

# gcam\_ah\_19921121\_t1\_02.mp3\_edit

Mon, Nov 28, 2022 4:25PM 41:34

## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

lesbian, gay, election, people, women, seats, reelected, gay rights, house, anti gay, senate, colorado, queer, great, won, love, color, houston, mother, clinton

## SPEAKERS

Diane Williams, Greg Gordon, Jimmy Carper, Tiffany, Lucy Chappelle, Cindy Friedman

---



00:02

Yay. All right.



00:04

I just wanted to say that that, fine, it wasn't always an easy and easy time growing up being gay, but living in Maine being very secluded, not really even understanding what I was feeling for a long time, I almost self destructed. And I did that because of being ashamed of what I was who I was I did a lot of work did a lot of work in terms of trying to give myself a break. But it was a very difficult thing. I mean, suicide is certainly something that, that I considered at one point in my life, because I felt worthless, there was no avenue to for for anyone to say that I was okay. It was not talked about my mother, who's just 82 is finally starting to take a stand and coming out with me. It's a very exciting ride. Yeah, she's really learned a whole lot. We've all learned a whole lot. And it feels real good.



Diane Williams 01:07

I think come I've likened coming out as a young person, especially a scenario like a young person living in rural Texas as to like throwing an aborigine in the center of New York and saying, as a child and saying, Here grow up. You know, it's like, there's, there's a great deal of cultural differences that you don't even know, you know, that person may be of a different nature, you know, their family has been eating one set of foods for years. And that young person is now in an in a, in an area in a culture where they eat a different set of foods, and they use a different utensil. And, you know, it's that may be a little hard to grasp for some people. But for a lot of us, it was very true. I grew up in Houston, and also in a small town kind of back and forth a lot. And I didn't really realize I knew I was different, but I didn't really realize exactly what it was. And it was just, I've never really been in I've been out since I was 14. So 14 or 15. And but until



02:13

you until you actually come out and can find a support system and other people to validate. That's right, those same feelings. You're gonna walk around thinking you're different. And you can't I mean, I can't hold on Nebraska. They didn't know about being gay in the cornfields trust me.



D Diane Williams 02:30

Now, I don't know if some people might be



02:35

in Florida, and that South Florida made it really easy. Once you once you made that step in the right direction, the support system was real strong. Community was real strong.



D Diane Williams 02:45

A lot of people will ask the question why validated? I mean, that's the devil's advocate question here. Why validate the gay lifestyle? Why validate you homosexuals? A lot of the Christian Right, right and, and I'm a Christian, I think a lot of those fundamentalists are pseudo Christians. I'm not real happy with those folks. Yeah, those pseudo Christians can really, you know, get on my nerves. But a lot of people would say, why validated? You know, what's, what's worth validating? And to respond to that?



03:20

Every human being has to validate themselves. I mean, even if you are a Christian, right? or lesbian or, or whatever you are me, that's part and parcel of yourself. I mean, you how does one not come to terms with with themselves, everyone has labels? Maybe labels aren't good, but hell, I mean, he's got to have a sense of who you are. And that's part of it. I mean, it's part of your life, it's



03:54

my lesbianism to is far more than my sexuality. I mean, and sometimes when I view things that are going on in the world, you know, because I think of my life as a tapestry with all these intricate threads, you know, different widths, and whatever. And when I see something that I think is pretty queer going on in the mainstream America world, you know, I wonder, well, am I finding a queer because I'm a lesbian, or am I finding a queer because I'm a feminist. You know, and I grapple with that a lot of times, but, you know, in choosing relationships, and as far as heterosexuality versus homosexuality, I mean, there's differences there that that's where I make the clear choices, I would much rather be involved in a lesbian relationship. And you know, perhaps that's where I'm fortunate because I think it is a choice. You know, at least for me, it is you know, I'm in yet at this point, I can honestly say I'm a lesbian, yet if I met a person

who had all the feminist qualities, and I wasn't involved with Pauline, you know, but I met a person who had All of her qualities, but happened to be a male, I don't think that I would let the anatomy stop me from being involved with them. But in a heterosexual relationship, as I see them today, and the ones that I've been involved in, you know, there's a level of respect missing, and how can that not be in a patriarchal world? And we're raised to believe that the men are a, you know, a pedestal higher than us or whatnot. And of course, they take that role. And I see that in my son's I mean, you know, here I am a radical feminist lesbian I have raised to heterosexual sons, and they display misogynistic behavior at times, and it floors me because I can't imagine where they picked it up, because it certainly wasn't society. Sure. Well, I

