

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- And now this is KPFT Houston 90.1 FM radio celebrating whatever the hell it is we're celebrating.
- Doesn't seem right to say that tonight.
- No, it doesn't, does it? Anyway, we're here and you know that we're queer. So we don't have to say that either. What are you going to do about it? Well, this is what we're going to do about it.
- They've got to understand something. They've got to understand something. We are not talking about, what, politics. This is not a movement from the waist down. We are talking about our right to love, and to choose, and to live. And I don't care about straight tolerance and I don't care about straight understanding. You better hear me in Washington. We are demanding, we are demanding our civil rights
- Now listen. Listen real close. We're fighting each other, instead of the front. We have got to get it together. There's big trouble to come. It's already here. And the odds are against us about 20 to 1. Damn.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Boots are being polished. Trumpeters clean their horns. Chains and locks forged. The crusade has begun. Once again flags of Christ are unfurled in the dawn and cries of soul saviors sing apocalyptic on airwaves. Citizens, good citizens all parade into voting booths and in self-righteous sanctity, x away our right to life.

I do not believe at some that the vote is an end. I fear even more, it is just a beginning. So I must make assessment. Look to you and ask, where will you be when they come? They will not come a mob rolling through the streets, but quickly and quietly move into our homes to remove the evil, the queerness, the faggotry from their midst. They will not come clothed in brown and swastikas or burying chest heavy with gleaming crosses. The time and need for such ruses are over.

They will come in business suits to buy your homes. And bring bodies to fill your jobs. They will come in robes to rehabilitate and white coats to subjugate. And where will you be when they come? Where will we all be when they come? And they will come. They will come because we are defined as opposite, perverse. And we are perverse.

Every time we watch the queer hassled in the streets and said nothing, it was an act of perversion. Every time we lied about the boyfriend or girlfriend at coffee break, it was an act of perversion. Every time we heard, I don't mind gays, but why must they be blatant and said nothing, it was an act of perversion.

Every time we let a lesbian mother lose her child and did not fill the court rooms, it was an act of perversion. Every time we let straights make out in our bars, while we couldn't touch because of the laws, it was an act of perversion. Every time we put on the proper clothes to go to a family wedding and left our lovers at home, it was an act of perversion.

Every time we heard, who I go to bed with is my personal choice, it's personal not political and said nothing, it was an act of perversion. Every time we let straight relatives bury our dead and push our lovers away, it was an act of perversion. And they will come for the perverts. And it won't matter if you're homosexual not a faggot, lesbian not a dyke, gay not queer. It won't matter if you own your own business, have a good job, or an SSI.

It won't matter if you're Black, Chicano, native American, Asian, or white. It won't matter if you're from New York, or Los Angeles, Galveston, or Sioux Falls. It won't matter if you're a butch or femme, not into roles, monogamous, non-monogamous. It won't matter if you're a Catholic, Baptist, atheist, Jewish, or MCC.

They will come. They will come to the cities and to the land, to your front rooms, and in your closets. They will come for the perverts. And where will you be when they come?

- Sorry Mary, I'm kind of like on the rag.

- We've had several callers calling with their condolences. I don't have any information on funeral services. I know that Paul's mother is in town. She flew in from Atlanta on Thursday, a source reported to me earlier this evening.

And several of the people who work with Paul have donated their services for whatever they can do. In fact, I was told just a few minutes ago that several of the women he worked with got physically ill Friday when they found out and had to go home, which is not surprising. We're pretty physically over it too. And not just Paul, but--

- The hundred of thousands before him, kids.

- Yes.

- And the many, many more who will come after him. That's what makes me so damn angry this morning. I just hope you're not one of them. Anyway, I'll do this. I'll only do it because we'll do it for Paul Broussard. Otherwise, I don't know if I could, but we'll do it for him, because as I say, the show must go on. And we are not good homosexuals. So in that case, we'll do it. And we'll do it for Paul.

- "The Good Homosexual" by James Carroll Pickett. "The good homosexual accommodates himself, checks fantasies, behaves properly, purchases good taste, practices impeccable hygiene, begs respect from oppressors. The good homosexual reads only what is recommended, attends all the Westwood cinema, attains season tickets to the music center, votes the straight GOP slate, retires from controversy, amasses financial security no matter of social toll, finds AIDS embarrassing, but donates 50 bucks a year anyway, anonymously.

The good homosexual subscribes to *GQ*, laughs the loudest at fag jokes, laments the demise of *After Dark*, prefers porno in brown paper bags, browses Crown Books, where he purchased *After the Ball*, displays *National Geographic*, misses *Dynasty*. The good homosexual restrains impulse, sustains racism, objects to gay as to frivolous, refers to himself as a bachelor, contains passion, remains invisible, maintains there is nothing amiss. The good homosexual swallows bigotry, suppresses ecstasy, drives the family sedan just like old dad did, kisses with a dry mouth and closed lips, wears a condom on his tongue just in case.

The good homosexual nurtures propriety, derives morality from TV shrinks, believes there might be something to inanity, shushes all profanity, insists on anonymity, despises sodomy, fails to see why dykes have to be so pushy. The good homosexual drinks Coors beer as advertised in good homosexual publications, keeps up appearances, longs for the cops to crack down, engages a female for social occasions, relishes assimilation, irons crisp creases in casual jeans. The good homosexual quells excess, attacks radical fags, experiences madness in discrete little doses, waters down intensity, embraces mediocrity, reaps his own self-righteous vanity, does not grasp why silence necessarily equals death. The good homosexual kills queers."

- That's right, ma. You had it easy. You lost your husband in a nice clean hospital. You know where I lost mine? I lost mine on the street. That's right. They killed him on the street. 27 years old, laying dead on the street, killed by a bunch of kids with baseball bats.

