

SPEAKER: And look at-- and if you look at some of the campaign messages, and some of the literature, and some of the strategy, Lee Brown's really the only one that's focusing outside of what you would consider his voting base. Orlando is very-- focused very strongly in the Hispanic community and in core Republican precincts where Republicans are likely to vote for him.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SPEAKER: And Chris Bell, yeah, we've seen his literature, but I've yet to see any color.

SANDY LOPEZ: But--

SPEAKER: Right.

SPEAKER: I mean, you see his TV ads and you see his print literature, and I have friends that are working on that campaign, but that's the base that they're going after.

SANDY LOPEZ: But Orlando might just be hitting the Hispanic community mostly because he might just want to get his foot in the door for a runoff, if it's that tight, which I'm expecting it might be.

SPEAKER: The last polling I saw only showed the mayor at 49% of the vote. So if he doesn't make it over that extra bump, then--

SPEAKER: Wow.

SANDY LOPEZ: Still there might be a runoff and I think that's what he's looking for, a showdown. And it might happen. Because the Hispanic community does have quite a big vote there this year.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SANDY LOPEZ: So that's going to be interesting. I think Sylvia Garcia is running again for-- is she running for controller?

SPEAKER: Yes, she's running for controller again, unopposed.

SPEAKER: Oh, good.

SANDY LOPEZ: I love her. So it's like I think she's going to be our next mayor.

SPEAKER: I hope so. Hispanics are the only one's unopposed, right? Not every Hispanic in [INAUDIBLE]. Sylvia Garcia was unopposed and Gabriel Vasquez in district eight was unopposed. So that was sort of interesting.

SANDY LOPEZ: That's good.

SPEAKER: They don't have to spend all their money.

SPEAKER: Yeah, on campaign.

SPEAKER: Right.

SPEAKER: So it's like donate to somebody else.

SPEAKER: Speaking of donating, are we doing pledges today?

SPEAKER: We are doing pledges today. We are. And I'd like to see some money come in from the Latino community.

SPEAKER: So give us a call, 713-526-KPFT.

SPEAKER: That's right.

SPEAKER: Any size contribution I'm sure is-- is welcome here.

SPEAKER: You bet. The bigger the better, of course. But it's just our way of saying to management that we're pulling our own weight.

SPEAKER: Yes.

SPEAKER: When we're able to meet our goals and have the money come in. And we've certainly got folks out there wanting to talk to you on the phone, 713-526-5738-- 713-526-KPFT. And there was something I was going to-- oh we still have, for a \$50 pledge on plastic, we have a poster for *Hedwig-- Hedwig and the Angry Itch*. The poster is very much like the cover of the CD from the movie. And I'll mail it myself.

SPEAKER: That name sounded so weird.

SPEAKER: Hedwig?

SPEAKER: I'm like, what is he talking about?

SPEAKER: Hedwig--

SPEAKER: Well, Sandy's had an angry itch before, but--

SPEAKER: Oh, yes, but that--

SPEAKER: That was after the last date.

SPEAKER: I would say that it's been itched now that he's dating someone.

SPEAKER: If you want to get the itch, please pledge.

[LAUGHTER]

SPEAKER: I hope that was a good show.

SANDY LOPEZ: Yes, it was.

SPEAKER: Think if someone dialing right-- oh, OK.

SPEAKER: Oh, yeah.

SPEAKER: No, no, no, we don't do husband hunt anymore. We tried that for a while, and not only did it not work, but the only couple that we brought together on the husband hunt were two lesbians.

SPEAKER: Oh, wow.

SPEAKER: I don't know how-- don't ask me that one happened, but--

SANDY LOPEZ: Well, that's good.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SANDY LOPEZ: I mean, at least you brought two souls together. So be proud of that.

SPEAKER: Yeah, are they still together?

SPEAKER: I'm still single.

SPEAKER: No.

SPEAKER: No.

SPEAKER: But they were together for several years.

