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SPEAKERS

Greg Gordon, Jack Valinski, Joan Devlin, Cindy Friedman, Glenn Holt

00:00 commercial free and listener sponsored Houstons. 90.1 KPFT. The sound of Texas KPFT Houston

J Jack Valinski 00:13 Welcome to another edition of lesbian and gay voices. This is Jack Wolanski.

G Glenn Holt 00:17 And I'm glad hold and your mic is not working very well. Right? Well, another one over there.

00:22 Yeah, it's better than last week last week she broke the station

J Joan Devlin 00:25 broke the transmitter. Oh, there

G Glenn Holt 00:26 we go. That's better. Actually. Now, last

J Joan Devlin 00:28 week the transmitter had gotten struck by lightning. No, I think the power just power just went

week, the transmitter tower gotten struck by lightning. Now, I think the power just went out. Okay. Well, we were off there for three hours, which meant our whole show went kaput. But do not despair. Because the same people who are going to be on last week are going to be on this week, for the most part, for the most part. Exactly. We will have to reschedule David Elliot to a later time.

J Jack Valinski 00:46

Yes. And he may have an important announcement to tell us right. So what do we have tonight,

J Joan Devlin 00:51

Adam mess Steun, who is the author of shared hearts, which is a diary of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered youth is going to be on to talk about his book shared hearts. And then Jill Lynn Feldman, who is an out Dyk feminist, teaches at Brandeis University is going to be on to talk about her book, never a dull moment teaching in the art of performance. And then we will talk to the men's gathering. Actually, we recorded that interview last week, and they're going to talk to us about the downlow. And you'll hear more about what that is and the interview. And finally, a local poet who is not going to be with us on the phone. He's actually going to walk into the station. His name is Michael Locke. He wrote a book of poetry called Sun primed. It's available at Lobo and it's absolutely wonderful, and he's going to talk to us about it. So it's mostly about books tonight, mostly about books. We have a literary show

01:43

tonight. So that means George Bush won't be listening.

J Joan Devlin 01:47

Or reading either. Yeah, so

J Jack Valinski 01:48

while we know he doesn't read, so that sounds really exciting. I want to recommend anybody to see Hedwig and the Angry Inch at Pine River Oaks is a fabulous movie had had a great time factor. I want to see it again. Because there's a lot of things I didn't quite you know, I'm a little bit slow, didn't quite catch.

J Joan Devlin 02:06

And speaking of that, we actually have some passes to give away a little later in the show for Hedwig. Okay, great



Glenn Holt 02:12

and Glenn. Well, the the news from this way out that we normally have the tape apparently got started because you know, we taped too late that satellite the tape apparently got started a little bit late later than usual. So we're going to jump into the middle of the news segment. Okay.



C Cindy Friedman 02:29

Forget mother sparked calls for government regulation of reproductive technology. biological father, Gerard Whelan and his partner John McMahon are believed to be Ireland's first gay dads by means of surrogacy. Unlike Britain, Ireland currently has no laws covering surrogacy, but the fine gal party is now concerned that some may use surrogacy to sidestep Ireland strict regulation of adoptions and independent Senator Mary Henry renewed her call for surrogacy legislation she'd introduced three years ago. Both Henry and fine gal denied that their concerns related to the gay dad's sexual orientation.



03:09

Returning to employment issues in the US, Indiana Democratic governor Frank O'Bannon this week signed into effect a new state employment policy prohibiting sexual orientation discrimination. It covers hiring, development, advancement and firing decisions and a promise that we will strive to maintain a working environment free of sexual harassment and intimidation. Indiana State government employees who feel they've experienced discrimination will have recourse through the administrative system. Indiana is the ninth state to adopt such an equal opportunity employment policy, in addition to 11 states barring discrimination in both public and private employment.



C Cindy Friedman 03:47

Illinois Republican Governor George Ryan is actively lobbying for addition of sexual orientation as a category protected under that state's Human Rights Act from discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations and financial transactions. Ryan who announced this week he will not seek a second term wrote a five page letter to Illinois legislators urging them to pass the Civil Rights Bill activists have sought for two decades. Ryan's letter was part of his amendatory veto of a bill intended to open public accommodations to motorcyclists. He told lawmakers he would sign their bikers rights bill if they added the words sexual orientation.



04:28

But August began with yet another US appeals court, finding that federal law against sex discrimination and sexual harassment does not extend to discrimination and harassment based on sexual orientation. A three judge panel of the US Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit upheld a trial court's dismissal of John Bibi's lawsuit against the Philadelphia Coca Cola Bottling Company. Bibi claimed his co workers Harris and physically attacked him after learning he is gay. The appellate ruling said harrassment on the basis of sexual orientation has no place in our society. Congress has not yet seen fit, however, to provide protection against such

harrassment. Although there have been similar decisions by other Federal Appeals panels, this one received special attention coming as ENDA, the employment non discrimination act was reintroduced in Congress. Opponents of civil rights protections for gays and lesbians have falsely claimed that they are already adequately covered by federal law.

 Cindy Friedman 05:26

Gay men in Michigan breathed a sigh of relief this week as the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office announced it would no longer prosecute men charged as a result of undercover police stings. The announcement came in conjunction with a decision not to prosecute a county judge caught in a sting. But the decision came thanks in large part to persistent lobbying by Michigan's triangle Foundation, which claimed that some 800 men had been charged for merely flirting with decoy cops in Detroit Rouge Park. In many cases, police had impounded the men's cars, which could be recovered only by paying a \$900 fee. Wayne County Prosecutor Mike Duggan said I'm not going to charge people criminally for what they thought was a consensual act between adults. We do not send female officers into sports bars to come on to guys to see which ones respond and arrest them. We should not be sending undercover decoys to do exactly the same thing.

 06:26

California transexuals were disappointed this week as Democratic Governor Gray Davis vetoed a bill that would have made it easier to obtain revised birth certificates. Davis has veto message said only I find no compelling reason to expand existing law and therefore cannot sign this measure.

 Cindy Friedman 06:44

By contrast, that chair of South Korea's ruling party spoke out on on the internet this week in support of allowing transsexuals to change their official registration numbers to reflect their self identified gender. Millennium Democratic party chair Kim Joon Quang said his opinion was a personal one, and the issue should be publicly debated. personifying the issue in South Korea is trans woman model an entertainer Javi Sue, who's sought to change her registration number. lately she's captured the heart of Lottie Giants baseball star Jose Felix, who shows off the message Jose loves Harvey Sue on his arm. One South Korean wedding business is planning a public wedding ceremony at no cost exclusively for transsexuals and their partners.

 07:32

Hopes for legal recognition of gay and lesbian couples in Brazil are fading. A version of a bill first introduced in 1995 to create registered partnerships with many of the benefits of marriage was finally expected to come to a vote earlier this year. But opposition led by religious conservatives knocked it off the agenda once again. Leading gay and lesbian activist told writers this week that they don't expect a vote this year. They also agree there is no way the

bill would pass in 2000 to an election year. Activists in Argentina are petitioning to revitalize their similar three year old national bill for civil unions. It's been stalled for 16 months in a Legislative Committee of the National Chamber of Deputies.



C Cindy Friedman 08:16

Canada extended asylum to a lesbian couple this week for the first time, although individual lesbians have been given refuge in the past from homophobic persecution. The couple had both experienced physical and sexual violence from police, strangers and family in their homeland of Mexico, and feared further persecution if they returned. They fled in 1999 to Toronto, where an immigration Board approved the request for asylum this week.



08:44

The Society for the German language is inviting the public to suggest new words to describe gay and lesbian families, including terms for the partners, parents and in laws. Officially, the registered life partnerships that went into effect in Germany are known as im getragen, a layman's partnerschaft, which even Germans find unwieldy. more colloquially, Germans are saying homo area for homo marriage, but the society objects on two grounds. Partnerships are legally different from marriages. And in Germany as elsewhere, the term homo carries negative connotations.



C Cindy Friedman 09:21

And finally, those connotations of Homo also became quite an issue for the New York Times, whose Sunday crossword puzzle this past week was entitled, homo names. The distinguished paper quickly put out a remarkable statement, insisting the title referred solely to some answers being homonyms of well known names, and not to any gay slur or outings. In case you've forgotten, homonyms are words pronounced alike, but spelled differently, yet four principal answers referred to widely rumored to be gay actor, singer Jim Nabors and critic Rick's read gay icon Bette Midler, and lifestyle reporter Robin Leach. Leach actually felt compelled to respond with a statement insisting on his heterosexuality. Correspondence of MSNBC Eric Alterman identified 22 clues in the puzzle that might imply gay references, such as people who live next to a why, and add more lubricant. If as the paper said, that was all coincidence, and even bigger one came as the Monday puzzle included the answers. Excuse me, please. I'm terribly sorry. And I beg your pardon.



10:36

That's news rap for the week ending August 11 2001, written by Cindy Freedman and recorded at the studios of KPFK, Los Angeles,



C Cindy Friedman 10:43

follow the news in your area, and then formed community is a strong community for this way
© 2001 Cindy Freedman

OUT. I'M Cindy Friedman.



10:49

And I'm Dean Elzinga.



G Glenn Holt 10:51

And you are listening to lesbian and gay voices.



J Joan Devlin 10:55

Good evening, I'm Jim Devlin. And I have on the phone with me, Julian Feldman, who is the author of Never a dull moment teaching and the art of performance. First of all, I guess, make sure the phones are working. So here here, yeah. Well, I did want to let you know, Jilin that I really enjoyed the book. It was I read it this weekend. And it was just fantastic. And I wish we had had classes like that in mind. Because we really just didn't have anything like it. But I was amazed at the variety of the courses you teach, because you teach everything from autobiography to something called blacks and Jews, right. And it sounds like you've had some interesting experiences, especially in your book, you talked about students that you'd had in one class that were a certain way. And then when they took another class, they became like a totally different person.



