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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

gay, people, love, life, lesbian, call, young, smile, feelings, homosexuality, women, gay community, teenagers, houston, hear, knowing, telling, talk, illegal acts, read

SPEAKERS

Harvey Milk, Jimmy Carper

00:06

I'm not editing after

00:08

we end this conversation no

00:13

there's one more thing you better understand I have taught myself to so cook fix plumbing build furniture I can even pat myself on the back when necessary. Also I don't have to ask anyone for anything there's nothing I need from anyone except for love and respect and anyone who can't give me those two things has no place in my life

00:39

my mother love you i do but if you can't respect me You've got no business being here

01:06

hi everybody this is Frankie Avalon and this is a Netflix cello.

01:55

Right



Harvey Milk 02:09

we must destroy the myth once in broad shadow we must continue to speak out and most importantly most importantly every gay person must come out



02:25

happened tell your immediate family



Harvey Milk 02:30

your people your work your mess other people's



02:47

life as



Harvey Milk 02:58

children and we are indeed everywhere every lie every innuendo will be destroyed once in class you are filled



03:19

with would get to the promised land



03:34

I've seen on the coming of the law



Harvey Milk 04:16

come on out. Join singer brands. What do you think about the turnout? Rally? Never enough



04:23

never enough. I'm here tonight to say some good things about texting. I'm proud to be I know that. I could not have heard Harvey Milk sounds to me and not something in my life in this state. Apparently to hear the word freedom that Harvey's slogan to us. I am here tonight because it is time for all of us who love this state that gave us life and nurtured us and taught us our values. Stand up and claim



05:03

for freedom and justice and human respect away from the forces of narrow mindedness and bigotry that too often dominates politics in the state of Texas



Harvey Milk 05:22

right now



05:22

going back I think that's Robin Tyler on the stage leading the love of her life we're not going back to the Washington DC



05:54

area



06:01

want you to savor this next moment Tascam telling you that the official count of the out lesbian and gay rights march the official count is all.



06:42

Strong



06:59

we parents wants to persuade society that our gay children are not acting out of defiance or self indulgence. They're being true to their own nature. Our children are fine men and women. And we say to society, the parents and friends of lesbians and gay men will support their children



07:37

may I remind you that love is against the law that love as we know it is a criminal activity. That lovemaking involves illegal acts. We are here because we have committed them and we enjoy them enormously.



08:11

We are an army of lovers. That is a fearful thing. We are the only minority group also that you can join overnight



08:31

in the twinkling of an eye in fact



08:41

we who have committed the crime of loving we are freedom with more risk than servitude ever offered. We dared to no pleasure Dare I say pleasure again. I don't think it's been mentioned much today. We had guts enough to love. They tried to cover this with guilt, shame dishonor. They made it as awful for us as they could. But it was wonderful. It is getting more wonderful. Fellow criminals never forget your nights and the days of you're fighting for their freedom. Remember this experience? It is the tenders finest moments of our lives and in the clamor for our civil rights. Always remember that they never granted them Norwich grisms they only sold and remember most of all, that we have so much more to give them than they have ever taken from us. We have been placing we have known things being suffering, feared, Bell Furion ecstasy held one. All through our illegal acts. They have brought us to full richness of the human experience our freedom finally, when they understand that at last is there so keep loving keep making love, and soon there will be enough



10:52

Well, that was fun. Well, I can see there's only one thing I want this morning. What is that? I do like that. I like that. I'd also like to. You'd like to watch.



Jimmy Carper 11:09

I bet I know what that I bet. There's a leak at the Telus.



11:15

I'd like to break the sodomy



11:16

law. Is that f is in Frank. You bet.



11:19

You bet it is. You bet. how come everybody gets all excited when faggots do it? And everybody's doing it? I think I'd say is that African plank? Yes.

J Jimmy Carper 11:32

I'll bet more people are talking about doing it than are actually doing.