SANDY LOPEZ: Oh, several years is good.

SPEAKER: And I think it was the first relationship for both of them.

SPEAKER: Wow.

SPEAKER: That was very good. Yeah, that worked well.

SANDY LOPEZ: That's nice. Well, I might be moving to Knoxville. Did you hear the good news?

SPEAKER: No.

SPEAKER: No, why?

SANDY LOPEZ: Knoxville is going to steal me away from Houston.

SPEAKER: What's with the--

SPEAKER: What? What? Hey, you can't go.

SANDY LOPEZ: No, I'm actually-- I was actually there with work and doing some stuff preparing for a new program that's being adopted in the city. And I had a really good time and the director of the program really saw my work and he was very interested. And I like my job right now, but it's like it gets a little tricky sometimes.

SPEAKER: I don't know what your job is.

SANDY LOPEZ: I'm a scholarship coordinator.

SPEAKER: Oh, OK.

SANDY LOPEZ: So I deal with academic advising with seniors. I told you, I work with those youngsters.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SANDY LOPEZ: That's why I wear my ring, it's like, are you married, Mr. Lopez? Yes, I am. Stay away. And then I have to pinch myself.

SPEAKER: Yeah, I'll bet.

SANDY LOPEZ: Too young, too young-- 17, still too young.

SPEAKER: Oh, my god, yes.

SANDY LOPEZ: But it's like I have my job, I respect it a lot. And I love it. And it's just sometimes--

SPEAKER: So, this is a similar job?

SANDY LOPEZ: Yeah, it's a similar job, but it's less stressful. It's just starting a new program. And my program, it's kind of really good, but it's already base-- I'm just following the pattern and improving here and there, but not really much of what I like doing, which is implementation.

SPEAKER: Do you do you know that it snows in Knoxville?

SANDY LOPEZ: Yeah, I do.

SPEAKER: OK, because you're the one who--

SANDY LOPEZ: I get cold--

SPEAKER: --that talks about--

SANDY LOPEZ: I get cold, I get the chills.

SPEAKER: --that it's not hot enough here. It's not what you're used to.

SANDY LOPEZ: But my allergies were wonderful. The air is great. I didn't sneeze at all. I mean--

SPEAKER: Yes, I know.

SANDY LOPEZ: It was great.

SPEAKER: I know.

SANDY LOPEZ: I mean, yeah, if I can put up with snow for two months, three months, that's awesome. But it's like-- I'm going to be--

SPEAKER: Three months, huh?

SPEAKER: I'm in for the weekend, but that's really about it.

SPEAKER: Yeah, exactly. As longs as I know I got a return ticket.

SPEAKER: Exactly.

SANDY LOPEZ: Well, some people that I talked to, they were saying that it doesn't really get that bad. Sometimes it gets really, really ugly, but most of the time temperatures are in the 30s or 40s, and sometimes it gets in the 20s.

SPEAKER: I love it here. When they whine when it's 60 degrees outside.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SPEAKER: I look at them and I go, try New York for a little while, then talk to me.

SPEAKER: Yeah, no kidding.

SANDY LOPEZ: But it's a really good opportunity, financially and educational. Because the University of Tennessee is just right next door.

SPEAKER: New meat.

SANDY LOPEZ: And I got a chance to go to a gay bar.

SPEAKER: Country boys, Southern boys.

SANDY LOPEZ: I got a chance-- I know-- I got a chance-- I was telling Francisco, I got a chance to go to a gay bar in Knoxville, which was kind of very preppy. Because it's not like-- here is so blunt. The gay community in Houston is so out. Over there, they are out, but it's so classy, so Southern. Everybody-- they were still very wild, per se, but it wasn't as exaggerated as here in Houston. No offense.

SPEAKER: No, that's OK.

SANDY LOPEZ: So, I really liked it. There's not that many Hispanics there, but it's like, I saw a few and they were quite cute. I actually was talking with this guy and we danced a little bit, so that was kind of nice. He goes to University of Tennessee. He's doing his doctorate. And I was like--

SPEAKER: Oh, she wants to marry a doctor.

