

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- It really does.
- It does.
- Time slips away.
- Oh, don't I know it at my age.

[LAUGHS]

- Oh, please. Don't make me say some hateful age joke.
- You've said them all.
- I know. We'll be back in a little bit. Hang on.
- This community radio station thanks you for your pledge. You should have received a statement in the mail by now. Please pay your pledge as soon as you can so you won't forget. You can call 526-KPFT to charge your pledge by phone if you wish. This broadcast is made possible by you.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Wilde 'N Stein, A celebration of Pride.
- For and by gay and lesbian people.
- I'm Bruce Reeves.
- And I'm Deborah Bell.
- And we are two of the members of the *Wilde 'N Stein Collective*.
- Coming to you every Monday evening at 9:00 PM.
- Featuring a community calendar.
- News.
- Interviews.
- Music and more.
- Help us celebrate by tuning in to KPFT 90.1 FM.
- Mondays at 9:00 PM.
- Every Saturday night at midnight on *After Hours* we play music.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- *After Hours* every Saturday night at midnight right here on KPFT, Houston, 90.1 FM.

[MUSIC PLAYING - QUINCY JONES, "IN THE HEAT OF THE NIGHT"]

- In the heat of the night, we have blues for you on 90.1 FM KPFT Houston, Texas 4 AM Sundays.

- Those bedroom voices.

- Oh, I know it. [LAUGHS] That is really the sexiest promo.

- The Blues Broads will be here at four.

- Yeah, you were playing-- let's see, you played--

- The BBC at 3.

- The *Wilde 'N Stein*, promo and you played the *After Hours* promo. What happened to the Breakthrough promo?

- It got yanked because Cherry is not there anymore. They got a new one.

- Oh.

- But Pokey is here every Friday. She's got a new lady helping her.

- Yes.

- I have met her but I cannot remember her name.

- Well, they're--

- I'm sorry. I can't remember her name.

- Well, they're on 9 AM Friday morning to noon.

- 9:00 to noon on KPFT.

- Yeah. That's kind of good. I sometimes get to listen to the last half hour or so.

- The last five minutes since you wake up at noon. You're like here. See, we can do the rest of the show now, and none of these queens coming home from the bars are going to think anything's wrong.

- Yeah.

- We could play the first two hours back.

- Yeah, no kidding.

- That would scare them. [LAUGHS] Let's just do that. Then we won't have to say nothing.

- There you go.

- We've already said it.
- No, there's a lot more to say, and we do want to reach those people who are on their way back from the bars who listen in.
- Yeah, and well, we'll tell you the serious stuff in a little while.
- OK.
- Somebody wanted to hear this by request.
- Oh.
- So we'll play it.
- OK.
- Six minutes after two, and you're tuned to Pacifica Radio 90.1 FM KPFT Houston, and this is *After Hours*.
- Yeah, it is.
- We're not real peppy tonight.
- Why is that?
- Well, things aren't right in the land of Oz.
- Boy, that's the truth.
- You played the Harvey Fierstein a little while ago, and it really hit home. I love that movie *Torch Song*.
- Mm-hmm.

- But when that gay bashing scene comes in gay bashing-- gay killing, I can't watch the screen. It's just too horrible. And then he has that speech to his mother, and it says something about they killed him 27 years old, lying dead in the streets.

And it just hit me tonight when you played that because that's what happened to Paul Broussard Thursday morning right here in the Montrose. Help me with this.

- You're doing OK.
- This is very difficult. A man and two friends walking to their car, which happened to be parked so I here in the old TWIT office parking lot at Drew and Montrose. Which is a few blocks-- quite a few blocks from Heaven, and I don't know what more they could do in that area.

When you're leaving a bar at night, that's always recommended that you never walk to your car by yourself, and they didn't. There were three of them. But a car pulled up, asked them where Heaven was located. Now, they had just left Heaven after last call, so they informed the occupants of the car that the bar was closed.

Just then, another car pulled up, blocking the entrance to the parking lot, and 8 to 10 young men got out, dressed very middle class and some were carrying 2 by 4s with nails. At least one man was carrying a knife.

One of the friends escaped. One of the friends was beaten and Paul Broussard was killed. The two friends who managed to run off later came back to see how Paul was doing and realized he was in bad shape. And went back to Heaven, and the doorman there called 911 and got the ambulance.

But shortly before 11:00 AM, Paul died. A lot of people in this community are handling it different ways. What we hope is that no one gets the vigilante-type mentality. That's going to do no good. It's not going to endear us to anyone.