 Diane Williams 05:41

think I've said it before. And I'll say it again, I think in a perfect world, everybody would be bisexual, just because we would all have the capacity to love one another equally. Now, that doesn't mean we have that yet. And it doesn't mean that I am and then you are and then everyone is but the bottom line is that we should all strive for that capacity. androgynous. Yeah, well, I don't know about androgyny. Just equality, totally quality. Because I mean, you know, like, like you said, I wouldn't let anatomy be a barrier if the perfect person was there and a male physique, but I have. Hi, Susan, hi, Tiffany. Giggling in the background, crunching and making noises.

 06:21

And in a perfect society would be colorless.

 Diane Williams 06:24

I agree. Well, it's another either colorless or, again equal, because I mean, I think a rainbow is beautiful. And White is boring, but

 06:33

white and black is the absence of color if you want to get to it.

 Diane Williams 06:38

Yeah, well, actually, black is the isn't black. The absence of color, and white is unity of all colors or something. Something like that. I don't know. That's a color thing. Any any artists out there? I see some lines Blinken. Great. I wanted to ask you, Tiffany as the token lesbian child of a lesbian parent. come chat with his first token, lesbian mother. Well give us I've got a couple of questions. Give us your coming out story, hon. And before that, you might want to explain a little bit about your family situation and growing up. And if that made a difference quickly.

 07:10

07.12

I don't think that my mother BLSA had that much of an effect on me coming out. My family with has always been very open. Even if she hadn't been a lesbian. It wouldn't have been hard coming out. You know, I never came out or, you know, sat down and had the coming out experience with my grandparents. I just showed up with women, you know, and it was cool. I think that my mother, I mean, I grew up in a very matriarchal family. And they supported me and being a woman. And I loved it Deming was wonderful.

D

Diane Williams 08:05

What How did you This is really tough question to ask anybody. But how did you find out decide acknowledge whatever your gayness and why do you think that occurred? And I'll ask everybody to eat me think about this. A lot of people say that. Those a lot of people say that divorce women cause lesbians. A lot of people say that children of women have a matriarchal family creates lesbians, you know, it's like, yeah, Strong Mothers, weak fathers. It's like all kinds of, frankly, you know, bull if you asked me, but

W

08:43

I don't remember ever mess around with little boys. I mean, you know, my earliest. I mean, one of my earliest memories is going into my clothes, dirty clothes hamper with my little next door neighbor and messing around with this little girl when I was four years old. I mean, I never had. I mean, I never had crushes on boys. You know, I mean, I probably dated, you know, three men in my life. And, you know, that was probably like, the year that I was trying to act straight. And that was it. And I

D

Diane Williams 09:11

And was your mom supportive? Through that? Through your dating boys are?

W

09:16

Yeah, I mean, she was completely supportive in that. I mean, she's completely supportive. And my sister who has, you know, she's already sat down and had the birth control, talk with my sister, and, you know, saying, if you're going to have sex with this man, or this boy, young man, then let's go get it taken care of, you know, I mean, she's completely supportive. In who and what you are, you know, she's my best friend.

D

Diane Williams 09:43

That's great. So, Pauline, did you have both parents or in your formative years or one parent or any particular?

W

09:54

Mother, father, four siblings. Catholic Catholic everybody's straight Miss

D Diane Williams 10:03

vase. Everybody's straight but everybody straight

10:07

but me. The special one, I guess. Yeah.

D Diane Williams 10:11

And Susan child of beaver cleaver. That's right. The cleaver household over there. That's right. While he's gay, we've heard that Karen

10:26

to normal parents

D Diane Williams 10:30

define normal really word from Omaha. You're clever.

10:34

And the field I'm in as far as as a career, which is is counseling and stuff. I had a very normal childhood. Nothing weird ever happened to me. There was no abuse. There was no alcoholism, there was no nothing. The only thing I would say that was a little bizarre was they were a lot older. When I was born. I was like one of those like, late in my life, babies are actually maybe a mistake. I have no idea. My father was almost 50. And my mom was well into her 40s only child.