SANDY LOPEZ: No, no. I always have bad luck. All the guys I date, they either run away, or move away, or--

SPEAKER: So, it's your turn.

SANDY LOPEZ: So it's my turn. It's still in the air, but I know that I'm going to get the job offer. And it'll be up to me to say yes or no. And I've already been thinking about it. I'm still a little--

SPEAKER: OK.

SANDY LOPEZ: --flaky, but.

SPEAKER: Why don't we take a little break and come back and talk some more about our membership drive, which is the last one this year.

SPEAKER: Oh, wow.

SPEAKER: The last one. So-- and this is the last night of the last marathon membership drive, where you can pledge money for After Hours. So that number, 713-526-5738-- 713-526-KPFT. And Francisco brought in a little Ricky Martin for you.

"Spanish Eyes," by Ricky Martin.

SPEAKER: That was pretty.

SPEAKER: That--

SPEAKER: That was unusual.

SPEAKER: Wait a minute, sorry, sorry. I'm not thinking here. OK, so you're on now.

SANDY LOPEZ: OK. What else? Francisco went out for a little break. He better come back soon.

SPEAKER: Oh, he will, he will, he will.

SANDY LOPEZ: Yeah, I'm kind of disappointed in Ricky Martin. He hasn't put out a new CD yet.

SPEAKER: Oh, CD.

SANDY LOPEZ: Yeah. And Enrique Iglesias just came out with his "Hero" song, which is so wonderful. Every time I hear it, it makes me cry. Isn't that sad?

SPEAKER: Yes, it is.

SANDY LOPEZ: Oh, god, anyway.

SPEAKER: 713-526-5738-- 713-526-KPFT.

SANDY LOPEZ: Yeah, please donate. If you have any money in your pockets or coming out of the bars, you say, hey, I got \$10, let me call the station and donate. It doesn't really matter.

SPEAKER: We want it. We can use it.

SANDY LOPEZ: Yeah. And this is something that not many cities have, where we actually-- we come on on the air and we actually say what we want to say.

SPEAKER: Yes. There's infinitely more gay programming in Houston than there is in San Francisco.

SPEAKER: That doesn't take a whole lot at this point.

SPEAKER: Well, they don't have any.

SPEAKER: Bingo. That's my point.

SPEAKER: They don't have any, but they've taken a lot.

SPEAKER: And we have two shows on the same station, so that tells you a little bit about the different stations that we've got here. Chris worked it out last week that there's over 9,900 hours of radio per week in this town. Because there's like over 50 radio stations. And the total number of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender specific programming is 5-- 5 hours out of 9,900 hours. So--

SANDY LOPEZ: That's not much.

SPEAKER: No, that's not much.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SPEAKER: So we got to make it all count.

SPEAKER: Every minute.

SPEAKER: Yeah, we do.

SANDY LOPEZ: Well, I wanted to mention something, actually that I just learned in a seminar. We went to a training, kind of a little seminar, just non for profits-- I actually work with a non for profit organization, which is losing a lot of money in the city. A lot of the local non for profit organizations, including the gay ones--

SPEAKER: Oh, yes.

SANDY LOPEZ: --are losing a lot of money.

SPEAKER: Yes, they are.

SANDY LOPEZ: Because--

SPEAKER: It's all going to New York.

SANDY LOPEZ: It's all going to New York. And-- we don't even know where that money's going. Well, yeah, it's going to New York, but it's like some of that, still it's up in the air about administration. And we know about certain agencies, like-- that are-- the Red Cross-- that are very good at managing money. But September 11, who's managing that? Or the Liberty Fund, who's managing that? And it's a lot of other different fundraising organizations that were started by individuals and money's gone there. And it's like-- it's going to reach a billion dollars soon. And it's like--

SPEAKER: If it hasn't already.