We can consider neighborhood watch groups. We can consider the basic rules that are offered to women to avoid rape, which we all know, but we should all keep in consideration. Stay in lighted public areas.

One of the big problems in the Pacific Street area is the lack of parking. Wednesday night's a big night. There is cheap drinks going on at Heaven, and of course, it was the night before New Year-- or 4th of July. So people were out in abundance, and these men had to park several blocks away. Always travel in groups.

Be alert to what's going on around you. If you have to walk down a dimly lit street, walk in the middle of the street. I'd rather have a ticket for jaywalking than to have somebody grab me from the bushes. Don't panic, and be careful. Have your keys in your hand, when you get into your car, lock it.

And stay sober enough to remain alert. If you've had too much to drink, take a cab home. Your car will be there the next day. The worst that could happen is it could get towed, and you'd have to pay to get it out of hock, but that's certainly a hell of a lot better than what Paul found out.

The police are doing, of course, all they can. Detectives have been out in the bars. It was reported last night. The big news that we want-- the big thing we want to bring across is that these two cars that were involved were seen earlier in the Montrose yelling things at gay and lesbian people.

In fact, it was reported that as early as 9:30 to 10:30 that a man nearly got gay bashed by probably these same people, but he escaped into an Avondale bar. The two cars have been reported to be a blue two-door Toyota, kind of a small sports car type, and a white or silver four-door sedan.

Both very upper middle-class folks, both very clean looking. Clean, it seems like a funny word to use for these two cars. But they were in the neighborhood that night. Someone is bound to have seen them, especially if they happened to drive by you and yell epithets at you, you know, faggot, fairy, or worse.

If you happen to have noticed those cars, if you may know the make and model number, you may have even gotten the license plate, we need that information, and we need it very badly. You can call HPD. You can call Crime Stoppers. They will take this information anonymously if you're afraid.

What we're expecting more than anything else is what usually happens in cases like these. That these persons will go around bragging about what they have done, and someone will report them for that. What more can I say?

- Mm. I don't know.

- What can we do? What can we do positively? What can we do constructively?

- We can start taking care of each other-- it's not going to happen, but that's what we could do.

- What about neighborhood watch groups?

- We have neighborhood watch groups in Montrose.

- Hmm.

- I'm talking about gay men caring about other gay men, not because their hair is combed perfect or their bodies are perfect or their cars are perfect. But I mean caring about them because they're living, breathing human beings. And we should care about each other, and we don't.

- I remember the night we had the late Stephen Little and his lover, Fred, on.

- Mm-hmm.

- --who were urging people to do just that. This occurred just a couple of blocks from their house. They were part of a neighborhood watch team. They often walked the neighborhood at night to make sure it was safe for their neighbors.

- And we just have to take care of ourselves because we're not going to take care of each other. [LAUGHS] So when we're out, we're going to be alert, and we're going to stay in lighted areas. We're going to go-- we're going to try to go out in groups. We're going to try--

- It's more fun that way anyway.

- Yeah, we're going to try to keep things like pencils and paper in our car. So when we see carloads of people driving around that are suspicious, we can write down their car description and their license plate numbers and give that information to the police.

I wish we would come out and stand up and fight homophobia because that's what is allowing these young people to die. We're not going to do that. A little added noise because I'm frustrated, baby. I don't know what else to do.

- I really don't know what to do.

- It's exactly why I didn't march in the parade this year. I'm just fed up with it. I'm tired of hearing about young people being beaten and dying in hospitals. I want to know if anybody's going to cry when this man is buried or cremated or whatever is going to happen to him. I really want to know if Monday morning when it comes time for his job to open-- he worked in a bank, if anybody is going to miss him?

- They already know about it, baby.

- If anybody's going to talk about it. I wonder this morning on Pacific Street if anyone walked out of the bars thinking in the back of their mind what happened? If anybody really cares? I don't know. I don't have any answers. I never have had any answers. If you have any, we'd like to hear from you. 526-4000 or 526-KPFT, we'll talk to you. Why not?

- OK.

- 526-4000 Or 526-KPFT. 526-4000 or 526-KPFT that's the number to call. Kevin.

- Yeah.

- Hey, what's on your mind?

- I got a real comment on this poor James guy that got popped last night. I don't get it. I'm 38 years old. I'm as strong, as tough, and as smart as any of these punks that come down and cause-- so you're giving people advice to walk in the middle of the block and all that nonsense. Well, as tough as they are-- well, why don't get six people, sit there, and wait for six of these punks to come down in the truck?

- So what are we going to do? Like everybody carry clubs around and just like beat each other up? Is that the answer?