D Diane Williams 11:06

You do have an older sibling have a half brother half who's a bit older, right?

11:12

51 or 52. has been this way.

 Diane Williams 11:16

And donna, donna,

 11:19

I had mother and father, two brothers and a sister. My father always referred to himself as a recovering Catholic. So I grew up as a recovering Catholic, which was healthy. School inner city. I was always a tomboy. And you know, maybe that was just my being a little dark and not knowing it, you know, but a one to many tree. You know, I was programmed to get married. That's what you did. You graduated high school, you got married, and you had babies and hopefully in that order. And that's what I did. I got mad. I did eight

 Diane Williams 11:54

babies. exactly nine months later, she had

 11:58

no no I was, you know, and that was a thing. You know, like sex was a function of marriage. That was you know, as far as the birds and bees talk went in my house and so you know, your way that she got married to you had sex. And I always thought when my mother told me that sex must be like making a bed, you know, you make bed to have sex you cook separate function. Right. And so I never really thought in sexual terms, you know, so coming in touch with my own sexual identity, you know, didn't really kick in till after I realized this marriage thing wasn't working. And I gave it 10 years to find out now. I'm sure why, you know, just to be sure, but sex was never no big kick.

 12:38

That's one of the things that I wanted to talk about. And I think we started to talk about it is lesbianism is far more than the sexual aspect of life. I mean, I get up in the morning and I do chores and I take out the garbage and I do the dishes and and sometimes I take bubble baths and like to go shopping. It's really unfortunate that that we talk about lesbianism as just the sexual part of it because I am far more than just a sexual being. I go to movies, I like to read books, I like to be challenged. I like a whole lot of things. And we we forget that because we are just so caught up in the whole sexuality of the sexual aspect of human beings that we forget that people have a life. I mean, sex is fun, but you know, there are other things that are fun too. Okay, well,

 Diane Williams 13:33

I've appreciated this little conversation we've been having please stick around for just a little bit Mo. This is Diane Williams you're listening to after hours on KPFT 90.1



13:46

KPFT Houston. Yeah, can



13:49

we try one more time? Take 42 Friday mornings after the BBC Three you just want to be weightless with James and the smarter side of rock electronic and new age music. That's weightless a little after three days APFT.



14:17

Question like before that I didn't know I was



D Diane Williams 14:19

okay, we're on but I'm not quite on that. I guess I'm on now. I want to thank the caller who called it a minute ago to talk about colors. Tiffany, you're gonna tell me what he said. Is it is it true like black is the absence of color and white is like a lot of colors. Is it there? Is it the other way around?



T Tiffany 14:39

So he disagreed. He said it was the other way around. But I remember in my art class that it was black was the absence of color and white was combination of all colors but he as an artist called in and said that that was wrong.



D Diane Williams 14:51

Well, you know what I think it is. I think it's science versus art. In light. In light. It's science versus art. Right prisms. Oh Look, we've got more callers they're gonna talk about art in color. Please, please



15:04

That's right. That's right.



D Diane Williams 15:10

I think it's, I think it's like prisms, that kind of thing. And then mixing paint, mixing paint



15:18

the colors of lesbian feminism. We know it's a lot. It's right.



D Diane Williams 15:20

It's right lavender,



15:22

which is actually the pink and blue. Well, the



D Diane Williams 15:24

freedom rings. You know, Freedom rings are wonderful things are the rainbow. Jesse Jackson's Rainbow Coalition. I think that it's important that we recognize that all colors have beauty and meaning and together, they're even more beautiful without losing their own identity. In that, like poetic. I can almost like write a song about that. And thanks. Very intense. Do we have some important phone calls yet? Jimmy? No, no important phone calls? Well, I'd really like to hear from some young people out in the Richmond Rosenberg, a leaf area. They're laughing because they think I'm joking. I'm not. I'd really like to talk to some people who have some information on gay Laura gelora. So call me you know who you are. We've got some other things happening. Care to share list with me, my dear about feminism. As she points this is the radio when she's pointing



16:19

I'm pointing we're talking about tell



D Diane Williams 16:21

me you're pointing



16:22

what we've been talking about what feminists communications



16:25

feminist ethics of communication.

