great.

JEWEL: And talked to us about listening to our show and being excited about our show. We're talking to you, those people that are listening and find value in what we're doing. You don't have to agree with everything. We're not asking for you to agree with everything.

JIMMY: Oh, gosh. No one could.

JEWEL: We don't agree, amongst ourselves, about everything. But what we're asking you to do is-- We agree about one thing, that KPFT and this program and the other programs are valuable parts of our everyday lives. And we don't want to lose those because Joe Guy out there forgot to mail in his pledge after he called in and pledged it. We want to make sure that you can--

We made it easy. You can call in and use your MasterCard Visa or American Express. And there's someone to answer the phone. We'll send you your premium--

JIMMY: Oh, it's real easy too. It takes about a minute.

JEWEL: It's very easy. Yeah, about a minute. And it's exciting to be part of it. I'm excited to be part of this program. And although it doesn't sound like it tonight, I know Michael is. And I think Michael's a-- I'm not feeling-- He's a little under the weather still. Aren't you? Just a little under the weather. Go ahead, say yes.

MICHAEL: Yes.

JIMMY: OK, thank you, Michael.

JEWEL: But we made it so easy so that we could connect with those people out there, late night, who are a little drowsy, getting home from the bar, maybe a little tipsy. Credit card number and 2 seconds of your time, and we can get it done.

JIMMY: And what's that number?

JEWEL: And you'll be a member. It's 5265738.

JIMMY: Jam.

JEWEL: And we're waiting for your call now. Gonna go take a few calls.

JIMMY: KPFT.

HOST 2: That was-- What was it, Jimmy? Bryan Ferry?

JIMMY: Bryan Ferry, "Will You Love Me Tomorrow?" And I want to thank you for that because I do like Bryan Ferry. Even though he's straight, he's just transcends-- Yeah. He just transcends it all. He's just cool and has been cool for 30 years.

HOST 2: 30 years?

JIMMY: Yeah. He ain't no young spring chicken.

HOST 2: No, he ain't.

JIMMY: And just an aside here, for Sue in Fort Bend, we're going to do some Melissa Etheridge during the QMZ coming up in-- I don't know, whenever.

HOST 1: Yes.

HOST 2: Oh, that's true. It is coming up.

HOST 1: Yes.

HOST 2: So would you like to do it now?

JIMMY: No, no, no.

HOST 2: Well, I mean because we didn't have anything planned.

JIMMY: You're just kind of hanging out, being cool.

HOST 2: Well, not being cool, just kind of hanging out.

JIMMY: Well, we can do that.

HOST 2: OK, well why don't we play this song to give you a chance to get your stuff together?

JIMMY: Oh, great.

HOST 2: OK. Let's see.

JIMMY: What is it?

HOST 2: It's a Pet Shop Boys. "Different Point Of View."

[MUSIC PLAYING]

JIMMY: Hi, it's Jimmy with QMZ, The Queer Music Zone, heard almost every week right here on *After Hours*, a continuing tradition on KPFT, Houston, 90.1 FM. I say every week because well, that one week in Christmas, and I'm not going to be here next week. I'm going on vacation.

MICHAEL: Where to?

JIMMY: Once again, Michael.

MICHAEL: Where to? I'm going--

JIMMY: Well, Stanley's taking me to Hawaii for my birthday.

MICHAEL: Are you planning on getting married?

JIMMY: Huh?

MICHAEL: Well, it's almost legal now in Hawaii to get married.

JIMMY: That's right, isn't it?

MICHAEL: Yeah.

JIMMY: Well, let's see. I wonder if I could drag Stanley down the aisle. We've been together 15 years. What do you think?

MICHAEL: You don't have to tell them what you're doing. Just make it a surprise.

JIMMY: After 15 years, honey, we ain't doing anything.

MICHAEL: I think it's safe to say Stanley ain't in town.

JIMMY: Actually, he is but he goes to bed early.

MICHAEL: OK.

JIMMY: Back to QMZ, yes indeedy. I wanted to do like the hits of '93 but realized it was going to take more than one show. So I'm just going to have to hit a few of the highlights. And yes, Sue, I'm going to do Melissa Etheridge. How could I-- I mean, so much happened. So many mainstream stars came out of the closet. We had the march on Washington. New groups like Pansy Division doing great punk music, even came to town.

I don't know where to start, except that I guess it's going to have to be-- It's going to have to be Elton John because he came out with an album this year that had a great song on it, called the "Last Song". And he made the remark that as of right now, as of 1993, all profits from his singles were going to go to AIDS charities, that it was time for him to put back. And he has instituted the Elton John Foundation, and it's starting to do some really good things. So if you'll remember, back in 1993, this song.

[MUSIC PLAYING]