11:46

Yeah, that happened in blacks and Jews and autobiography, one of my students may deem took autobiography, and Tuesdays, and on Wednesday, she came to blacks and Jews. And it was really as though they were two different people, which, in some ways, taught me so many things about people and how context is everything and different parts of ourselves come out in different locations. And which really relates to, you know, the performance theory that I'm working with in the classroom.



J Joan Devlin 12:20

And when you talk about performance, you're not just talking about your own performance, because you talk quite a bit about students. And as one who has, you know, sat through classes where I didn't open my mouth the entire semester, to hear you talk about how you insist on your students not only speaking up, but speaking out being loud, especially the women.



12:42

Yes, you can never be in my class and not talk whether there's 15, five or 85 people. And I feel very, very strongly about that. To be in a D centered classroom, where the sort of environment is a revolving stage, and the students are really the best actors and actresses, and the teacher

becomes a kind of supporting actor or actress, the students take the lead, and they're really show you what they need to know and what they need to ask about. But you've got to give up a certain amount of control for that to happen.

J Joan Devlin 13:18

But it sounds like you also were very good at keeping it on an academic level. You mentioned several times in the book where if things started sounding like they were getting personal, you quickly would jump in and reroute it to make sure you're staying on topic.

13:34

Yeah, I think there's a fear in women's studies that it's all about CRP and feelings. And that's really a media created. notion. Women's Studies really is about teaching to feminist theory, which means the personal is political, so that anything we study, whether it be equal pay in the workforce, sexual harrassment, any number of issues, we're always looking at what is the personal connection to the theory, and the personal is relevant is different than going to therapy and talking about your problems. And I believe there's a profound distinction that is misunderstood.

J Joan Devlin 14:22

And I also was amazed because you've been very observant throughout your classes. And some of the things you mentioned about the different behaviors, especially when you had some men in your classes, the different ways in which women and men behave. approach things like you mentioned you never have to tell the male students to speak up never.

14:42

It's not really in 20 years of teaching, I have to say. Men are commended for their loud voices and their pronounced articulation of their own ideas and women still to this day Eve And feminists in the undergraduate classroom, often fear being to articulate as if there's such a thing. And I really work on theories of what I call voice, and agency about being able to act not just reacting for women's students, it's critical.

J Joan Devlin 15:20

And I think too, you mentioned that many of the students that hadn't raised their hands, you felt like they, they had a lot to say. And they were actually very aware and were paying attention. But you said it was almost like they didn't want to, I guess, share or like they were afraid somebody was going to come back and say they were wrong, or they're being too bold or something? Well, I



15:42

15:45

think there's a lot of reasons that students are quiet in the classroom. One is they're not taught that their ideas matter. And I often read from student papers, or have students read their papers out loud, just to show them how significant their ideas are. And students are used to a passivity that couple people control the classroom, the teacher is not a good facilitator. And basically, people tune out. And what I decided is that it's often the most quiet students that have the most thoughtful things to say, and that we need to reach out to those students. That's our responsibilities, those of us who are in the teaching role. So I really work hard to spread around the time to talk.

J

Joan Devlin 16:32

And what is the overall attitude, Ben toward the Women's Studies classes? Because I know a lot of colleges just write them off as political correctness one on one, and why do we need to have this in schools? And so what is the you were teaching at Brandeis? What was your reaction?

o

16:49

Well, it's interesting, I've taught at both public and private universities. And in one sense, my experience at public universities such as the University of Massachusetts and Amherst, the Women's Studies Program has a lot more credibility, partially because UMass Amherst has a campus wide curriculum requirement that women's studies courses can be counted for. So just by that notion, the administration is saying this program matters. We're Brandeis, and many private schools, Women's Studies is really seen as soft and not real. And again, that's a media created fiction. So one, it depends on the context and the reputation across campus. And also, how do other professors view Women's Studies? And the range really is from not serious to, as you said, John, politically correct. I find very few people outside Women's Studies understand exactly what Women's Studies is. And even I have to say a lot of people whose courses are cross listed, don't really understand what the goal of women's studies is. So we have we did not do a good job educating the public, and the administration hasn't held up, it's part of the bargain, oftentimes.

J

Joan Devlin 18:15

Now, how has your being openly gay? Has that any of that been never reflected back on your courses? As far as maybe you getting a little more? So trouble or harassment over? You know, because you're an openly gay woman teaching a woman studies course, or has that not?

o

18:33

There is a you know, the mythology that women's studies is all about man hating, and they're all full of lesbians. And the very first day I dispel those rumors, I often talk about the fact that women who are lesbians don't hate men, they just happen to love women. And when I say that, you know, the class just cracks up because they never really looked at it that way. And I think the biggest problem to be an out lesbian academic is that your courses, and your behavior is highly scrutinized. I could show 100 films about the heterosexual nuclear family in studying the

construction of family and never be questioned on it. Whereas if I show two films in a row, and this has happened to me, often with some lesbian content, all of a sudden I'm accused of showing all lesbian films are all my readings are about lesbians. And it's fascinating the accusations that people will make once they know you're an out lesbian, whereas if they didn't know they wouldn't make the accusation. So I found it's still very hard to be an out lesbian woman in the academy.

J Joan Devlin 19:52

But I also found it in the book. Kind of strange when you taught blacks and Jews you had one particular class where the Jewish students felt that they were being neglected in favor of the African American students.

20:06

Well, this is my whole theory around oppression work and racism and anti semitism is that under capitalism, we always have a hierarchy of who suffered most. And the fact that we were at a secular Jewish institution, Brandeis University that I was a Jew, I knew that I had to develop credibility with the black students. And I expected my Jewish students to feel vulnerable. I didn't expect them to feel that they didn't get enough attention. But I was able to place their vulnerability into a historic perspective, and show them how one of the problems of Jewish identity in the United States is that Jews are invisible, because we can pass as white, that is at Eastern European Jews can pass as a white. And so I was able to incorporate their personal feelings into the theory of race, construction and race, priority and prioritizing, and it's funny because that's a good example of where if the students personal narratives hadn't come up, I would have never known that they will misunderstanding the theory. So by the end, it worked out beautifully. And the black students were able to show the Jewish students how much in reality they will not second place at all, and that the black students have learned an enormous amount about the Jewish students. But the Jewish students were too busy feeling invisible, to see the reality.

J Joan Devlin 21:40

Now what is the newly popular Harkness method of teaching?

21:44

Well, I think it's very funny. This was promoted from Exeter Academy in Exeter, New Hampshire, which is, to me when I read about it, I cracked up because it's, to me, it's identical to feminist pedagogy. Only the difference is Mr. Harkness, from, like, 3040 years ago, as a lemn at Exeter gave this money for a particular kind of education, which involves sitting around a round table, discussing theories and not having a single lecture format, basically, having the students run the classroom. And I was surprised when, for instance, at Brandeis and other campuses across the country, experts on the Harkness method were brought in where as women like myself who have right written and taught from a feminist pedagogical perspective, were consistently challenged. Even though our methodologies were almost identical, we just

didn't call it the heart map. And so, again, I really hate to say this, but when the certain ideas originate from a white, gray, male perspective, the credibility they're given often just is far beyond anything that comes with the label feminist in front of it. Very, very painful to me that that's still going on.

 J Joan Devlin 23:14

And I especially because in your book, you know, you took a lot of time with your students. In fact, you made a point to always know their name, right? You made sure they all spoke out in class and spoke up. And you, you know, and when you had that issue, for instance, in the in blacks and Jews, you took time to not only listen to them, but read what they wrote. And it ended up actually teaching you something. So I don't understand why anybody would challenge that simply because you're female.

 23:49

I think that it has to do with the level of engagement that the students have. And there's something about If you're happy and having fun when you're learning, it must not really be real learning. And my students really love classes, they don't miss my classes, they never come unprepared. I really mean it. And it's not a kind of class you cannot do the work for because basically, class participation is about 50% of your final evaluation. I think that people get suspicious when students will continually praise a teacher. Like she must be giving out too many A's or he must be not a serious educator. And it's as though education is supposed to be like, pain medication, you know, tastes awful and numb you. Right?

 J Joan Devlin 24:47

And you know, anybody who has any ideas that women's studies is like a blow off class should read your book because I was like, Whoa, that's a lot of work. And

 24:56

my students always say that they cannot believe how much work they has to do.

 J Joan Devlin 25:01

Now that's speaking about that. You talk about how you allow students to check in with their neighbors before answering questions. And they can work on take home midterms in pairs. What is what makes you feel that this is a better way to go about things.

 25:16

I've always found that people learn better not in isolation. I happened to be a lawyer and studied hours and hours alone, barely remembering anything after I took the bar exam and

passed that I promptly forgot everything didn't make me a good lawyer at all. And I noticed that when my students work in groups, when they're given specific questions to discuss in groups, their retention level, their commitment to the material, their engagement is amazing. They tell me that they talk about the material all the time, they bumped into each other on campus. And basically, the classroom becomes a fluid environment, which isn't dependent on the time we meet, or the location of the room. So I found, when I give a take home, midterm, they're required to work in groups and to put down who they work with. And then I actually read their exams all together. So I can actually see their flow of thinking. And it just, I can't tell you the difference it makes in terms of students being connected to each other, whereas in other classes, they'll sit next to the same person for 15 weeks and not even know who that person is, right?

J Joan Devlin 26:34

We've all been there. Right? Me too. And what would you say, as you work with, you know, the mostly women that take your classes? What are some of the things you see now? versus, you know, when you started teaching, you know, has it gotten better for us? Or do we still engage in these behaviors that you know, you would expect more out of women reared in the 50s?