♂ 11:36

Roger just said nobody's doing it. He's right. Yeah, he's just most people are standing around. Just kind of looking at it. I would do it if I could find a short hairy man to do it with why short

J Jimmy Carper 11:47

hairy man?

♂ 11:48

I don't know Mary. That's what I want. Look at me. You know, you know,

J Jimmy Carper 11:53

my trademark? is what I like I'm big and stupid. And what do I settle for? Short and smart to believe in.

♂ 12:10

Hi,

♂ 12:11

this is Craig Washington, reminding you that none of us are free until all of us are free. So keep listening to after hours KPFT Houston 90.1 FM

♂ 12:40

maybe someday we should just play this for like hours and hours and not saying anything.

J Jimmy Carper 12:45

~~Why would we want to do that? Got the word across~~



12:51

well, there's really get back



J Jimmy Carper 12:52

getting the word across it. The other thing about numbing people?



12:56

Well, maybe they need to be there already numbs they, hey, you got something to read? Maybe I do. You want to do that now. Okay. Then we got a dedication for somebody hanging on. So is that going to be that's nice. Let me do this. Okay, go ahead.



J Jimmy Carper 13:13

Well, this is a little piece that I thought since it's St. Patrick's Day. This is by Brian McNaught. Who is an Irish Catholic homosexual. That's when he calls himself. A lot of his stuff has a religious slant to it. This this pace, though, I thought really said what maybe a lot of times we're trying to say. And it's a lot of this the way I feel about life. It's called I like it. He wrote this in November of 1978. The young medical student finally blurted out the question which had been gnawing at him. Do you ever regret being gay? No, I said with a growing smile. Sometimes I regret being so totally identified with my sexual orientation. But I never regret it being gay. Wouldn't you really rather be straight? asked one Jewish talk show host? Would you rather be correct Christian? I asked. Think of all the hostility you face commented one black woman. Because of that, wouldn't you prefer being heterosexual? Now who's telling you about hostility? How much would it take before you wished you were white? as supportive as they might become? Straight people have a lot of difficulty thinking of homosexuality as an intrinsic part of a person's psychological makeup. Even if they can be convinced that gay people didn't choose to be gay. They still need to hear us admit, we would rather be like them. I like being gay. I like knowing that there is something very unique and even mysterious about me, which separates me from most of the The rest of the world. I like knowing that I share a special secret with a select group of men and women who lift before me and with those who will follow. I like walking at life's edge as a pioneer as an individual who must learn for himself the meaning of relationship, love of equals sexuality and morality. My life is one outrageous experiment after another. I like knowing that if I settle into a particular frame of thought, it is because I have found it appropriate. And that because I was raised to believe that the way things must be I like knowing that I can go anywhere in the world and meet some someone who will smile that knowing smile, which instantly says yes, I know. Me too. Isn't it nice? Hanging in there. It is a twinkle and a smile which results not from being white or male or American. It is a sacred smile which only gay men and lesbians exchange. I like exchanging that knowing smile with waiters and Galveston airline stewards in Terre Haute. Theater ushers in Detroit salesman in Boston and sunbathers in Sarasota. I like to give and receive those smiles that lectures and are or they will usually be more elegant, that a gay orchestrated religious service will usually be more artistic, and that a gay disco will generally be more fun. I like knowing that there is far less

class division to be found at most gay parties. janitors and lawyers and truck drivers and librarians are bound to unknowingly bumped elbows, and even likely to sit next to Lily Tomlin Paul in their half the ice Follies. I get a kick out of knowing that anti gay people are probably wearing clothes designed by a gay person living in a home decorated by a gay person attending a play performed by a gay person and attending a Sunday service celebrated by a gay person. I laugh when I think of anti gay men cheering gays on the football field and learning about the other scores from a gay sportscaster. I like being gay for all of these and many more reasons. Primarily though, I like being gay because it is an essential aspect of of who I am. And I like myself.