D Diane Williams 16:28

Okay, well, you know, we have a caller now do it. Let's let's find out what what channel who's on? Okay, Jimmy. Cool. Hello, hello. Hello. Hi, who am I talking with?

16:41

You're talking to Joseph.

D Diane Williams 16:42

Hi, Joseph. Tell me the name of your organization again and what it means that the NGO or not Guevara, you know, what might be? Go or even less than the rich and Rosenberg elite? Vario. Yeah. Well, how long have you been organized

16:57

for? About two months?

D Diane Williams 17:00

Two months? That's pretty good. Good start. You were telling me about a minor kind of conflict you were having? Can you explain that to those of us? Those of our listeners who have never heard of your organization? Yeah, we started about two months ago, like I said before, and we're trying to, you know, get up fires everywhere in all these different schools, neither in the southeast Houston area. And, you know, a bunch of schools were opposed to protesting, you know, they're like, No, we're not gonna have this in our school. We're going to try to appeal this, that whatever. Okay, now, now, to slow this down a little bit. You had some flyers that you wanted to distribute in high schools in the wall, on the walls, or up on the wall and bulletin boards? And in like, the a leaf area, right. And, you know, Mission grand mission band wherever sort of land those areas. Okay. And who's the sponsor of your organization? Do you have an adult group of sponsors, or totally youth oriented? And what are the ages of your members, it's mainly teen oriented. Even though we do have an adult sponsor. It's a comic shop in the Richmond Rosenberg area. And our age group is from 13 to 21. Our phone number is we just recently had a change with the new numbers 2202803. It will say this is for Jason, but you know, leave it alone. That is also glorious number. Do you want to give us that number again? 220. Do 803 to 803 out of the box is PO Box? 1170? A these Texas 77411? That's great. That's great. And with this, with the flyers on bulletin boards, you're trying to put up information about your group on the bulletin boards in high schools and the principals is that who who principal at the school I attend is you know, well. She talked to her council members and all another such. And they said that no. So she's helping us to, you know, appeal that. And you said the principal is pretty supportive. Is that not true? That's great. That's great. Well, I really appreciate you calling. Do we have any questions either for him? Or do you have any questions for the guests here tonight? No, not really. If they'd like to know anything. It would give asked me right now or I'm here on the air. Great. Do you Do you know of any organizations out there? Just I know of a couple of myself and I can't think of their names of organizations for children of gay and lesbian parents. No, I don't. I think PFLAG offers help with that. Hatch also helps with that you snorting

goldfish homosexuals. And you might want to go with them with that and is to protection of you. If you get off the call them. Great. You have a proposed list of phone numbers you can call. Well, that's great. Well, we'd love to have you on the show sometime to talk about this and maybe you can bring some friends and some friends parents I want to ask you one question for you go. Are your your in particular, are your parents supportive? And how do parents of some of your members feel about your organization? My part Are you getting support from them? My parents are washed out of my mom and my mom only. And she's kind of iffy about it, you know, but I'm really open about my sexuality and things. You know, it's all over my books and posters and wherever. And you know, one of our main members, supporters of adults is Jason Allen lives in the area, Richard, no. Gary, and his mother's really supportive. That's great. And we have meetings that are off and whatever. We're trying to have anything about three weeks, so you know, call us and we'll give you all the information things. That's great. Joseph, you want to give us our phone number one more time, get your pens and pencils out boys and girls take this number down, Joseph. Okay. P 202803. And the name of your organization again is a word. Yeah. Thank you very much. We love you. Good word. Okay. Thanks a lot. Thanks. All right. Bye. All right. Well, we appreciate that a lot. That's, that's wonderful. We have we have five, five minutes, keep talking. Keep talking to producers like making signs. And this is radio once again. Hey, these are my friends. Friends out here.



21:13

Keep talking. Keep talking. I know you can do it.



D Diane Williams 21:16

You know I can I can talk for days. We all know that. You have a list, my dear. My sweet Do you have before we get into any legislator? Or do you want to talk about Yeah,



21:27

I think I'd like to do it later. Because I want to tell Joseph something I first of all want to say bravo. You're real brave. Keep it up. Take it as far as you can take it. I mean, don't stop because they say you can't hang it up, go to the board meetings and find out why you can't hang it up and call it what it is. You're dealing with homophobia. We're dealing with a day in and day out. So just don't give up.