26:58

Well, I have to say that anorexia or self Starvation is getting worse, not better, at least at elite private institutions. It says though, in order to compensate for their intelligence, women are starving themselves to either gain control over their lives, or to forestall their femaleness from exposing them. But it's incredibly painful to actually I've, I've had women drop out, be hospitalized in the middle of the semester, I've had to give out granola bars before class, I really consider it a serious epidemic that's not being addressed. And what I can say is that it's across race now. Whereas it was largely confined to white, middle class and upper middle class women 20 years ago, that isn't true anymore.

J Joan Devlin 27:51

That's that's very scary, because for years and years, I mean, it was widely reported that African Americans were usually a lot more positive about their body image.

28:01

No, I would say now, especially if you watch be et, and you may pan the audience you see, enormously thin I know that sounds like a contradiction, but it's really the fineness is terrifying to me. I have a lot of Chinese American students, Korean American students, and even accounting for different body frame and cultural relationship to food, there is still the starvation mentality that it says the power of being female has to somehow be negated by body size.

J Joan Devlin 28:41

Do you think some of it too, though, is that sometimes women want to be invisible?



28:46

Well, I think there's a lot of gender ambivalence. I'm amazed that the opportunities that women have now and the access, instead of creating a lot more confidence have actually created a lot more ambivalence for women. Because it's almost as like, there's no excuse now, not to succeed. And we do know you can't have it all now. And anyone who says that you can work full time have a fabulous career raise kids have a full time partner, without any consequences isn't isn't telling the truth. So I think that until the institutions change, that is until relationships are really seen as partnerships, be they gay or straight relationships. We really are gonna see women just flopping in and out of success and failure. That's a shame. Yeah, it's very, very painful to be part of that process.



Joan Devlin 29:46

Well, especially to the other thing, though, is if you ever watch TV, you don't see that many big women. You see big man Yeah, and nobody and it's not a big deal. In fact, I was watching something the other day and it was The sports event and the announcers a big guy. And somebody in the parking lot had a sign up, I guess his name was Mike. And it said, Mike, we have food. And he said something like, oh, well, next time we have a break, I'm gonna wander down there and get me something to eat. And you would never, ever see that with a woman. It just wouldn't happen. Now, I



30:17

did a study of weather people, you know, who give the weather out and invite you to check it, you can have huge man, regardless of race, giving the national weather, the women are always stick figures. And it's sort of like weight and a man creates credibility and weight in a woman not only creates an attractiveness, but also is a sign of stupidity. Yeah. So we're in that we're in a complicated time right now.



Joan Devlin 30:48

So what what do you foresee for the future and also for your future, because I have a note here that it says Brandeis recently terminated your job, which was the only full time position in women's studies, and you are now in a part time position. So what is this going to do for you and your classes?



31:05

Well, it's really been a dramatic journey. For me. I've been there for seven years, and really developed the intro to women's studies course and advanced feminist theory and several other courses. And one, I became, I guess, so popular, that there really was enormous backlash against I mean, I had lots of men in my classes, I had mixed race, cross class, and all the

required courses that I taught were taken away. And my position basically, was terminated as a full time position in women's studies, meaning that there is no longer a full time Women's Studies professor. Now. The professors are all cross listed in their departments of origin, like anthropology, or sociology, or American Studies. And their courses are then listed in women's studies. And basically, because the students protested for over a year and a half, literally taking over buildings, writing letters emailing. After I was fired a month after I was fired, I was offered a part time job with benefits and but I do not know after next year, what what we're all be. And it's ironic, because I was just invited to Charles University in the Czech Republic in Prague to do exactly what I was fired at Brandeis for doing. Amazing. I know You just never now.

 Joan Devlin 32:43

Well, it's you told your book, never a dull moment, and it sounds like it. Well, Julian, I want to thank you very much for being on the show this evening. Best of luck to you and your teaching career. And thank you, John, I

 32:54

really enjoyed speaking with you.

 Joan Devlin 32:56

Thank you. And I hope you do some more writing too because this was an absolutely wonderful book. The book is called Never a dull moment teaching in the art of performance. It is by Jill Lynn Feldman, and is an absolutely wonderful book. And you may purchase it anywhere fine, gay and lesbian books are sold and you are listening to Kpf Ts and lesbian and gay voices. So my brother says God is a flat footed crude cut in linebacker module.

 Glenn Holt 33:26

David Hall, God is wide from his album true from last year.

 33:34

Houston's 90.1 KPFT the sound of Texas think about it for a moment we have a lot of great shows like Mary in the morning, the BBC News our blues on the move the lodestar, jukebox, the prison program and so much more. However, did you know that KPFT has added some new shows to our program lineup shows like new Western palabra Latino voices having their say, music beyond borders radio nation reach out in the darkness, the puntomio World Music hour and more. That's just a taste of what KPFT has to offer. To see our complete lineup of programs, you can log on to kpft.org and find a variety of music news and information programs not heard elsewhere. But right here on Houston. 90.1 KPFT, the sound of Texas.

 Glenn Holt 34:12



JOAN DEVLIN 34:10

You are listening to lesbian and gay voices.



Joan Devlin 34:21

Good evening, I'm Joan Devlin. And we have our second author of the evening on the line at a mass tune who is the author of the shared heart and Adam Hughes just be on last week and then we had that little lightning incident.



34:34

glad that it worked this week.



Joan Devlin 34:36

I'm really glad you could be on with us this week. But the the shared heart It was very touching to me especially because we hear so much now about what kind of risks GLBT youth are are facing. They're facing risks to their physical health to their mental health. Many of them run away commit suicide, you know, and because part of the reason because they think they're all alone. So you wrote the shared hard or actually you didn't write it, you put it together to show kids out there that they're not alone, that there's other gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered kids out there.



35:09

Absolutely. When I was growing up, I didn't have any positive images of other lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgendered young people. So I too, felt very alone. And I know that there's a lot of kids today who are thriving and doing well. And I wanted to tell their stories to both show their pictures and tell their stories, so that other young people, both straight and gay, could know about their experiences, and could begin to know these young people in their peers as, as real people rather than stereotypes or statistics.



Joan Devlin 35:46

And what I liked about the book, too, is you really did a cross section. There were African American, you know, women, men, Latino, Latina. I mean, you didn't just go for the, you know, suburban white kids you had inner city use. I mean, where did you find all these kids,



36:04

I found the kids and different gay straight alliances, youth organizations. Sometimes I would photograph a young person who might say, Oh, I think you'd love to meet my friend, she or he would love to be a part of this at schools. So all different places like that. And I mean, of course,

you know, including a full range of diversity was really important to make a book about belonging, and then leave people out seemed really antithetical to the point. So I'm glad that you saw it that way. That was really important to me. Well,

J Joan Devlin 36:37

the other thing I noticed is several of the minority youth mentioned that they had more issues surrounding their race or culture than they did around specifically identifying as GLBT. They felt the bigger problem in their lives in several instances was the racism they had to face on a daily basis. Yeah,

36:59

you know, I think that that that particularly surprised me, too. And, you know, the more time that I spent with different of the young people, you know, what I began to discover was that the pain of racism racism, is, is of course, the same pain as the pain of homophobia, the pain of sexism, and that, that that different ones of them experienced the struggle in different ways. But the one, one aspect began to heal, the other one either came forward more, or also began to heal in time as well.

J Joan Devlin 37:38

And it sounds like because several of the kids mentioned that they'd actually gone on tour because this project actually has become a learning tool at some schools. And some of the kids included, mentioned that they've gone on tour with it, and actually stood up in front of people and spoken about their sexual orientation, which I think is incredibly brave.

37:59

Yeah, I agree with you. It is very brave. And I think for many of these kids, it was a great healing experience to be able to both offer something back to the community by being role models, for other kids their age, but also to be able to be acknowledged, as they are in this book, and also in the photography exhibit that accompanies it, and get, you know, so much of the time, these kids were not acknowledged for who they were, and that this project is really about celebrating them really about celebrating their sexual orientation and celebrating the gifts that they have their creativity and different aspects of their personality. So it's kind of an antidote really.

J Joan Devlin 38:43

And I appreciated that you included, actually, well, one specific transgender youth, in particular, a young man named Mycroft. Because transgenders people are so often overlooked. And you know, here was nicely men talking about Sherlock Holmes and the things that interested him. And I mean, it was just amazing to find that in a book about teenagers, I was so

impressed with that. Now, I noticed on the cover, though, they didn't put transgender so I made sure to mention in my review, that there were transgender, there was a transgender youth profiled



39:22

it, it was important to me to and again, to make a book about belonging, and then leave people out, you know, seemed like it wasn't to the point. So I'm glad to tell stories of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender young people.



J Joan Devlin 39:38

And the handwriting. Oh, I mean, that was just to me that just made it that much more personal. When you included their little handwritten essays, yeah.



39:48

You know, again, so much of the time, these kids are, are lumped into some statistic or spoken about it. As if there's some stereotype or some concept, and what I wanted to do was to show real, real people real lives. And I thought that by including their handwriting, it put a put a human face and, and a real human touch to the experience. And that was my purpose for doing that.



J Joan Devlin 40:24

That was great. It just made it to me more personal too. Because now all of a sudden, like you said, these are not statistics are just a group of people in a book, you know, this is so and so who dots her eyes with little hearts. Yeah, you know, this is so and so who has that really cool loopy handwriting thing going. And it was just wonderful. And I really, I mean, we need so this book is just something we need. Today, I wish it could be in every school library, which could be required reading in every English class, because it would save so much pain for so many gay kids out there who are still being, you know, brutalized. And mostly because they're not understood.