That's right, ma. Killed by children. Children taught by people like you because everybody knows that queers don't matter. Queers don't love. And those that do, deserve what they get.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- What do we want?

- Gay rights.

- When do we want it?

- Now.

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- What do want?

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- All right. Say it so I could hear you on the capitol! For love and for life, we're not going back. For love and for life, we're not going back. For love and for life, we're not going back. For life and for life, we're not going back.

- I think that's Robert Kaiser around the stage leading the chant, for love or for life, we're not going back.

- Good afternoon and welcome to the national march on Washington D.C. for Gay and Lesbian's Rights and choral reciting! Let's hear him out there. I'm Liv Larya.

- I'm Bruce Hopkins.

- I'm a dyke.

- I'm a faggot.

- And we're best friends.

- I want you to savor this next moment. I have the proud task of telling you that the official count of the lesbian and gay rights march, the official count is over 500,000 strong.

- It's all right. You may all come out.

- 500,000 strong. Look at you. 500,000 strong. 500,000 strong. One of the largest marches in United States history.

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- One of the largest marches in United States history. 500,000 strong.

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

- They've got to understand something. They've got to understand something we are not talking about, what, politics. This is not a from the waist down. We are talking about our right to love, and to choose, and to live. And i don't care about straight tolerance. And I don't care about straight understanding. You better hear me in Washington. We are demanding, we are demanding our civil rights.

- Harry, do you have a few words for KPFA?

- Yeah. Come on out. Join us. Bring a friend.

- What do you think about the turn-out so far?

- Well, it's never enough. Never enough. Never enough.

- We must destroy the myths once and for all, shatter them. We must continue to speak out. And most importantly, most importantly, every gay person must come out.

As difficult as it is, you must tell your immediate family. You must tell your relatives. You must tell your friends if indeed, they are your friends. You must tell your neighbors. You must tell the people you work with. You must tell the people in the stores you shop in.

And once they realize that we are indeed their children, then we are indeed everywhere. Every myth, every lie, every innuendo will be destroyed once and for all. And once you do, you will feel so much better.

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- And I asked, I asked people all over this country to do one thing. Come out. Come out, America. Come out.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Oh, well. It's getting harder and harder to do that, Mary. It's like I don't want to do it anymore.
- Let's change the opening to the sideshow to something else.
- Something with a little less zip. Maybe some nice Donna Summer tune we could play before we go on. Something a little more polite, don't you think? hmm?
- Hmm.

- Sorry, Mary. I'm like in a real angry mood today, because there are people who dump on me and they want me to be nice to them. And they stand around and let this kind of stuff happen. And they're so busy pointing fingers at everybody that the real culprit here to see in this thing is homophobia. It's not any of us. And as long as homophobia is an acceptable form of discrimination, we're screwed.

And as the Gay and Lesbian Task Force has in their little flyers every month, the only way to defeat homophobia is to confront it. And we don't do that. So maybe we should stop doing it here. I don't know. A drum roll please. Anyway, that's all off. And we're on. And--

- What can we do?

- I can't do nothing, baby. We can come down and do our little show and-- I'm just kidding. Of course, we can do something. Well, we can do what we're doing, which is speaking out for one. I really wish that Tuesday morning at the Houston City Council, there would be a thousand gay and lesbian people not screaming for police protection because I work for the police department.

The police protection, we don't have-- let me tell you something about the police. We don't have police patrolling the streets anymore taking care of us because our police officers are overworked and understaffed. And they run from call to call to call when you call the police and your neighbor calls the police and everybody else calls the police. We got all these calls that people we've got to run to and only so many cops to do it and a certain amount of time to get it done in.

And they're so busy running around to call to call to call to call like being in a pinball machine and nothing else gets done. That's why you have dope dealers standing on your street corners and prostitutes standing on your street corners. And you wonder, well, why can't the police do anything? Well, the police are. They're out running around from call to call to call to call.

- And what about neighborhood watch?

- Well, they're supposed to be watching. How come these guys were out walking alone? Don't they realize that these people out here hate us, and they want to kill us? And if you are walking the streets alone, especially in the Montrose, and you happen to be a man, you stand a pretty good risk of being beaten to death just for like being there. I mean--

- The thing that I'm afraid of in a situation like this, people are getting incensed and upset. And of course, they have every right to be. But that is no reason to get into vigilante frame of mind.

- What's that? You mean like an eye for an eye thing?

- Yeah.

- Oh, please. That doesn't solve anything.

- No.

- That just makes us as bad as they are.

- Exactly.

- So it doesn't solve a thing.

- No, it doesn't.

- What we need to do--

- I saw Stephen Little's widow, surviving lover, interviewed because they were talking about the incident that Stephen and he were involved in, Stephen and Fred.

- What we need to do, and we're not going to do is we need to do what Harvey Milk said.

- We must destroy the myths once and for all, shatter them. We must continue to speak out. And most importantly, most importantly, every gay person must come out.

As difficult as it is, you must tell your immediate family. You must tell your relatives. You must tell your friends if indeed, they are your friends. You must tell your neighbors. You must tell the people you work with. You must tell the people in the stores you shop in.

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[MUSIC PLAYING]

- (SINGING) When you're gone.

- Mm-hmm The Flirtations from an album called *The Flirtations*.

- Haha.

- How wonderful.

- And what a good album it is.

- It really is, isn't it?

- Yeah.

- Can I play a song for somebody?

- Sure.

- This young man just called up. His name is Glen. And he said he just moved here. And his mother's a good Christian lady and just didn't understand any of this.

- Oh.

- Just hang on, Glen.

[MUSIC PLAYING]