SANDY LOPEZ: If it hasn't already, because there's a lot of money that's unaccountable. Because they're trying to deal with numbers and all that. And it's hurting a lot of other organizations, not just locally, but in the United States. Just the fact that local organizations are 70% down on fundraising, that's pretty sad.

SPEAKER: Red Cross must be fat with money, because they have been getting lots of--

SPEAKER: From everyone.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SANDY LOPEZ: But I'm actually kind of trying to figure out how they're going to do this. Because it's like they get all this money, and it goes on an interest or trust fund-- I'm thinking it's going to be--

SPEAKER: I don't know.

SANDY LOPEZ: --something like that. Because it's like usually-- I don't know if they will profit-- if the profits from whatever percentage earned is going to go back to them for administration, or if they're going to charge a certain-- because I mean, if you donate \$100 million, you know that at least 30 of that million dollars is going to be for administration. So it's like-- you know \$30 million just went out to--

SPEAKER: That's true.

SANDY LOPEZ: --the Red Cross or whatever other organizations.

SPEAKER: I think it's just going to be a little blip on the screen in the long run, that things are going to come back to normal in the next couple of months.

SANDY LOPEZ: But at the same time, a lot of the major companies here in the city have donated a lot of money. And then you also have Allison and there's other different issues-- or not issues, different events that have come up. So it's like the city was already losing money. And with the slowdown in the economy and this uncertainty with the war on terrorism, it's still going to hurt, not just not for profits, but also regular businesses in the city.

SPEAKER: You know--

SPEAKER: Yeah, go ahead.

SPEAKER: On a less financial note, although that is the horror-- that is part of this horror, is what it does to the economy and how that economy affects people-- one of the things that has several times been brought up in the course of this is that when those towers came down, those towers were full of people, of representing--

SPEAKER: Oh, 80--

SPEAKER: 80.

SPEAKER: 80 different countries.

SPEAKER: 80 different countries. And that's 80 different nationalities--

SPEAKER: That's right.

SPEAKER: --groups, colors, creeds, religions. And it really attacks what this country is supposed to be about, what this country is made up of, all of us, who are of every nationality, of every color, and creed, and belief, and whatever. And that's the horrifying part. I grew up in New York and to see a part of that not there anymore, and to know that along with two buildings-- in the long run, two buildings is not a lot when you-- except that it was the human lives inside those buildings that really--

SANDY LOPEZ: I think one of the things that affected me the most in the kind of national level, as a Honduran, was the fact that-- I was telling this to Francisco, it's like a lot of countries offer helped to the United States, and it was turned down-- and it was turned out. A lot of European countries offered help with salvage, help with--

SPEAKER: Really?

SANDY LOPEZ: And so did Mexico and Central America, they got their best workers there. And it's like-- the United States turned down-- a lot of those countries who had people died in the World Trade Center. And I thought, that's part of the American pride, but at the same time this was a global catastrophe.

SPEAKER: Yes.

SANDY LOPEZ: And the United States should-- because of the whole shutting down the airspace, a lot of the-- the Danish, they're very good with forensics, they are experts, the world expert experts in finding-- in forensics area. And they were sending 100 people to help identify bodies. And the Danish were about-- they told the United States, we'll pay for their stay, their expenses, everything, you don't even have to worry about them. Just give them a place and--

SPEAKER: Give them something to do. And I think that's the problem, there were so many volunteers coming into New York that they didn't have enough for them all to do.

SANDY LOPEZ: But I'm going to congratulate Giuliani, our next president, because if he runs, I'll be voting for him, because you know.

SPEAKER: I've really changed my mind--

SANDY LOPEZ: I've changed my view on him, because it's like--

SPEAKER: New York Republicans are different Republicans to begin with. And he's someone that was always very good on gay and lesbian issues in general. So I have as much respect for him as I could for a Republican. But certainly, he and both Governor Pataki were absolutely outstanding in the way they responded to that. And to even have to say this-- commend President Bush on the job that he's doing, which is

SPEAKER: This goes way beyond--

SPEAKER: I think this--

SPEAKER: --being a Republican or Democrat.