41:05

Yeah, and I think, you know, for straight kids, too, because so much of the time, because the level of harassment for LGBT kids can be so high, oftentimes, the risk of harassment or physical violence is, you know, is too great to come out. And so, so they're straight, peers don't always have the opportunity to know about their experiences, or are always to know about the pain or the isolation that they've suffered, which, which sometimes can be similar to the pain and isolation that any teenager suffers. So I, you know, I believe that the book can be as useful to straight kids and teachers and parents, as much as it can be to LGBT kids, or teachers or parents.

J

Joan Devlin 41:53

I think so too, especially because the book shatters many stereotypes. You have got a cross section in there, you've got masculine looking, you know, males and feminine looking females and everything in between. So this this mentality that people have, especially young kids, or high school kids, where they think, you know, you know, if a person's effeminate, they're gay, or if a girl's good at sports and has a short haircut, you know, she's a lesbian. And I mean, that would, you know, shattering those stereotypes alone would just be worth the price of admission, as far as I'm concerned?

O

42:30

Well, you know, I think so. And I think that that's one of the ways that photography can be incredibly instructive, because so many of us we know about things, because it's what we see, you know, I've never been to Russia, but I know exactly what Red Square looks like, because I've seen pictures of it. And, you know, the photographs in this book, which are really just simple portraits of kids, show us that, that there isn't a stereotypical lesbian, there's 20 Different lesbians in this book. And, and there's hundreds more, you know, this is just what this is what 20 Lesbians might look like, and this is what 20 You know, gay men might look like, and, and we begin to, you know, so many parents have seen this book and said, Well, that looks just like my kid, or, or a sibling will see it and say that looks exactly like my brother or sister. And of course, that's exactly the point. And so I think that the photography helps us to, to see people in a way in a new way, if we're willing, if we have the images there for us. And in the past, positive images of LGBT kids haven't really been available. And that's something that that I know, that I I could have used and that I really wanted to make different for kids today.

J

Joan Devlin 43:50

And I was going to ask you, because most of the kids I guess, featured in here, you said it's been around for years since you did these particular portraits? Yeah. Do we have any volume two, threes, fours coming out?

O

44:01

Well, it's interesting, I am in touch with some of the kids from the book. And it's it's very wonderful to see how their their stories have progressed. I think I might wait a little while longer. I'm very intrigued by those films called 714 28. Up which are a series of documentaries made in in Britain that trace the lives of a group of people every seven years. So I think I might wait a little while longer, so that their adulthood can unfold more and I think I would love to, you know, kind of go back and see what how their lives have unfolded, especially because they are such courageous young people who have really, against incredible odds have really managed to thrive in their lives.

J

Joan Devlin 44:49

That's the thing because to be that age and to not only come forward as GLBT but to agree to

have your picture taken. Put in a book your story tall I mean, that is incredibly brave.



45:03

Yeah, it certainly is, I know that I couldn't have done it when I was when I was their age. And, you know, one of the things that I think is, is so important is to, to be able to, to honor and acknowledge them and celebrate the strength that they have by telling the stories. And the shared heart is also an exhibit that travels around to high schools, colleges, and workplaces. And these pictures and stories are also part of a secondary school curriculum. So we've really use their stories to reach and touch and educate as many people as possible because they really are heroes, for our time in the incredible bravery and courage that they have, especially the time, I mean, Adolescence is difficult for anyone. And, you know, to have these extra challenges and to be able to stand up and say, I'm proud of who I am proud enough, as you've said, to be part of a book to be part of this national project is, is, you know, shows a remarkable amount of strength and pride.



Joan Devlin 46:13

And the other thing is, they're also saving lives, though. And that's, you know, to me, if, you know, if one or two or three, or however many people are saved, or considering suicide, pick up this book, and say, Oh, I'm not alone, oh, other kids have gone through this too. I mean, to me, that's worth it.



46:34

I, you know, I agree, I'm sure that many of your listeners know this. And it always bears repeating that lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered youth are six times more likely to attempt suicide than their straight peers. And so many of these kids feel so isolated and alone and without hope, that suicide seems like the only option. And it is so important that they know that there are other people who have made it through to the other side. And I also think it's important to say that one of the ways that that just the one of the common factors for each one of these kids is that there was either one person or one group, that they had a place to go to whether it was a guidance counselor, or a friend, or a youth support group, a gay straight alliance in their school, there was one person or one place that they could go, where they felt safe and cared for enough that they could reach out and talk with someone and tell the truth about their experience. And as a result of that, their lives are really spared.



Joan Devlin 47:46

And that's important, because, like you said, I mean, who knows what these kids are going to become?



47:51

Yeah, so I think it, it puts a lot of responsibility on the adults in our community, to make the

space and the time for our young people to, to whether we're teachers or, or we're aunts, and uncles, or, or parents, whatever our role in the community is to somehow make it known that we are people that that our young people can come to, and we that will listen to them that will support them, that will find books for them, or take them to the library or to the bookstore that will do whatever we can, that will sit with them, buy them a cup of coffee and listen to, to the challenges that they're going through. Because kids need to know that people are there for them. It makes all the difference in the world.

J Joan Devlin 48:40

Right? And don't assume that because, you know, it's a little easier for gay adults in this day and age, that it's easier for gay kids.

♀ 48:48

Yeah, I absolutely. I mean, you know, although things are getting a lot better. Kids regularly are, are harassed in schools. And even if they're not directly, indirectly, I mean, the word faggot is, you know, just spoken in the hallways of high school, you know, like, you know, commonly, you know, hundreds of times a day.

J Joan Devlin 49:15

Right. And yeah, and it's just as hard for them now, I would say is it was I mean, I came up in the 70s. And I, you know, when I read some of the things that were talked about in this book, I mean, I could completely relate. Even that was more than, you know, almost 30 years ago. So, yeah, that's very important that that we, you know, watch over our youth and try to help them through the tough times.

♀ 49:37

Yeah, absolutely. And I think it's, you know, there's, there's huge things that can be done, but there's very simple things that can be done. Like, like not assuming heterosexuality. A teacher might say the word, husband, wife or partner, you know, something as simple as that creates a level of inclusion and an inclusion consciousness that that can shifts, a sense of belonging for a young piece. Young person immeasurably,

J Joan Devlin 50:09

right. And you know, I would say a good place to start to reaching out to GLBT youth would be to give them a copy of your book. Because I mean, I could talk, you could talk, and we now face it when you're talking with teenagers and adult as an adult as an adult, you know, but to give them a copy of your book and have them be able to see about other teens that are, you know, the same age or going through the same struggles. And, you know, I just think it makes a huge difference.



50:37

Here support is, is a remarkable support. There's nothing quite like seeing ourselves and feeling like, wow, if you went through it, I can, too. And so, yes, absolutely. Also, let me just say that because the shirt heart has these different resources, and exhibit and the school curriculum. People can find out more information about that on our website, which is the shared heart.com. So that's another place to go for, for resources for young people.



J Joan Devlin 51:11

Oh, great. Well, I want to thank you very much for being so patient with us and calling in letting us call you again this week. Love the book, can't wait to see you know, chapter two or the next volume. See, follow these kids lives. They're amazing. And I'm so glad you put this together.



51:27

Thank you. It's a pleasure talking with you.



J Joan Devlin 51:30

We've been talking to Adam festoon, author of the shared heart portraits and stories of lesbian, gay and bisexual youth, and you are listening to KPFT lesbian and gay voices.



G Glenn Holt 51:41

And Joan, I don't know if you saw on him that this past week. But a world renowned Roman Catholic scholar says that he has found evidence that the Catholic church actually sanctioned and blessed same sex couples from the Middle Ages. So I told him like that, yeah, I'm looking at the article. Right now. I called it up on Planet out.com. Alan Bray, who is an ecclesiastical historian and research fellow at Birkbeck College London, says the proof was staring church leaders on the face all along. It's in their churches themselves. He said, All you have to do is look at memorials dating from the 14th to the 19th centuries. Bracelet evidence is on two markers commemorating passionate friendships, and often the partners are buried together. Although there is no indication that all those commemorated in memorials were involved in sexual relationships. It is clear that some were and the churches turned a blind eye according to Bray, some of the memorials are striking in their intimacy.



J Joan Devlin 52:45

While you know we had a pope that had a baby too, but doesn't seem like it's something that's going to be done again anytime soon.



G Glenn Holt 52:51

So the pope had a baby, there

J Joan Devlin 52:52

was actually a pope that was female disguised as a male. Oh, really? And she I am not jumping jacks ever. You're cracking up? Oh, but it's just so it's really true. It's really true. But like I said, I wouldn't look for to happen again anytime soon.

G Glenn Holt 53:06

Well, here's an example in Merton college chapel in Oxford. A brass plaque dating from the 14th century records the burial together of John Bloxom. And John whiten, showing two figures standing side by side holding hands in prayer. Another one dating from 1684. In Christ's College chapel Cambridge celebrates the canoe Briam, which is just another word for marriage of John Finch and Thomas Baines, and illustrated by a knotted cloth and Gonville and Caius College chapel. There is a memorial of 1619, which shows Thomas leggy and John Goslin with a heart in flames uplifted by two hands with a Latin inscription, which translated says love joined them living So may the earth join them in their burial. A leggy Gosling's heart you have still with you. Sir William Neville and Sir John clan vow both knights were buried in the same tomb. After dying at Constantinople in 1391. They have a monument depicting their heroic shields impaled as if they were married, and their helmets in a stylized kiss. And then there was the 17th century Bishop of Harford, Herbert Croft, and the cathedral Dean George Benson, and they were buried together within the communion rails of the cathedral with the inscription in life united, in depth not divided. In the chapel of St. John Baptist in Westminster Abbey, there's the tomb of Mary Kendall dating from 1710, with an inscription reading that close union and friendship in which she lived with the Lady Catherine Jones, and in testimony of which she desired that even their ashes after death might not be divided. And of course, there are more examples too. But if you would like to read about that, and perhaps duel Little bit more reading on that subject. You can look up something in, in one of the hand digests. Or you can go to Planet out.com. And look under news like I did and find it right there.