D Diane Williams 21:55

Yeah, I agree. Yes. I would love to find phone calls. more phone calls. Anybody out there checking the phones. Thank you. As Tiffany goes running, I'll get that. Great. I want to play something from this. From this right here. Jimmy, my dear. This is a tape that the lovely Jimmy Carter has shown me earlier on. Yeah, you pretend you don't like that? You know you do. It's called Voices for life. And it's volume one, a celebration of Houston music benefiting aids charities. And I'm just gonna read a couple of these folks. Do you know which one you want to play? Oh, I thought you were gonna do okay. Well, actually, I might want to play a couple of I want to play like 17 of them. But I want to tell you a little bit about who's on here. Voices for life

Mickey blue Scott Gertner. Mr. lounge lizard himself. You ever seen him live? He's like the Wayne Newton of Texas. Scott Gardner we saw him at the Houston festival. Mr. lounge lizard. Well. That's right. I'm sure he's a good guy. He's on this evening. Right. Let's see Robin Andrew stamper. The normas intento. Band Wayne Watson shake Russell Mason Dixon. Montgomery plan stit stretch one of our favorites. We love them. Caribbean steel tones, Marion Creek lows and that may be correct. Edie Gerlach Redman with Rebecca Oswald. Kelly gray Dave katni Sebastian Winokur David Craig and Warren Sneed. I believe in you. And I want to play that because Sebastien plays the drums for Kelly gray and he's bad. He's a wonderful person. It's awesome. That wouldn't come out while we play both of them as a producer. Executive producer Scott Evans and voices for Life Foundation came in look, Rick, como right there. Can you tell us this this benefits? It says a celebration of Houston music benefiting aged charities Dino No, we don't have a clue.



24:02

They don't have it listed. And I believe it's I know it's



Diane Williams 24:10

a charity. Is this like brand spanking new.



Jimmy Carper 24:13

This is brand spanking new when you can get it for like, I can't tell you exactly how much but it's less than \$20. Cool. You get to CD. Cool. And



Diane Williams 24:23

we have a whole nother disc full of people including the Houston Symphony swingset little Joan de la familia. Lisa Cole



24:32

is cool talking about his father yet how he looks up to his father.



Diane Williams 24:37

Cool. Also my personal friend Deborah boilie. Love you, Deborah, and I'm really sorry about your house. She lives on a street that has a lot of construction stuff. So Debbie, I hope your house gets better very shortly. And also the voices for life. I can only assume that that's like a combination of everybody's everybody. Great. Okay, well we've got some music coming up for you and that is



24:57

Kelly gray doing I believe in You



25:09

we're all in this together. That has been my message to the American people for the past 13 months to bring our people together as never before, so that our diversity can be a source of strength in a world that is ever smaller, where everyone counts. And everyone is a part of America's family.



25:29

We're gonna come together all of us every race, color and creed, every age people who are straight people who are gay.



D Diane Williams 25:38

We made a difference in this election, we came out in record numbers. And now the time has come for us to take our earned and rightful place at the table of governance in this country.



26:04

Welcome to this way out the international lesbian and gay radio magazine.



26:08

I'm Greg Gordon. And I'm Lucia Chapelle. Record lavender vote reaps rewards, candidates Klein and Congress quake. And will Bill still respect us in the morning?



26:19

The answer to that question and more on the US elections now that you've discovered this way out.



L Lucy Chappelle 26:33

In many ways, US gays and lesbians came of age on the national political scene this election year, activists around the world watched the emergence of American queer cloud with great interest in order to bring you the most comprehensive coverage of the US elections. This way I will forego its regular news wrap segment this week to look at the Lesbian Gay impact on US politics in 1992.



27:22

Although there were some regional losses the larger more national picture offered outright reason for celebration by supporters of gay rights. The Human Rights Campaign fund a gay and lesbian political action committee estimates that of the 104 million votes President Elect Clinton received 10 to 15 million were gay or lesbians who voted as a bloc with a 5% margin of victory. Many fields the gay vote was decisive for Clinton. Tim McFeely is a spokesperson for the Human Rights Campaign fund,



27:51

more lesbian and gay candidates were openly elected to office than ever before. More lesbian and gay people voted openly as a gay bloc than ever before. More lesbian and gay dollars were raised and contributed openly than ever before.