SPEAKER: --is the type of thing that happens that--

SPEAKER: So way beyond.

SPEAKER: You have to stand behind your president.

SPEAKER: Yeah. And very sincerely, I think over the past several weeks, his leadership has matured in a very tremendous way.

SPEAKER: It had to.

SANDY LOPEZ: I think he did a really good job. Sometimes he made me so sad. When I looked at him and he seemed like he was about to cry, I go, oh, my god. When he was-- his broken-- his broken voice. And his expression in his face, he seems like he, himself, was wounded. And I thought-- I thought that was wonderful. Especially because I had no respect whatsoever for him in the past. None.

SPEAKER: It's amazing. I spent maybe every other day, or three or four times a week, out demonizing this guy for the Democratic party.

SPEAKER: Exorcising him.

SPEAKER: And to see that-- it's not because it had to on September 11th and we haven't been doing that, but on a very sincere note, I really think he's really demonstrated some very positive leadership. And has been a very good role model.

SPEAKER: I don't want to seem un-American, but there's just something that doesn't click right with me when we scream and carry on about oh, the terrorism, isn't that horrible, let's go bomb somebody.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SPEAKER: And we do it.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SANDY LOPEZ: And you know that--

SPEAKER: And we become what we hate the most.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SANDY LOPEZ: I've already told this to a friend of mine. And it's like-- and we happen to come to an agreement that this has opened the door to World War III. This has opened the door. And we we will come back and see it. Because history repeats itself. A major event that affects a certain region, that affects more than one country will eventually trigger something of a larger scale.

And when President Bush said-- and I'm going to quote him on this-- you're either with us or against us-- you're with us or with the terrorists, that puts every single country in the world on the spot.

SPEAKER: It does.

SANDY LOPEZ: And then you also have the fact that a president or a government can say, yeah, we're with you, but the people are the one who will speak. I'm very ambivalent-- Pakistan, the president is being very helpful. But the people are not all very happy.

SPEAKER: No.

SANDY LOPEZ: And that's what the United States doesn't see-- the fact that you're asking Pakistan to help us, because you're right there, and it's like you owe us and we're going to take all this. Pakistan was one of the countries that had embargoes, had bans, and had all these other issues United Nations had put on them. And now they have been lifted. Same thing with Sudan. Sudan is no longer a country that has embargoes with the United Nations.

SPEAKER: Yeah. And it-- personally, I think it requires some sort of military response. But even that said, it's very disturbing when you look at examples. Sandy mentioned Pakistan where three or four of the most leading anti-American clerics, religious people, who were speaking against the attacks were actually jailed or put under house arrest, or something to quell opposition. It's a little disturbing that-- I certainly don't agree with what they say, but the fact that because of American pressure are being rounded up in Pakistan is very disturbing.

SANDY LOPEZ: And then you have Saudi Arabia, which in the past has been one of our greatest friends in the Arab-- in the Middle East, right now has taken a sort of more like neutral-- they're helping, but at the same time, they're not 100% there. Because of the same thing-- I mean, the clerics-- Islam has clerics. And the clerics are like-- you could say like the Cardinals. They're like the leadership.

SPEAKER: Sure.

SANDY LOPEZ: And the Pope. The clerics are advisors to the people. They're not there to listen to-- to communicate you with God, they're just advisors. And they're elected amongst the people. It's like Afghanistan has their clerics. And they have to get together to tell the government turn them in, because Afghanistan, it's a very religious--

SPEAKER: Yes.

SANDY LOPEZ: I mean, when you have separation of church and state, which a lot of Arab countries do, but some others interlap. And that's when you have those kind of laws that are very-- homosexuality [INAUDIBLE]

SPEAKER: Well, we certainly understand that.

SANDY LOPEZ: Which-- which--

SPEAKER: Do we?