18:07

Well, I guess that's the message this morning, baby time slips away. It's so fast. goes by so fast. I remember. I'm reminded all the time of those kids from hatch that were here that morning. And the kid said, I'll come out when it's time when the time is right. Oh, child, please. What are you waiting on? There's no better time than today.



J Jimmy Carper 18:30

Yeah. And remember that last year in the gay pride parade hatch for the first time March.



18:39

That's right. Speaking of first time, do you remember the rally? We did an 88 on the steps of City Hall and Harry Burt was here. Yeah. He said,



18:47

I'm here partly tonight to say some good things about Texas. I'm proud to be a Texan. I know that I could not have heard Harvey Milk's challenge to me, had not something in my life. And this state prepared me to hear the word of freedom that Harvey spoke to us. I am here tonight. Because it is time that all of us who love this state that gave us life and has nurtured us and taught us our values to stand up and claim the history of the state for freedom and justice and human respect away from the forces of narrow mindedness and bigotry that too often dominate the politics of the state of Texas.



J Jimmy Carper 19:39

You know, something? Well, that's it. There's a lot of people out there who still don't know who Harry Byrd is. Who is Harry Britt. Maybe we should ask people to call. Who is Harry Britt? Yeah.



19:50

Well, the first person that can call and tell us who Harry Britt is we'll give you a copy of the yes

album One. How's

J Jimmy Carper 19:55
that? Okay.

19:57

Speaking of who is we've got a message here. It's Let's play anything for Ben from Matthew. This is all from the celebration of life rally, we did an identity yet on the steps of City Hall. We had a lot. It took a lot of energy to do that, because again, it's something that we did as volunteers. It didn't look like it was gonna go together until we were pulling the piano out on the steps of City Hall. I thought what the hell are we doing? How are we doing this? But as it was all falling together, instead of apart, the Houston area women's chorus in the direction of Lynn Wayne and got up to sing and they sang a song called from a distance. And as they sung at the end of the rally, I walked to the far end of Smith Street, I believe it is and look back across the reflection pool at the city at city hall and saw the gay and lesbian people there seeing and the candles burning and it looked just right it was we were supposed to be there. And they sung this song. So being this is to you and it's from Matthew.

J Jimmy Carper 21:13
Remember that

21:14

Wasn't that wonderful? Then that was just for you for Matthew Heartsong the Houston area women's Community Chorus Houston women's Community Chorus under the direction of Lithuanian. And what else are we doing?

J Jimmy Carper 21:29
Well, we have a winner. We do we have a winner.

21:31
Oh, congratulations to Ernie. Ernie. Ernie is a first time listener.

J Jimmy Carper 21:36
Ernie has listened to us before. Oh, great.



21:38

Well, congratulations, Ernie. Speaking of winning, can you believe these baseball players may?



J Jimmy Carper 21:44

No I cannot believe these baseball players.



21:46

They want a minimum a minimum of \$100,000.



J Jimmy Carper 21:50

Well, so do I But nobody's listening.



21:53

They want a minimum of \$100,000. Right guaranteed in their contract. Why? Why? Well, why not?



J Jimmy Carper 22:04

Just because they're on TV or so I



22:05

have one a minimum of \$100,000. Can you imagine going to your boss? Can I Can you imagine me going to the mayor? Mayor we're in negotiation for contract. I'd like a minimum of \$100,000. Anyway, I think the baseball players should look out the window. Why? To see what's going on Mary, there's a whole world of people



J Jimmy Carper 22:27

that look out the window. We talked



22:29

about that earlier. There's people who will never see \$100,000 Probably me in a lifetime.

J

Jimmy Carper 22:36

I don't know why they think they're worth it.