- If you do it a few times, yeah. [LAUGHS] It beats dying. Or else you can walk to the cop station at the corner, and they just laugh at you.

- There were 8 to 10 of these guys.

- The police don't laugh at you because I work for HPD. I know they don't laugh.

- Well, there are at least 1,500 gay people on Pacific Street every night.

- Yeah.

- They can't handle a bunch of kids? These are just kids.

- Apparently not. Apparently not because this 27-year-old man was beaten until he died.

- Yeah, from punks.

- Yeah.

- Well, apparently, from what the police-- from what the Chronicle says well-bred kids from 18 to 20.

- That's usually who it is.

- Well, I suggest we band together and fight fire with fire.

- Hmm. We'll see what happens. Thanks for calling, Kevin. Chris. Hello?

- Hello.

- Yeah.

- What's up?

- Not much. You're on KPFT.

- Oh, on the air?

- Yeah. Did you want to be on the air?

- Sure.

- OK.

- What's on your mind?

- Well, I just-- time to think about tonight's happening. I just turned on the radio and I heard about all this.

- Yeah. And?

- Well, you mentioned to travel in groups and everything and stay on the streets and everything. But you shouldn't have to carry clubs and everything with you.

- I don't see violence as an answer.

- No, the reason these people are going to get--

- I mean, I just don't see it.

- The reason these people are going to get attacked is they're taken by surprise. I mean, obviously not expecting to be beaten up every day.

- Right. I walked out of Mary's one time about-- I don't know-- 10 years ago. I'd just moved to Houston with a guy. Mary's is down on Montrose and Westheimer, and we got about halfway to the car, and a truck pulled up with a whole bunch of kids, and they all jumped out with clubs. I just turned around and ran. I didn't even know what gay bashing was, but I figured what was getting ready to happen, I didn't want to be a part of it.

- Right.

[LAUGHS]

- Yeah, it's like--

- But I was lucky. You know what I mean. I was lucky enough to outrun them. But I don't think violence is the answer.

- Well, I had a friend who said he was going to Heaven tonight. I hope he's OK.

- Yeah.

- I know what you mean. I hope he got--

- Out of there.

- --there early enough to get into the lighted parking lot. Thanks for calling.

- Yeah, OK.

- 526-4000 or 526-KPFT. Robert.

- Hi, Buddy.

- Hi, how are you?

- OK. Just wanted to share a little bit with everybody.

- You bet, Robert.

- Approximately four weeks ago, the same incident happened to myself.

- Really?

- Yes. I managed to get away, though. About 10 minutes later, another guy on the-- I live in Montrose.

- Mm-hmm.

- Not real close to the bars but within walking distance.

- Yeah.

- I was walking down a very lit street and got stopped by about 10 youths, also. I managed to get into my house before they got a hold of me, though. They took off and went over to Hawthorne and found another man walking. Ended up he went to the hospital with bruised kidneys, and a broken arm.

- Mm-hmm.

- I consider myself very lucky.

- So what do we do?

- Yeah, what do we do, Robert? What are you doing?

- Huh?

- What are you doing these days? Like staying home or not going out alone or--

- Well, no, not staying home. I mean, I have a dog that I have to walk. That's what I was doing that evening.

- I do, too. And you know what scares me about walking my dog?

- Oh, Robert's got to walk his dog.

[LAUGHS]

- Do you know what scares me about walking the dog?

- What?

- Is when I go out, there's a security gate, and you have to punch a code to get into the gate.

- Mm-hmm.

- And I'm afraid I might get jumped before I can punch the silly code in.

- Mm-hmm.

- Yeah.

- So now I put my keys up to keep the gate from locking so that I can push the gate open and get in. Isn't that crazy?

- I understand what you're saying.

- Do you think about things like that?

- Yeah.

- Because I think about being beaten right there in front of the house with the damn gate closed, and you can't get in.

- Mm-hmm.

- So I propped something in to keep the gate from locking me out. Anyway, what part of town are you calling in from? Montrose, you said?

- That's where I live. I'm at work tonight.

- This is Robert of Lloyd and Robert?

- Yes.

- Oh, well, hi, Lloyd and Robert. [LAUGHS] Hey, I'm sorry I missed--

- Lloyd and Robert and Keith, sorry.

- I heard it was a wonderful show.

- Well, thank you.

- You guys will have to come back and tell us about it. You're at work now?

- Yes.

- Oh, child. Well, thanks for calling, and thanks for listening.

- OK.

- Thank you, Robert. Sean. Hello?