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SANDY LOPEZ: And when it overlaps, is that when it becomes a little bit tricky. Because the clerics do have a voice. And one of the things that Americans don't really understand is the fact that the clerics are religious and they oppose death. And when their people-- Muslims are dying, they will raise their voice.

SPEAKER: Sure.

SANDY LOPEZ: And right now it's not as bad, but at the same time, when Osama bin Laden spoke and said this is-- it became the West against the Arabs. And that's how it looks. And the perception-- we're fighting perception most of all and that's not good.

SPEAKER: You know, you brought up something really great. Because I had the chance to listen to a news report and it was rather frightening, because it was Mrs. Cheney, who is saying something here. And--

SANDY LOPEZ: [INAUDIBLE]

SPEAKER: Oh, my god, Mrs. Cheney speaks?

SPEAKER: Yes, she did. And it was very frightening, because she was saying things on education, and that we shouldn't be focusing so much on world history in schools, we should be focusing on American history and learning what it means to be an American. And if you would like to answer the question of what it means to be an American, then maybe you'll get why I found that so frightening. Besides the fact that we know nothing. And that's why we got ourselves in this.

SPEAKER: We are already so dumb in foreign policy.

SPEAKER: Geography.

SPEAKER: Geogrphy even.

SPEAKER: Geogrphy, it's like, if you ask-- if you ask 10 people in school right now where there's Sam heck Afghanistan was, they couldn't point it out on a map.

SPEAKER: Oh, hell, they--

SPEAKER: They can't find North Carolina, no less Afghanistan.

SANDY LOPEZ: Well, see, one of the things that I opposed when Bush came in is because Republicans are isolationists. And the problem is that we were heading towards globalization. And so it's like, when you have somebody like the United States as a country that leads in the world isolating other countries, it becomes an issue. Because it's like, right now the United States is saying-- I mean, Bush came out and said we're all friends, we need to treat each other like that. But at the same time, my worries-- and it's that-- I spend a whole summer in New York. I work in the United Nations. I believe in the United Nations. But at the same time, the United Nations is just nothing. Because United Nations have no power whatsoever.

I mean, the real power in the UN is the council, the Security Council, which-- I mean, you can have the whole assembly vote, yeah. China can say, I'll veto that, and its veto. It doesn't count. It's not a Democratic organization. And then you also have the fact that if they get Osama bin Laden, the United States is going to want to try him. But it's like 80 people from-- 80 countries have also a pot in the coffee.

SPEAKER: Sure do.

SANDY LOPEZ: You know? So it's--

SPEAKER: Yeah, I--

SPEAKER: [INAUDIBLE] I understood what you said. It didn't make sense, but I understood it. And pardon me for me to make this point, but you know-- about our own country, but at this point, Osama bin Laden has an ice berg's chance in hell of getting a fair trial.

SPEAKER: Let me tell you--

SANDY LOPEZ: We're talking--

SPEAKER: I want to try it in Texas, in Harris County, put him on death row.

SANDY LOPEZ: But we're talking-- see, the Americans-- the Americans have always opposed-- first of all, they opposed the creation of the United Nations. They opposed joining the United Nations. They oppose a lot of different programs that would unify the world or at least try to bring it together.

First of all, the international-- I was telling Francisco, I believe in the International Court. I think that the International Court in the Netherlands, in The Hague, it's only used on war crimes. And it's not enforced. It's only enforced with some of the people. And the United States has always opposed it. And it's like-- and my belief is that this fight on terrorism, it has set the stage into the world that we have to become more united. We have to shatter-- because what happened in New York to me is a crime against humanity.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SANDY LOPEZ: It's not a crime against the United States, it's a-- against liberty-- it's a crime against humanity. Everything we stand for in every single country. We're democracies. We believe in freedom. We want freedom. We want to be able to do whatever we want to do. That's not just America, that's a lot of people outside of the United States. So this is a country that-- this is an issue that involves everybody. And that's one of the things that the United States is forgetting. And that sometimes create issues. Because we have England going out there--

SPEAKER: We make it personal because--

SANDY LOPEZ: --all over the world-- you know, Tony Blair, trying to rally everybody.