J Jack Valinski 55:12

And you know, it's on hand and it's got to be true. Yeah, that's right.

G Glenn Holt 55:16

So what do we have coming up in our second hour?

J Joan Devlin 55:19

Well, we have the tape we did with the men's group last week. And then I will be talking to a local author. Like I said, he's not doing a PHONER. He's going to come in Michael lock, who wrote some prime to book of poetry. And Jack is over here holding an announcement. And it's,

J

Jack Valinski 55:34

it's a memoir, I couldn't read on the hallway, I want to read, which I don't think would be very much of interest to our

G

Glenn Holt 55:40

listeners. So you brought it into the light of the students.

J

Joan Devlin 55:44

Okay, well, Glen, if we could go ahead, I guess and run the men's group tape. And while we're doing that, if people would like to call in 713-526-5738 We have a few Hedwig and the Angry Inch tickets to give away.

G

Glenn Holt 55:57

Well, I don't have that that tape queued up. I have this way out queued up.

J

Joan Devlin 56:00

Well, then let's go to this way out, but you can still call 713-526-5738 We'll get you the headway tickets

G

Glenn Holt 56:12

at 90.1 FM This is KPFT in Houston, the sound of Texas and now more of lesbian and gay voices.

G

Greg Gordon 56:40

With critics comparing it to the Rocky Horror Picture Show and think Floyd's The Wall, the movie version of John Cameron Mitchell's hit off Broadway musical Hedwig and the Angry Inch is now playing in theaters across America. Hedwig was the darling of the Sundance Film Festival, where it won the Audience Award and Mitchell was named best director. The film went on to take honors at festivals in Berlin, San Francisco and Seattle. This way out Steve pride inches up on John Cameron Mitchell to get a better look at the man and the lady at the center of it all.

o

57:13

One of the best film performances of the year comes from John Cameron Mitchell as an East German glam rockers searching for identity after a botched sex change operation. Hedwig and

the Angry Inch doesn't boast a particularly complicated storyline, but the pleasure is in the experience. And its opening in Los Angeles was an absolute love fest.

57:33

This is Cameron Mannheim,

57:34

what do you think of headway? Well, I've

57:36

seen it a probably a dozen times in New York as a play. I was not sure how it was going to translate. It's fantastic. It was so exciting. John Cameron Mitchell is like an angel from heaven. He is so spectacular. You would be just stupid to miss this movie.

57:54

exchange operation got botched. My guardian angel fell asleep on the watch. Now all I've got is crap. I've got on angry Yes.

58:12

Well, it started out in rock clubs, and then theater. And all these people showed up at the theater like suddenly there was Danny DeVito and Glenn Close, you know, in this fleabag hotel were performing and then there's Marilyn Manson not far from Barry Manilow and they seem to get along and and a lot of them wanted to make a movie you know, production companies and distributors and we actually had a bit of a choice and New Line Cinema was a place that the composer and I had a lot of contacts with and it was really dreamy newline creatively it was much more about logistics and money and stamina you know directing myself that was more like the hell but I had to do was kind of 16 hour days and I'd set up a shot in the morning and then go to the makeup and hair and I would coax myself out of the trailer Come on honey are wonderful your beautiful

59:07

track down

59:18

suddenly I



59:24

wake up when the director is not there, you get people kind of bickering, we'll bet No, like sometimes the DP the cinematographer and the editor would fight and release the directors you know has to make the final decision and but I was going to get my nails done you know, and sometimes I even let them do shots without me while I had to do the hair. I would set it up and they would shoot it and then bring the video back to me to tell me if it was okay or if I should shoot another one which was really weird. And then one time I knew was the limit. I actually was looking at the video and then I gave notes to the actor are on the walkie while my hair was being dried. And he said, What? Over, you know, what, could you cry more? Could you Could this working could you cry, and then I realized we have to slow down a little bit more. So that kind of thing was absurd and funny the first time but you know, after the 20th day, it wasn't quite as hilarious. And I'd have to check the playback, do it take maybe three takes in a row to keep the energy going. And then I would run back to the video to check the playback and up a hill and stilettos because it was too late to get the boots or whatever. So I'd be cleaning the wig and the heels and the dresses. And at first it was kind of funny for everyone. And then we kind of got into this groove. And by the end, we had the Teamsters and wakes in our drag day, which is pretty fun.



1:00:48

I've had a sweet liquid drops



1:00:56

Sugar Daddy needs sugar in both



1:01:06

China and in impoverished. If you've got some sugar, sugar daddy bring it home. When I first did Hedvig, I was kind of scared of it. When you're a guy and you're gay. The first thing you know is it's very uncool to be feminine. In fact, women figure that out around the same time that it's kind of uncool to be feminine, don't be a girl. So I was kind of afraid of it for a while. But people would say oh, you should just try it, it really brings out things and it's like, it reminded me of being an acting class and you'd use a mask, and it would free up your body, you know, so I was forced to do the female character because this club was drag club. And it was the only place I had to play. So I got Hedvig together and really thought about it for months. Every one liner, you know, it was like very researched and written out. And it was the first time I'd been with a band which was actually more scary because I couldn't really hear myself I'd been used to doing Broadway stuff. And it was just like an explosion.



1:02:02

On August 16 1961 was erected on the middle of a city of Berlin, the world was divided by a Cold War. And the Berlin Wall was the most hated symbol and let's divide the Brooklyn graffiti

on the wall and stand for it. Now that it's gone, we don't know what is a gentleman standing before you and the divide between East and West slavery, freedom and a woman



1:02:39

now remember, I did the talk in which some drag queens to which is like you kind of like no move your package sort of uncertain and you got a tight and you have and it's very uncomfortable. And it's like supposed to make you know, the dress lay better. And you drag queens there was showing me what to do. And it was like, I don't know if I'm into this and because then I get to the club and they can only see me from the head up and I'm talking to them like I can't untuck now and so it was like completely exciting. And I actually felt kind of more masculine than I'd ever felt, and more feminine. And it's funny that people who kind of were attracted to this, like a lot of women were attracted to me dressed as a woman, I got all this kind of attention I never got from people and it was very powerful drag is sort of like the priest or priestess of gay cultures. And you know, everyone's sort of parts for a nun, whether you're Catholic or not, you move aside for a nun or a priest because of the drag. Right? There's no other reason now there was three sexes then



1:03:38

back to the call the chill.



1:03:56

Shut down



1:04:12

the whole last 20 minutes is kind of like a rock concert. Right? There's no dialogue after certain point. And we want it to have that kind of feeling of free association that you get in the concert because you have a big story up to them. And then you have Hedwig going into her own head. And going into her head she she kind of evolves and realizes that perhaps rather than being half a woman or half a man, she's both and that's better than one. So you see the tattoo kind of coming together. You see the drag stripped away and you see you're walking into the world. And it's not necessarily a brilliant moment, but it's a realistic hopeful, I think inclusive moment. I mean, she kind of includes her audience. However extreme she is. It's always like she assumes that everyone understands who's listening. I like the kind of game of like what's exactly going on here. gender wise I like that kind of confusion because that's how I feel in life. I'm gay. And I remember asking out this cute boy who I met at the Starbucks years ago, and we were actually making out and it was a girl. I only found it out when we were making out and I have all people whose is aware of the variety of gender play in the world. It was like I was thrown, and it was exciting was fun.



1:05:27

This has been a conversation with John Cameron Mitchell. Hedwig and the Angry Inch is a new

THIS HAS BEEN A CONVERSATION WITH JOHN CARMON MITCHELL. HEAVILY AND THE ANGRY MAN IS A NEW LINE RELEASE. THIS IS THE PRIDE THANKS FOR LISTENING.



1:05:36

Yes to Patty.



1:05:49

A Nice



1:05:55

Day, rock and roll



Greg Gordon 1:06:15

Tales of the City author Armistead Martin's latest book that night listener has been called his most autobiographical work to date. But how much of it is really for real? Well, the answer to that question is open to some literary license. As Martin explains in this excerpt



1:06:31

I'm a fabulist by trade. So before warned, I've spent years looting my life for fiction, like a magpie, I save the shiny stuff and discard the rest. It's of no use to me if it doesn't serve the geometry of the story. This makes me less than reliable when it comes to the fax asked Jess Carmody, who lived with me for 10 years and observed this affliction firsthand. He even had a name for it. The jeweled elephant syndrome. After a story I once told him about an old friend from college. My friend whose name was Boyd, joined the Peace Corps in the late 60s. He was sent to a village in India where he fell in love with a local girl and eventually proposed to her. But Boyd's blue blooded parents back in South Carolina was so aghast at the prospect of dusky grandchildren, that they refused to attend the wedding in New Delhi. So Boyd sent them photographs. The bride turned out to be an aristocrat of the highest caste, better bred by far than any member of Boyd's family. The couple had been wed in regal splendor, perched atop a pair of jeweled elephants. Boyd's parents imprisoned in their middle class snobbery had managed to miss the social event of a lifetime. I had told that story so often that Jess knew it by heart. So when Boyd came to town on business and met Jess, for the first time, Jess was sure he had the perfect opener. Well, he said brightly. Gabriel tells me you got married on an elephant. Boy just blinked at him in confusion. I could already feel myself reading. You weren't? No Boyd said with an uncomfortable laugh. We were married in a Presbyterian church just said nothing but he gave me a heavy loaded stare, whose meaning I had long before learn to decipher. You are never to be trusted with the facts. In my defense, the essence of the story had been true. Boyd had indeed married an Indian girl who had met in the Peace Corps. And she had proved to be quite rich. And Boyd's parents who were in fact exceptionally stuffy had always regretted that they'd missed the wedding. I don't know what to say about those

elephants, except that I believed in them utterly. They certainly never felt like a lie, more like a kind of shorthand for a larger, less satisfying truth. Most stories have holes in them the cry out for jeweled elephants, and my instinct, alas, is to supply them.