∅

22:38

That you know what, I know exactly what they feel how they feel. Because I remember and I've told this story before. One Christmas, I was bitching about not having any money. And I had been at the police department we were getting ready to do our Christmas party because our shift we always have parties for anytime that wind blows. We have a party that I was selected to come up to the disco Kroger store as the store I chose to go to of course, of course, to get the chips and the dips and we were standing in line bitching about the Christmas and how we didn't have enough money to do this and that. And I remember this woman standing in front of me and she had a can of soup, a package of generic hotdogs and she was holding an apple. She paid for the soup and the hotdogs in she asked the clerk to ring those up to make sure that she had enough money for the apple.

J

Jimmy Carper 23:25

How did that make you feel?

∅

23:29

It made me feel pretty lousy. Potato chips and dips didn't seem as important as as that Apple and Apple did. So I guess if I had anything to say to the Houston Astros this morning. Just be glad that you have another day in paradise. And if you're again wondering about why am I alone? Why am I by myself? Why does nobody love me? As a big world out there baby you have to take that first step you can only do it yourself you know the fact that I work for the police department and do a gay radio program that's nothing it's nothing it's no big deal. Your life is just as important as mine or Jimmy's or anybody else's and no matter what how crummy things same it's a beautiful day in paradise it really really is isn't it every day hundreds and hundreds of people even in the city of Houston are homeless right now don't got no radios to listen to don't got no blankets to wrap around them don't got no telephones to call out on don't got no radios to listen to this show on. So do something for us. As a as a people. It kills me to listen to the to the religious folk. telling about how screwed up we is. Because I'm reminded of a story that I heard when I was a little kid in the Bible. When the disciples asked Jesus, what's the greatest commandment? And Jesus said, The greatest commandment is Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God is one Lord. And he said in the second commandment is to love thy neighbor as thyself. And these are supposed to have been the greatest thing that I wonder if people like Jerry Falwell, and Dr. Steven Hulsey. And all of those other people who hate us so much just for being us have bothered to read those two scriptures.

J

Jimmy Carper 25:35

I bet not lately. I've been not



25:36

at all.



25:38

They should just be grateful that it's another day in paradise. Roger is going to be here in just a second to read from a way of love, a way of life. Speaking of life, this is radio celebrating live from the heart of Montrose KPFT Houston 90.1 FM.



25:58

The lighting and gay community has a voice over the airwaves of Houston thanks to KPFT Pacifica Wilde 'n' Stein, his broadcast Tuesdays from nine to 11pm breakthrough can be heard Fridays from 8am to 11am. After hours airs from midnight to port.



26:49

80 APFT used in



26:59

a way of love, a way of life. Chapter Three. feeling bad about it. Feeling good about it. The slogan gay is good, can have a hollow ring if you're young and struggling with your identity. You can't imagine being imagine gay, being good while feeling shame and guilt. Instead of pride about your feelings. Niall described what it means to him to be a gay adolescent today. It means spending many dark hours alone trying to come to terms with my feelings about and feelings but ending up feeling more frustrated and guilty than ever before.



27:54

And nonfiction have been written and published. There are now dozens of good books directed to the needs of the gay community and to the general public. Many can be found in libraries and bookstores. They would be useful to all young people who want to learn more about homosexuality, and about gay people's lives. books, magazines and newspapers about homosexuality are less threatening to the inexperienced gays that actually then actually meeting other gay people. In addition, for gay teens who are not knowledgeable about the gay subculture, printed material may be a lot easier to find than another gay person. Discovering such references can have a dramatic impact on a young person's life, as it did for Susie. When I first read in a regular newspaper about a gay woman's movement in Boston, it made me want to cry. You see, I live in a very small Indiana town and go to a very small school. Believe me, it's 17 in a hick town with a bunch of super prejudiced people being gay, can just about bring out the suicidal person in anybody. If it wasn't for the fact that I found out some one else out there has gone through the same battles. I'm finding, I'd be in terrible shape. When I get when I get out of this town, I'm going to be right out there fighting with them. One major reason reason