28:07

While campaigning Clinton promised that his AIDS policy would be more aggressive than Bush's. There are rumors in Washington that one way Clinton might be more aggressive is to appoint an AIDS czar Scott Sawyer of act up because this would be a welcome step in the fight against AIDS



28:23

and aids are would be one of the most meaningful things that Clinton could do. He or she would coordinate the research effort, the prevention effort,



28:34

the whole plan, it's been estimated that gays and lesbians contributed over \$3 million to Bill Clinton's presidential campaign. I'm Verna Avery brown.



28:47

This is Brian Nunez for this way out, and we're talking with Robert Bray, Public Information Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. What if the recent elections done for the cause of lesbians and gay men?



Diane Williams 28:58

It's a significant moment in the history of the gay and lesbian civil rights movement. The election this year mark a rite of passage from social pariah, who political partner we helped elect a new president and help defeat the extremists right wing's attempt to use anti gay

bigotry to hijack a national election.



29:25

What is your reaction to the local and statewide elections?



Diane Williams 29:28

Well, this election has terrific news and it has some bad news. We defeated by a very comfortable margin, a loathsome anti gay initiative in Oregon that would have labeled gays and lesbians as abnormal and perverse and would have overturned and constitutionally banned a gay rights law. We also won a anti gay initiative attempt in Portland, Maine. In that town, the far right was attempting to overturn an existing gay rights law. Unfortunately, in Colorado, the far right was successful in passing a constitutional amendment that prohibits protections against discrimination based on sexual orientation. We are working closely with the Colorado community now to explore the possibility of a national boycott of Colorado and to work to strengthen that state's internal gay and lesbian organizations. In Tampa, Florida, there was a move to overturn that city's one year old gay rights law which was successful. I think the lesson the gay and lesbian community learned from the outcome of these grassroots battles is that the far right is running up the flagpole different tactics to see which one works. They lose in Oregon, they'll use Colorado's last than Colorado one in Oregon, they'll use that measure, the leader of the Oregon anti gay group, lawn may bomb at his confession speech in Portland Oregon style to return in 1994 with a quote, Colorado style, and quote initiative. So it's clear to us that the next battleground for gays and lesbians is going to be on the grassroots referenda process.



31:24

With Bill Clinton in office who is openly pro gay, what, if any effect is this going to have on the march in Washington, we presented



Diane Williams 31:32

a National Gay and Lesbian Task Force transition document to the Clinton Gore transition team a little rock on the day after the election. And in that document, we asked for several things, in particular for him to make good on his promises. But one of the things we asked him for is simply a meeting with representatives of the gay and lesbian community. And this time through the front door of the White House proudly and openly. And we offered as a suggestion. Why not have that meeting to coincide with a march on Washington and April of 1993. It would be a brilliant and open gesture to the gay and lesbian community. If he were to hold that meeting, either before or on the march weekend. I think we can celebrate across the country. Each and every gay, lesbian and bisexual that we made a difference in this election that we came out in record numbers. And now the time has come for us to take our earned and rightful place at the table of governance in this country. We have become part of the governing coalition of this nation.



32:47

Thank you very much. Robert Bray, Public Information Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. For this way out. I'm Brian Nunez.



c Cindy Friedman 32:58

I'm Cindy Friedman. The Democratic and Republican party conventions very much set the tone for the 1992 US elections. The Democratic Convention embraced gay and lesbian rights in an unprecedented way, while the Republican Convention explicitly rejected them. And often this difference was explicit in the campaigning. But even though Bill Clinton won the presidency, and even though this year's elections offered unprecedented opportunities for change, the elections resulted in little net difference in party power. Overall, the Democrats gained one seat in the Senate and lost nine in the house. Democrats also gained two governorships, but generally lost ground in the state legislatures. Despite an unusually large number of open seats in the Congress, most of the races involved incumbents, and as usual, most of the incumbents won. Most of the current supporters and opponents of gay and lesbian rights will continue for another term. The 24 House incumbents who lost included 15 Democrats and nine Republicans. anti gay Republican Representative Clyde Holloway of Louisiana was unseated. But so was Representative Bill Green of New York, who has been a key Republican organizer for federal lesbian and gay rights legislation. Republican Jim McCreary of Louisiana was returned to Office on a family values platform. Despite being outed in the advocate. Iowa voters narrowly defeated a ballot measure that would have guaranteed equal rights for women. The good news of the election results was the success of women and minority candidates who have overwhelmingly been Democrats and supporters of lesbian and gay rights. Over 200 Women filed candidacy for national offices and 121 nominations for senate house or gubernatorial seats for women won seats in the Senate, expanding the number of women there from two to six. California became the first They have women in both of its Senate seats. With the election of Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein.