SPEAKER: Sure.

SANDY LOPEZ: Because England has a stake. And when you talk about Tony Blair, you're talking about the British Commonwealth, which is about 32 other countries-- the United Kingdom.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SANDY LOPEZ: And then you also talked about France and those dependencies. You also talk about NATO. I mean, Europe still has dependents all over the place.

SPEAKER: Sure, they do.

SANDY LOPEZ: And countries that have some sort of allegiance to them. So it's like-- and that's what we have to understand. This is not an attack on the United States, it's an attack on everything the whole world stands for.

SPEAKER: Well. I didn't know we were going there tonight.

SPEAKER: We went there.

SPEAKER: We were supposed to have folks from [INAUDIBLE] come and talk to us. And I don't know what happened to them.

SANDY LOPEZ: It's because it's too late. If I go to bed--

SPEAKER: Trying getting a guest for 1:45 in the morning.

SPEAKER: A woman-- a woman-- she was here last night. Because I do Esoteric Adventures. And about 1:30, there was a knock on the door. And she said, oh, I'm here for Francisco's show. And she didn't understand when I told her it was--

SPEAKER: Tomorrow.

SPEAKER: --tomorrow. She said, but I'm going out of town. Francisco. And she said, but he told me the 13th-- no, he told me the-- what did he--

SPEAKER: No, I wrote it specifically on a memo, Saturday, blah, blah-- technically, Sunday morning.

SPEAKER: She didn't-- she didn't get it. She did not get--

SANDY LOPEZ: She didn't get the memo.

SPEAKER: She didn't get the memo.

SPEAKER: A lot of people don't get the memo.

SPEAKER: It's the 13th. Well, it's the 13th now. I said, well, 13th, Saturday at midnight.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SPEAKER: But that's the 14th. OK, whatever. But it is a problem with this show.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SPEAKER: And, well-- but, so--

SPEAKER: But hopefully we'll have them next month.

SPEAKER: What was she going to talk about?

SPEAKER: She was going to talk about--

SANDY LOPEZ: Safer sex.

SPEAKER: Some of the challenges of addressing HIV and AIDS in [INAUDIBLE] community. That [INAUDIBLE] did a study over the summer that talked about some of the factors influencing HIV transmission, and homophobia, racism, and poverty, and sort of they were going to talk a little bit about what issues they saw. They're out there every day, trying to test people and hear all the excuses in our community. So they wanted to-- wanted to have them respond and sort of get a pulse of what's going on.

SPEAKER: Well, good.

SPEAKER: Hopefully, we'll have it next month-- hopefully, we'll have it for next month.

SANDY LOPEZ: But that's because those issues are taboo in our community. The Hispanic community does not want to talk about AIDS, homosexuality, racism. We talk about racism, but we talk about it at a national level. Like, we go like, those Mexicans, those Salvadorians, those Hondurans. It's like, those Cubans. Or those Puerto Ricans-- that's the first thing-- I heard my mom sometimes say about-- those Puerto Ricans, they have it all. They have citizenship, they can come and go, and nobody cares. And we have to go through the whole psychobabble of trying to get some paperwork done by immigration, which takes forever. I thought, mom, calm down.

SPEAKER: This-- this whole thing will throw a wrench into anything related to immigration right now.

SPEAKER: Yes, it is.

SPEAKER: And it's already like a lot of anti--

SANDY LOPEZ: There's a lot of anti-immigration, especially--

SPEAKER: Even in the Hispanic community, I mean, more than a couple of times I've heard-- just in my family circle a lot of comments in terms of why don't we just kick out the Muslims. We send Mexicans back when they get DWIs, why should-- and so, just ship them out sort of thing.