G

Greg Gordon 1:08:58

And finally this week, a few words from award winning lesbian slam poet spoken word performer Alex Olson, from her day do you see the built like that? That was lesbian slam poet Alex Olson performing the title cut from her debut CD built like that. Thanks for tuning into this way out the international lesbian and gay radio magazine. This week, Cindy Friedman, Dini Elzinga, gram Underhill, Damien Meier, Chris Ambridge. Jason Lynn Ryan newness Rex Walker and Steve pride contributed program material. Kim Wilson composed and performed our theme music. Remember, you can also hear this way out anytime online exclusively on planet out. Just point your browser to www dot planted out.com and click first on multimedia than on radio. Some of this way out operating expenses are funded through direct charitable donations from our listeners around the world for an urgent message about this way outside Typical financial situation, please visit our webpage at this way. out.org Email us at TW o radio@aol.com. Or write to us at Post Office Box 38327 Los Angeles, California 90038 USA for Associate Producer Alicia Powell and the entire this way our family I'm Greg Gordon. Thanks for listening on W mpg, Gorham, main plains FM, Christchurch, New Zealand, KFC I Tucson, Arizona, and more than 125 other stations around the world, including this community radio station, and everybody's gonna stay tuned.

G

Glenn Holt 1:10:36

This community radio station is KPFT in Houston, for more information about this way out, go to this way. out.org No, no, no, no. That was die Capella, from 1998. And their song, lesbian picnic from the album at the gates of heaven. This is lesbian and gay voices.

J

Joan Devlin 1:11:03

Good evening, I'm Joan Devlin. And they have our third author of the evening Michael lock. And Michael lock, as I've said repeatedly throughout the evening, he's local, you can get his book of poetry Sun primed at Lobo bookstore. And I wanted, I was so excited to have Michael come on the show tonight. Because one, this is a wonderful book, I highly recommend it. And you'll see my review of it in the triangle here week from Friday. But the other thing is, you write a lot about the country about the peace and getting back to nature and all that. And I have so many friends that think I'm completely crazy, because I take a little trip to the Midwest every year, because I need to be somewhere where there's nobody else.

o

1:11:42

Well, I'm from the Midwest. And so I'm just kind of a Kansas boy here in Texas. And I've been here for 17 years. So this is home. But I lived out in the country lived out in spring on three acres and my neighbors didn't build anything around me. So I have the house out there by

myself for a while. And it was a wonderful experience, just experience nature. And it was an artist's sort of retreat for me. So I love talking about the country,

J

Joan Devlin 1:12:08

that your poems, I mean, they invoke such vivid images. Um, in fact, the first poem, I was told by a friend of mine, how it just reminds you of a day in autumn, you know, and you look at it and you read it and you think, yeah, it does. And, you know, that's kind of cool for Texas because as you know, Texas doesn't have much of an autumn. You

o

1:12:27

know, I wrote this in February, so it's gonna get but, uh, but it was a warm, beautiful February day, and I just had to write about the wind that ran through the house.

J

Joan Devlin 1:12:39

And you go from so many different things you have, we have forgotten our lives. I talk about your ancestors. She was an African Queen before my grandmother was born. He talked about how it feels to lose someone that you care about.

o

1:12:56

On that particular appointment. I read a portrait and I was a feature poet for Barnes and Noble, the sheriff and a guy come up came up to me and said, Thank you for sharing that his father had just died. And the poem was basically about us being spirits having a human experience. And people concentrate on this coat we have as the body and not really the spirit and so he really needed to hear that. And it was nice that art touch woman's life.

J

Joan Devlin 1:13:23

Here you read it good and read it on the air. Okay. Exclusive to lesbian and gay voices

o

1:13:28

Michael lot. We have forgotten our lives. He was an Aztec warrior in 1519. She was an African Queen before my grandmother was born. They have forgotten their lives. This is the first time my daughter has been here, a new spirit having this human experience. I talked to Jesus about my being here. century old emotions, manifest tears and laughter. I have tasted fufu and Kim Chi, and that special wine Jesus made for the wedding guests and my salvation. I explained to my daughter the new spirit. We are earthbound angels trying to grow having a need to remember God and God within us. I call her Angel. So she will remember at the grave we are to remember our purpose past experience. But we cry and mourn and old code, some cry because they are trying to remember and cannot Some cry because they think the old code has value.

Others cry because they are left behind to grow. The Watusi Plato and Shakespeare created theater. The world needed someone to tell our stories. The world needed someone to call us angels. So we do not forget our lives wonderful palm Thank you.

J Joan Devlin 1:14:50

Yeah and then on the next page it's to show how like it goes from one extreme to the other. The next page after this this wonderful deep meaningful home we have heads are like cabbages are acids when you've used that on the back of the bus, which is actually a really cool poem. But that's a very strange title.

1:15:07

I just wanted to have fun. And that's what that is. And a friend of mine. Aaron Coleman, who's also wonderful poet, said, You need to write a fun, Paul. And, you know, I just kind of remember about sitting on the back of a bus and hands are like, acids or cabbages.

J Joan Devlin 1:15:26

And then you have one in here, and I'm trying to find it. I'm gonna get there. We have one about peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. Right here, peanut butter and jelly. And, you know, somebody told me this guy, he wrote a poem about peanut butter and jelly, I'd be like, okay, but it's cool. Well, it's

1:15:40

just, it takes everybody back to childhood. And I just remembered the thing I didn't want for lunch was peanut butter and jelly or egg salad sandwich. I wanted the cool lunch. But you know, I'm from a family of five. And so we have peanut butter and jelly sandwiches a lot. And that's what really kind of prompted me to write that. And it's fun, and it's warm and kind of brings back memories.

J Joan Devlin 1:16:01

And you know, the other thing about your poems, too, you talk a lot about the country. But you also talk about the city and I'm looking for it and you probably find it easier than I will but you have kind of a city country comparison poem,

1:16:15

that common ground.



joan Devlin 1:16:16

Yeah. And I was gonna ask you, if you would like to read that one



1:16:20

I'd love to and, and basically, what prompted me to write this is that we're so concerned about being different in the bottom line, we're all the same. We all come from the same, you know, ground and I wanted to show that so that's why I call it a common ground. And it reads, In the city, wildflowers are weeds in the country. They are simple and beautiful. in the country, snakes are common in the city snakes think that they are not so common. In the country, people wave and smile. In the city people wave on and grimace. The country is not perfect. For example, there is smoke from Carl's barbecue house. That affects my sinuses makes me tear up with anticipation of eating a rib or two, so I suffer there. I endure the overcrowding of my space. I am forced to share it with butterflies, spiders, birds, coyotes, more birds, more bugs, strange bugs, and the faint aroma of horse droppings. In the city. One does not have to share space with coyotes in the city, one share space with development, redevelopment common walls of expensive condos, homeowners associations, and snakes wearing cap toed shoes with Esquire at the end of the name. In the city there are fields worrying signs that say new mall coming soon. And the country there are fields wearing big red arrows pointing one two fresh strawberries, fresh watermelons or puppies for sale. No one ever says this is God's City Country sounds better. On the other hand, no one ever refers to the country that never sleeps. I can be smug about the country and say that country folk do not share the same ills of racism, poverty, AIDS, teen pregnancy, drugs, classism, homophobia, greed and broken hearts, as do those city dwellers. But we know we know otherwise. In the country, wildflowers are simple and beautiful. In the city, wildflowers are simple and beautiful.



Joan Devlin 1:18:30

I think that about says it right there. And what is the response been to this this book so far?



1:18:35

It's been wonderful. We've got everything that we've sold. I mean, we can't keep them in Lobos. I mean everything in there. We sell out very quickly. We're also there also at Oscars Creamery, and we're catering takes in the heights. I've got friends in my hometown that are selling them in Kansas City. And so it's been very good and happy that someone came in the other day and said, I need to buy a book for a friend of mine. He took mine and so I need to replace it. It really makes me feel good as an artist and say that I'm saying something that is touching somebody somewhere. So the response has been



Joan Devlin 1:19:11

wonderful. And are there more books in your future?



1:19:15

Actually, there is I'm putting together a kind of a compilation of several poets in town, Mike Bowen, Eric Coleman, Billy Simon, Donna Garrett, where Andrea Roberts, who's also one of the core, we're putting together kind of the Bohemian Houston bohemian poet collection. And so hopefully that will we'll see that toward the end of the year. I'm also launching an art and literature magazine called consortium and the electronic version will go online on Labor Day weekend. And so it's really a magazine that's geared toward all the arts performance, literary and visual. That's wonderful.

J Joan Devlin 1:19:54

And I noticed that you're saying a portion of every sale of your book benefits the Roberts See Tate Center and the American organ transplant Association. What made you decide to do that?

1:20:06

I sat on the board of both of those organizations at one time, and they're doing really good things. The Robert C Tate Center is a center that was taking kids off the street. She the woman started it in the summertime and it's kind of evolved into a year round thing. And she really needs to help. And the American organ transplant association is definitely something that is good for everybody. And so I just want to give some money back to the community. Well,

J Joan Devlin 1:20:31

just close out, why don't you choose a poem for us and read one and just kind of let us know why you chose that particular

1:20:38

one.