35:05

I think it's fair to say we're making history in America tonight.



35:15

We began this



35:16

campaign together shortly after the primary. We have ended this campaign together, and we will go to the Senate of the United States together to work for all of you.



35:34

I will never forget when Ann Richards appeared for both of us in Davies Symphony Hall, and she said that very profound statement. The roosters may crow but the hens deliver the goods.

♂

35:58

Now, if I may, it is my pleasure to present to you. I don't know whether she's Cagney or Lacey will make that decision later. But I want to introduce to you the Bay Area zone five rep boxer. Senator

♂

36:16

we're gonna come together all of us every race, color and creed, every age, the children, the moms and dads and grandmas and grandpas, the sisters and the brothers. People who who are straight people who are gay for my family to yours, whatever your family looks like, we love you. We thank you. And we're gonna be a fighter in the United States Senator

c

Cindy Friedman 36:53

Joe Mosley Brown of Illinois will be the first African American woman ever to sit in the Senate. The other new woman Senator will be Patty Murray of Washington, the self described mom and tennis shoes. The Senate also will have a Native American member for the first time in 60 years Ben Nighthorse Campbell of Colorado in the House of Representatives 19 new women members will bring the total to 47 only 72 African Americans have ever served in the Congress. But now 12 new members will increase the Black Caucus to 37 some African American congress members are the first to ever represent their states while others are the first in this century six new members will increase the Congressional Hispanic Caucus to 17 the Asian Pacific congressional membership increased from six to eight I'm Cindy Friedman from our friends with a little help from

♂

38:03

this is this way out the international gay and lesbian radio magazine and where the flirt Sean's.

d

Diane Williams 38:43

Openly gay and lesbian people make excellent candidates, they make even better elected officials, they bring to the table a special sensitivity to diversity that is, in my opinion, one of the more interesting and intriguing characteristics of having them in public office because we really do have to change the way we do business in this country. And without that special sensitivity. I don't think we could manage it.

g

Greg Gordon 39:08

That's William WebVR in the executive director of the gay and lesbian Victory Fund, a political

action committee that funds openly lesbian and gay candidates. This is Greg Gordon for this way out. And I asked Weyburn to assess how well openly gay and lesbian candidates did on November 3, we

D

Diane Williams 39:23

really had some very good results from this election. Prior to Tuesday, there were 64 openly gay and lesbian elected officials in the country. And we had 16 Who won re election and we picked up 11 other seats for total of 75. We retained both seats in the Congress. Gary studs won a very difficult primary battle and then had an even more difficult general election. And Barney Frank, of course, was reelected overwhelmingly from Massachusetts. We did very well in the State House races we added an openly lesbian woman to the Wisconsin assembly and we added Hopefully lesbian woman to the New Mexico State House as well. We retained seats in Minnesota where Ken Clark was re elected to the State House and Alan Speier was reelected to the Minnesota Senate. In the Maine Senate, Dale McCormick was reelected and in the main house of representatives, Susan Farnsworth was reelected. Of course in New York Deborah Glick won reelection to the New York State Assembly. And Ron squires was reelected to the Vermont house. And in Washington State Cal Anderson was reelected overwhelmingly. We picked up Tammy Baldwin. In Wisconsin, she becomes the first openly lesbian woman in the Wisconsin State Assembly who actually won his race and Texas. We won again. She was raised in Oregon, and we lost Jerry Kane's race and Oregon Jerry Kane was a Republican. We lost another important Republican race and Ohio. We also picked up six seats on school boards, which is very unique. It's really important that we keep our eye on some open seats are going to be coming up soon, they're going to be some appointments to the Clinton ministrition of some incumbents around the country. And we really like open seats and one of our goals right now is to make sure that we're aware of what when and where those seats are going to occur so that we can help encourage openly gay and lesbian candidates to run for those open seats. And of course we have a major focus on next spring as well. When a lot of city and county elections will be held