SPEAKER: Because you can't blame-- you got millions of people. And whether you want to or not, you cannot blame an entire race or an entire religious group for the actions of a few.

SANDY LOPEZ: It's ignorance. It's ignorance.

SPEAKER: That's right. I was having-- I was just having that conversation with Jimmy during the break, about a waiter, who-

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SPEAKER: Yes.

SPEAKER: --who was at a restaurant I was at. They write their names on the plastic tablecloth. And he was of some-- he was from some Arab-- of some Arab descent. And he was nervous about telling me where his name-- what his name was, because he had already experienced some very hateful things from people who had no other way but to throw their hate at the nearest person of some dark color.

SANDY LOPEZ: The first thing that came to my mind is like the United States should not anger the Arab League. Because the first thing they're going to do is just shut down oil and we are going to be in the biggest mess, the whole world. Because they control-- I mean, they really have some power there. Shut down the pumps and whole Europe and the United States go psht.

SPEAKER: But they also need to sell it too.

SANDY LOPEZ: Yeah, but the-- look at the--

SPEAKER: They make a fortune--

SANDY LOPEZ: --look at the standard--

SPEAKER: --off of selling it.

SANDY LOPEZ: But, I mean, shutting down the pumps one or two days and saying, you need us just as much as we need you will make a really big statement.

SPEAKER: I seem to remember a scene like that in *Mad Max*, but that's a--

SANDY LOPEZ: The problem is, it's like a lot of people are very ignorant. They don't know what they're talking about and they get in a big old mess. Because hate is something that we need to get away from.

SPEAKER: It is.

SANDY LOPEZ: In any form--

SPEAKER: It is.

SANDY LOPEZ: In any form or fashion.

SPEAKER: Every time you turn around, it rears its ugly head. And sometimes I feel like it's overwhelming.

SANDY LOPEZ: The first thing I tell my friends is, like, look--

SPEAKER: I mean, this whole thing was a prime example of-- when we talk about hate crimes in the gay and lesbian community, how words lead to violence, I mean this is--

SPEAKER: Yes.

SPEAKER: I mean, this is a prime example of how this kind of rhetoric leads to this kind of stuff.

SANDY LOPEZ: I have my African-American friend, I told her, it's like this is a time of we need to open our eyes and be conscious about a lot of things. Look about what happened to your people. I told her, you were discriminated against, you were treated lower than a mule. And here you are, treating these people just as you were treated. Look at the Jewish-- the Jewish people were treated so badly. And now they're doing just the same thing.

And it's like every other country-- every other race or ethnic group is doing the same thing. And they don't really look about themselves, their pain and suffering, and how much you took them to gain what they have. And now, they're acting up

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SANDY LOPEZ: They're acting up.

SPEAKER: Well, we're at the end of this segment. And Sandy, you've done it again.

SANDY LOPEZ: What?

SPEAKER: I just sit back and watch.

SANDY LOPEZ: I know.

SPEAKER: Just sort of sit back and watch in awe at your ability to handle yourself.

SPEAKER: You're amazing.

SANDY LOPEZ: Well, thank you.

SPEAKER: We still have open phone lines at 526-5738, 526-KPFT for your pledge of support.

SANDY LOPEZ: Please donate.

SPEAKER: Yes, please, we could use it.

SPEAKER: We need you.

SPEAKER: You have been listening to "After Hours," queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station. Francisco Sanchez, Sandy Lopez have been the co-hosts.

SPEAKER: Have a good day.

SPEAKER: In the background you're hearing a song that I'm dedicating to the governor. It's by a bisexual artist, Candy Cane. It's called "All You Can Eat and You Can Eat It--

SPEAKER: Which governor?

SPEAKER: --All Night Long." The governor for the next show, Governor Good Grief. No--

[LAUGHTER]

SPEAKER: He did develop an affection for Rick Perry.

SPEAKER: Gosh. Oh, yes indeed. And they'll be here before you to know it. So we'll see you next week. And you can still get in at 526-5738, 526-KPFT.