1:20:40

I'm gonna read a poem entitled glorious pecans. You live in Texas and pecans is a big deal here. And so I had to write about that. Southern breezes tropical do dance firmly on pecans that dangle over a sweet muddy road. centuries old trees are canopies of times past and producers of prey Lee's prey leads to come. What lives these trees are shared with the green and fragrant, dusty, broken twigs, ripe fruit, make mounds and season straw vessels to crave the robustness of sweet pecan oil in my coffee cookies or cream is complementary to life itself. Cousin Martha's shrine of glistening pecan pie on bone is a good thing. wefting smells of Aiken. I'm sorry. We're having smells of eggs, bacon grits, grapefruit, coffee, and pecan rolls calls us home versions of Christmas. Pecans adorned with oranges, apples and cheese makes us 13. Again, so simple. The seed so delicious. The alternative from Hungry coffee.

J

Joan Devlin 1:21:55

Yes. Well, that is wonderful. Thank you so much, Michael. I'm so glad you could take the time to come out and be with us tonight. And if you want to get a copy of subprime the book of poetry by Michael lock, please go to Lobo Oscars Creamery are catering and take some lights. Great and buy several because it's for a good cause. And it's a great book. Great Gift.

♂

1:22:15

Thanks for having me on the children.

J

Joan Devlin 1:22:16

Thanks. Once again, you're listening to KPFT lesbian gay voices.

♂

1:22:30

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J

Joan Devlin 1:23:21

I'm Joan Devlin with lesbian and gay voices. And I have several people here for the men's group and they're going to be talking about well, actually, I think I'll let y'all explain it first, if you could just briefly introduce yourselves. I know Paul Guillory,

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1:23:33

Paul Guillory, the founder of the men's gathering of Houston.

♂

1:23:37

I'm Daryl Fitzgerald, I'm a member of the men's gather.

♂

1:23:41

And I'm Robert Lewis, I'm a member in the men's gathering also,

J

Joan Devlin 1:23:44

and you came up, but actually, Paul, you emailed me about a very intriguing topic, and it's something that I've noticed has been being picked up on more and more in the mainstream media. It's called the download or on the download

Ω

1:23:57

on the download. The basically it means secretive, are hidden. And the reason this is an issue is because of the increasing HIV rate among specifically among black women. And just to give a little background, the CDC came up with different terms, as far as men who are infected with HIV, or being gay, and getting the virus from another man, either being gay, bisexual, or men who have sex with men. And they found that in the black population, black male population, 25 of the respondents would answer to having sex with men but being heterosexual. And so these were people that typically were in relationships with women or had sex with both men and women. And so this phenomenon of being on the Download became an issue because 20% of the new HIV cases are among black women and almost half of the black women who are being infected, or being infected through heterosexual sex?

J

Joan Devlin 1:25:05

And is this? How much of this is this the CDC and people have heard this complaint before? Sort of tailoring everything to the white gay male population? Or is this a resource is the download recently new phenomenon?

Ω

1:25:20

The download is different. It's not specifically related to the white male, because when you ask a white male who got the virus from another man, they will answer that they're gay or bisexual 93% of the time, only 7% of the time will they admit to being heterosexual? So when they saw this significant difference between the white male respondents, and the black male respondents, that you know, this became an issue. Now, the Hispanic or Latino is somewhere in the middle, about 12% of their respondents, who are infected with the virus admit to getting the virus from a man but will not answer to being gay or bisexual.

J

Joan Devlin 1:26:03

So is this but is that attitude fairly typical? Would you say? Is it because there's more stigma in these communities to coming out as gay? Or is it just that you know, people because I mean, I've met people even now that will tell me, Oh, I can't get AIDS or I can't get HIV because I'm straight. Okay.

Ω

1:26:24

Let me let me go back to what you said earlier. And then I ask Robert and Daryl to pitch in. This is from an article from the CDC called a deadly secret. And it appeared in the Atlanta Journal Constitution on July the eighth. And I'm going to read an excerpt it says, while white men who have sex with men are more likely to leave families and communities, particularly in rural areas and small towns, and move to gay communities in major cities like San Francisco, Atlanta and New York, this is not true of black men, there is no such thing as a gay community for African American men, the African American community provides them support to deal with racism, they experience in the general population, and the white mainstream gay community. So this type of environment, the cultural thing, whether it's, it's in a black community, or in this country, is causing black men, not just to stay in the closet, but those that don't even know whether they're gay or bisexual to be on the download, to be secretive. And in many of these men, and not even aware that they even would be called gay or bisexual.



1:27:39

Well, one thing I've seen is that, in the black community, those of us who were raised in the church, there is just not a whole lot of support in the black churches, for those who are infected with the HIV virus, or there's still a lot of homophobia in the black church. And that's what's leading to a lot of men who are unable or unwilling in a lot of cases to come out and admit that they are at the very least men who have sex with other men.



J Joan Devlin 1:28:17

So in a way, what you're saying is for African American, I mean, they're sharp males, they're being shunned, in essence, by their own church communities, but also by the gay community, because you know, as a white person, if your family kicks you out, you come to this community, you're embraced. But you're saying that's not necessarily the case. For an African American, they're shunned by this community as well, very much so. So they're pretty much trapped. Now this is theirs to bear alone.



1:28:43

Somebody like myself, for instance, who was married for almost 20 years, and then finally had the courage to come out, even though there will be some similarities as far as what the term download is, because I knew I was gay, I never had a problem admitting that I just, I mean, not admitting it to myself, but I was definitely not going to admit it to the community, because of the stigma. And coming out many times what happened is that you lose that support of the black community. And when you come to the so called gay community, you find people here, but they don't look like me, or they haven't had the cultural experience I've had. So now I it's like I'm on an island. And I feel disconnected from both so many black men, regardless of how they see themselves, and especially those on the Download would never even get to the point of questioning, should I leave this black community? They just won't do it.



J Joan Devlin 1:29:41

So yeah, and I would say that if when you get to that island point in a way that almost leads

you to more self-destructive behavior, because you know, the more isolated you feel, and then the more crazy things get



1:29:54

a lot of this download phenomena just quickly some of the points. It is denial and dishonesty. It's denial that maybe I'm really attracted to men more than women. But the question may not even be conscious. And it is dishonest. So regardless of whether a person who's in a relationship with a man or a woman, and if they're having sex with anybody else, that's some form of the download, but may not be considered the true download. But in every case, it's being dishonest. And so at the core of a lot of this is the ability to control that environment, to never admit the true part of who I am. And at the core of that is fear.



J Joan Devlin 1:30:45

So what can people do? I mean, what's the best thing people can do to try to, I don't want to say, bring this out in the light. But I guess the advice you would give the people maybe that are listening, that are living on the download, what would you say to them?



1:31:00

Well, first of all,



1:31:01

just to step out, talk, our group is a great group to come to. And I mean, we support you, we don't care if you identify as gay, bisexual, download, whatever. But just just to be able to dialogue and get it out, you know, because we need to talk about it. That's, that is what's killing us, killing our black women.



J Joan Devlin 1:31:26

And that's the next question. So you have someone who's on the download, who is sick, infecting other people? Are they also afraid to seek treatment? I mean, what do they do when they discover that maybe there's something wrong with their health.



1:31:46

Basically, they just cannot be afraid to actually go in and seek the treatment that they need, and also to protect themselves and to protect other people. Especially as far as our black women go, they have to really empower themselves. To actually say, you don't, if you don't wear a condom, I will not have sex with you.



1:32:11

And also, the fact is the DL men, a deal person is not going to do anything, pretty much to answer your question. They're not going to do it. And as Robert was saying, the responsibility now comes to black women who are having sex with men, to actually get to know the history to ask them. And not to assume that just because they look a certain way that they're heterosexual. And also, because of the HIV rate increasing among young black men, is us too. You know, the gay men should do the same thing. Because in this whole discussion, even though the focus has been on black women, the fastest growing HIV rate is among African American young men from 23, to 29. And some of these men are also so called on the down low or bisexual. And so we need to protect ourselves. So ultimately, it does come down to the individual taking responsibility for themselves, no matter whether someone is on the download or not.



J Joan Devlin 1:33:20

And what is it? What is your hope for the future? You know, as unfortunately, you know that the numbers keep growing? What is your hope that bringing this whole downlow phenomenon out in the public eye? Do you hope to see maybe like you said, some people step out and take some responsibility, get more people informed?



1:33:43

Well, first of all, is to make sure that the gay male is not being demonized, right? The gay male is not the problem. And really, the download individual is not the problem. The problem is that people are not taking responsibility for what they do. This disease is not about being gay or straight. It's about what you do. And so it's ultimately I think the message is for everyone to take personal responsibility to protect themselves, and not to put that in the hands of anybody else.



1:34:19

And I'm my brother living with HIV. I've been positive for about 10 years. And I'll say that it's very important to it was very important for me to start getting counseling to, to, to work on on that. It was easy to to push it aside and say, Well, you know, there's nothing wrong with me. And I found out that after I started dealing with my problem, then, you know, my secrets started, they started to go away, and I started feeling better about myself. So I mean, if you find yourself in that situation, I would say, you know, start, start getting counseling, start talking to people start joining, do some men's groups, just to talk about what's going on with you?



J Joan Devlin 1:35:11

And how can people get in touch with the men's group?



1:35:15

Well, the men's gathering, they can email me at the men's gathering that's in s. gathering@yahoo.com. Or they can actually call at area code 713-528-4461.



J Joan Devlin 1:35:30

And you had something else you want to talk to us a little bit about tonight?