false ideas about homosexuality have given adolescents so much trouble is that in the past, there were no role models to refute these images. Most young people straight or gay experience some confusion and guilt about their sexual feelings. For gay teenagers, however, these feelings are compounded because of their isolation. Until recently, each gay adolescent was like an explorer trying to investigate uncharted waters, each faced what he or she perceived to be a unique experience. This unfortunately is still true for many teenagers who know a little about homosexuality, and remain afraid to talk to anyone about their feelings. One of the best sources for support and guidance for young people is their own families. Although it is difficult for most teenagers to talk with their parents, almost all obtain advice and research reassurance from brothers and sisters, or a favorite uncle or aunt. However, young gays may be reluctant to share their feelings, even with their closet closest relatives. There is also a definite tendency for many families to isolate their gay members. A gay relative may be discussed as little as possible, or even made feel unwelcome. Thus, a young gay may not know there is a homosexual in the family, or may be unable to communicate easily with him or her. This is what happened to Claire and her sister Margaret. I'm the oldest of seven kids. We grew up on a farm and spent most of our time with each other, working and playing together. In high school, I decided I really wanted to continue my education. My folks agreed that I should go on and they sent me to the university. I told them I was a lesbian after graduating, and I think they blamed it on the school. My parents still love me. But but wish I were straight and pray for God to change me. My brothers and sisters have turned out all right, except my youngest sister. She's still in high school and is afraid to tell them that she thinks she's gay. Because of the fuss they made over me. Margaret thinks that maybe they won't let her go to college. Mom and Dad suspect she's not straight and haven't let it let us really get together when I visit. She doesn't know that I am well and doing fine, which is something but there is there are many things we both wish we could talk about together. Young people also take for granted that they can discuss their concerns about the future with sympathetic adults, teachers, neighbors, or religious leaders for example. These adults in turn, are usually pleased to be asked for their advice. This natural process breaks down for gays. Young people often hesitate to speak up and if they do, do ask questions. Gay adults frequently fear to answer them honestly and openly. This communication barrier barrier between older and younger gays prevents the casual informal exchange of knowledge, which is so valuable to young people deciding how to live. Most calls however, our sincere inquiries there are frequent calls from men and women who are unsure of themselves and just want to talk about what it means to be gay. The switchboard often acts as a referral center, letting people know where they can go for counseling or for social activities. Jim says that the most difficult call to handle are those from young gay males. They are often deeply concerned about sex and want to know how to find a sexual partner. However, the switchboard cannot act as a dating service. We simply try to reassure the callers that if a relationship is what they want, it develops as a matter of course once they start meeting other gays. The Lesbian hotline deals with similar calls. Women of all ages and life situations want to talk about lesbianism how to deal with their families, and where to find other lesbians. Claudia has had several conversations with teenagers who originally called as a joke, but ended up talking at length about their own feelings, or about those of a friend or relative. Jim believes that many teenagers are afraid of intimacy and Ser are unable to help each other. When problems with sexuality arise. The hotline in the switchboard



34:44

is well on its way, Betty hopes to have more time to herself so she can start working on her own projects again. She says now that I really have a community of my own, I think that I will be able to be much more productive in my artwork The gay community center has made a

place for itself in our own city. There are strong ties with other community organizations and good relations with the neighbor with the center's neighbors. The family across the street accepts packages if no one is at the center, and the elderly widower next door passes on the latest rumors about the landlord's intentions regarding the building. Most of all, however, the center has contributed to building a strong, mutually supportive gay community. Gay and feminist bookstores are places to know about if you want to know more about homosexuality. Almost everyone who thinks about being gay eventually tries to find something to read. However, they're often afraid to ask for a book at their library, and regular bookstores usually have few books on gay topics. To meet this need for printed information, gay bookstores have opened in many cities. Five years ago, three gay men started our city's first gay bookstore, and a small storefront in a rundown neighborhood. It was called Giovanni's Room named after a not the novel by James Baldwin. They were open a few days a week and provided a place to find books, magazines, newspapers and records by about lesbians and gay men. The store was later owned by a gay woman who began including material on feminism. However, due to its location, if you