1:35:35

Well, there's some activities that's going on. I know that Robert, in my partner d'offay Were on your show, I think was last fall. And at that particular time, you know, they told you the purpose of the man's gathering, and pretty much what our purpose is, is to dialogue, as Darrell said, about our issues. And it is limited to two black gay men or black down black bisexual men are black men who were on the download, who want to come in and be a part of our group. And we dialogue about these issues in order to empower ourselves and to be more honest and truthful to ourselves. And many times this dialogue moves us to action. This is one of the things we've had contact from other magazines in the community that's now reaching out and actually getting our opinion on issues. And so the typical proceed typically perceive white gay community, in a small way is reaching to us, they're noticing what we're doing, and they're paying attention. So that's a change that's taking place.



J Joan Devlin 1:36:37

Yeah, we took 30 years to No, it's okay. You know, it's



1:36:41

not a perfect world. And we, you know, we have taken care of ourselves. Number one, and I tell people over and over again, we separate, to heal not to be separatist. So we're not about that, because I'm a member of the board for the Montrose Counseling Center. We have people that that are volunteers and various different groups. So we're not isolating, right? We have a weekend coming up, we're calling it the explosion weekend, it's October 5 through seventh. We're inviting everybody to boys night out, and girls can come to and we're going to, you know, we're going to hang out, go to Dave and Busters and go to some of the clubs on Friday, Saturday, we're going to have a brunch that morning would poetry and then we're going to have seminars, financial seminars, HIV awareness, seminars, and then the only event that's closed only to black gay men will be the meeting that night. But after that, we will be meeting we typically go to Bennigan's after. So we'll be doing that. And then going out again. And then the next day we'll be worshiping at MCC are together on Sunday, the seventh then after that, we'll end it with our picnic, which will be at Tom bass Park. And if anybody is interested, again, if you contact the men's gathering@yahoo.com or call me at 713-528-4461 We can get information to you.



J Joan Devlin 1:38:02



JUDI DEVLIN 1.30.05

Well, it seems to me that the group is growing, have more people been, you know, joining in coming along as time has gone on.



1:38:12

Right now we're averaging about 40 Guys a meeting and we meet every other week. But one huge change that's taking place since on November is the fact that we now have an online Yahoo club. And we dialogue about issues on relationships, homophobia, addiction, suicide, spiritual principles that help us to live a more empowered life. Looking for Mr. Right and Mr. Right now, all of these issues, and we have over 1600 members, and we have members from all over the United States and even some from different parts of the world.



J Joan Devlin 1:38:45

Well, that's great, because I guess people can also be anonymous if they have questions or things they want to talk about, but maybe they don't want to do it face to face. So is it just through Yahoo groups that they can join in on that discussion board? Yes.



1:38:57

You don't have to be in a chat room, you just have to have the link. And again, if you would, you know write to me at the men scattering@yahoo.com I can send the link, anybody and we invite everybody to be part of that. And since we were talking about the download, I've even changed the the purpose of the club to reach out to black gay and the L men. Because as you said people can be anonymous and still get benefit of the dialogue that's taking place.



J Joan Devlin 1:39:25

Well, that's great. And go ahead and give us your email address one more time so people can get in touch



1:39:29

the email address the men's gathering@yahoo.com T H E M e n s gat at R. I n g@yahoo.com.



J Joan Devlin 1:39:42

I want to thank you so much for being on tonight. Please keep me posted of different things to men get the men's gathering is doing and of course we'll have you back on again before your big event in October so we can pump that up a little bit more. And I appreciate you taking the time to come on the show tonight. Thank you. Thank you. You're listening to has been engaged voices



1:40:03

imagine this you're late for a meeting, you're driving your car, the radios turned on and you're really not paying much attention then a red light. At that moment something happens. The story on the radio, the description of the story is so overwhelming. It stopped you right there. The red light did help, of course, but the story took you there and taught you something new. That's what KPFT is about taking you there. Whether it's through our news programs like the BBC News, our the world Democracy Now. Pacifica network news or any of our other news and information programs. It's about independent radio Euston is 90.1 KPFT. The sound of Texas



G Glenn Holt 1:40:44

you're listening to lesbian and gay voices. Jack, did you have something to say? Yes,



J Jack Valinski 1:40:48

I do have a few things to say.



J Joan Devlin 1:40:50

What really was here tonight.



J Jack Valinski 1:40:53

Joan was here twice. She was live in on tape. The magic of radio. A couple of things coming up for sure. I want to talk about movies, Hedwig and the Angry Inch was a fabulous movie it was talked about on this way out. In fact, I think you really have to see it twice to get out everything that was said in it playing at the River Oaks, which is wonderful, a great movie place. This weekend is going to be the pride committees mail out of the summer. I guess it's the summer newsletter, Friday nights starting at seven Saturday starting at 10am. At the community center, 803 Hawthorne. And we've got to get a new tenant over there at the community center. PFLAG is moving and it's just wonderful. There are meetings and groups and gatherings going on all the time at the community center. Great bunch of people over there. I really want to thank it's really great to work with the wonderful people over there.



J Joan Devlin 1:41:47

And I want to throw in real quick this is a little personal thing. First of all, we'll have to do our shout out to Anderson because he always asked for that. But also my sweet, wonderful nephew Henry. It was his birthday last week and our transmitter was off the air. So I'm wishing him a happy belated birthday. And I won't tell you how old he is because he'll get mad but He's my nephew but he's older than me. And last Monday was Lucy's birthday. That's right. She would have been 90 years old and it

J Jack Valinski 1:42:12
would have been her 50th year starting on the Lucy

J Joan Devlin 1:42:16
ship anniversary of I Love Lucy Yes Don't make me sad. Well, it's something to celebrate. It is but I wish she was still here. I loved her.

G Glenn Holt 1:42:25
Well, she wouldn't still be doing the I Love Lucy show if she was I

J Joan Devlin 1:42:28
don't know. Exactly.

J Jack Valinski 1:42:32
Um, and what you did a lot of books tonight. That was pretty interesting.

J Joan Devlin 1:42:36
Yes. And the books once again to run down them real quick or the shared heart by Adam mass. Steun. Never a dull moment teaching in the art of performance by Jin lil Gil Lin Feldman, and son primed book of poetry by Michael lock, which is available at Lobos and Oscars Creamery. And also he mentioned another location in the heights that I can think of off the top of my head, which is go to Lowe's and get it have some chocolate eruption you'll be fine.

J Jack Valinski 1:43:03
And JD came by and he was out in LA talking to our sisters and brothers out there that I am, are you is the show out there. And he has coming up in two weeks we'll be the queer music heritage portion of the show,

J Joan Devlin 1:43:17
which is a good show

1:43:18

this time, as usual. So we have a lot of stuff coming up next week.

J Joan Devlin 1:43:22

Next week, we'll be talking, of course to the alley theatre, they'll be doing their regular feature with us. Hopefully we can get David Elliot back. We unfortunately were unable to talk to him last week. So the transmitter difficulties and then hopefully also, Amy Beth Gill strap will be on to talk to us about some things that are coming up at Landmark. And we also hope to have milliards umbrella, which is a new performance art group that is starting out in Euston and they're going to be doing a benefit for the community center.

J Jack Valinski 1:43:51

So lots of good stuff going on. And if you have any interest in volunteering or helping out with the show, as some of us get a little tired and old. You can email us, Glenn, do you have an email address for us?

G Glenn Holt 1:44:04

Yeah, it's LG voices@aol.com.

J Jack Valinski 1:44:08

Okay, that small internet company, right. So lots of things going on. It's

G Glenn Holt 1:44:13

and also, of course, if you want to volunteer for queue patrol,

J Joan Devlin 1:44:17

you can keep a job login.

G Glenn Holt 1:44:19

Well of course I have to I'm the president of the thing. It's cute patrol i n see as an incorporated because q patrol is a nonprofit corporation. Q patrol I NC Q patrol,

1:44:32

vote you out of office, how would they do that?

 Glenn Holt 1:44:35

Jack? How about if you just volunteer for the position that would probably

 1:44:41

actually you have elections and things like that?

 Glenn Holt 1:44:42

Well, yeah, I mean, we you know, we're a bonafide Corporation. We have to do stuff like that. But it's one of those things where we have so few people volunteering, especially it consistently, that it's one of those kind of organizations that if you end up in a city to make a coup, right, yeah, you end up end up position, you know Well, there you are.

 Joan Devlin 1:45:03

Yeah and I want to mention real quick rebels Ruby fruit and rhinestones clearing space in the Stonewall South James T Sears history of the gay movement in the South. Lots and lots of good stuff about Euston our own right Hill. There's a big article on it and outsmart as well. I highly recommend this book. This is an absolutely wonderful book and we will be talking to Jim Sears in October where is it available? It is available Lobo Crossroads borders anywhere you want to go to get this book. If they don't have it. They will order it for you but I highly recommend It's a wonderful book

 Glenn Holt 1:45:33

and your volunteer for Q patrol by calling 713528 safe. You have been listening to lesbian and gay voices heard each Monday at 8pm here on KPFT publicly funded Pacifica network station. Lesbian and Gay voices is produced live in Houston with recorded segments from this way out which is produced at KPFK in Los Angeles, lesbian and gay voices executive producer is Jack Valinski. On Air voices are Joan Devlin Glenn Holt and Jack Valinski. You can write to us at PO Box 66071 Houston, Texas 77266 or email to LGV news@aol.com. Be sure to listen to KPFT every Saturday night at midnight for after hours with Jimmy Carper. It's queer radio with attitude. This is the sound of Texas 90.1 FM KPFT in Houston for lesbian and gay voices. I'm Glenn Holt.

 1:46:37

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