- Hello.

- Yeah.

- This is Sean. How are you doing?

- Fine. How are you?

- How are you?

- Well, I got shot at three weeks ago.

- This is Sean, our news director?

- Exactly.

- OK, they didn't tell me. How are you?

- They spelled it wrong.

- It's unusual for me to call a program, actually. But I've been listening to this, and I do all those things. I walk in the middle of the street. I stay in lit streets and whatever.

- Yeah, but you did get--

- But I've got two things about this, OK?

- Yeah.

- And you did get shot at, right?

- Yes, twice. Fortuitously enough, the bullets missed. But there are two parts to the story. These four gentlemen pull up in a car.

- Mm-hmm.

- A block from my apartment. It's fairly early. It's a weeknight. It's like 11:30, and they suggest rather strongly that I join them in the car while holding a gun on me.

- Goodness.

- And I think this is a really bad idea. And I run, and they shoot at me. But I got to say when I called in the police report the next day, and I was totally freaked out. I have not been shot at before, all right. When I called the police the next morning, the level of disinterest was absolutely remarkable.

- Yeah, you told me that.

- No, I did not get a license plate number. No, I could not provide a good description of the car. It was just like-- I mean, I had to beg the woman to take my name in case it was part of a trend. She was like, well, why didn't you call last night?

Why didn't you-- so I'm sorry. I think that you've opened up the lines to a lot of people being subjected to a lot of violence tonight, and nothing is happening. Nothing, and I find that very frightening.

- It is very frightening and what I said earlier about the police is true. We're understaffed, and the police officers are not on patrol.

- I would charge--

- They're running from call to call to call. They don't have time to patrol the streets anymore.

- Well, yeah, but they have time for certain kinds of things, don't they? They have time for the war on drugs. They have time for DWI. They have time for Memorial Park Men's rooms. They don't seem to have time for actual violence going on in the Montrose against gay people. And that is something that I am more acutely aware of after running from that car than I ever had been before, and I will definitely, definitely want to be looking into some more.

- We need to get--

- But I mean, I think it's kind of unprofessional of me in a way to call. But I mean, just listening to this discussion, I'm so angry.

- But it's not unprofessional because you were shot at, and that's what we were asking for.

- It is outrageous.

- And it's very scary when it happens in your neighborhood in front of your house. We need to find out from the police just what's going on.

- For no reason, these people didn't know you as if you need a reason to get shot at.

- Sometimes, I think maybe --

- But what are you supposed to do? What is the advice? Walk in well-lit streets or when they hold a gun on you, do what they tell you. To tell you the truth, I would have rather gotten shot in the back and been killed right then and there in West Drew than I would have been to go with those gentlemen and whatever they were going to do with me later.

- That's true.

- And what really, really made me angry was the response was ridiculous. I mean, the report that I, in theory, filed was a non report. I mean, it was nothing. I mean, when I have to beg the woman to even take my name and phone number.

- Well, Sean, why did you wait until the next day?

- Well, I had just been shot at for the first time in my life.

- I'm sure that takes a lot out of you.

- And I ran to a friend's house because I was terrified.

- Mm-hmm.

- I'm sure that takes something out of you. I've never been shot at, but jeez.

- I guess that's a really unusual response. Maybe that's a really--

- No, I understand.

- Maybe you're just like a lot of other gay and lesbian people, and you just feel like the police don't give a damn, so why bother? That's how most people feel.

- Well, hey, they proved it the next morning, didn't they?

- Yeah, that's true.

- Didn't they? I mean, no interest.

- Well, Sean, you didn't have a lot of information to give them to do anything about it.

- It was real-- but it was really that one woman you talked to that let the whole department down. You see what I mean?

- Hey, but how many of us has this happened to you? No, no, it's another-- some bogus queer crime in the Montrose. I mean, that's what it came down to, and he doesn't know the license plate. He doesn't know this, and I'm like, hey, maybe this is happening, and you know, and I know that there is a little trend going on there because we've heard these reports, and you have no problems getting these calls. There's something going on.

- We need to get answers from the--

- It's not being paid attention to.

- We need to get answers from the police department then, and we'll do that. I'll help you with that. Anyway--

- We will see, but anyway--

- Tons of calls.

- I will look forward to the other calls because I know there are other men out there who have been subjected to the same kind of action, and anyway, I'm glad the topic has come up.

- OK.

- Because it's outrageous. And it has--

- It is outrageous.

- --changed.

- And it makes me say things that I can't say to myself, but anyway.

- Yes, really.

- Thanks for calling.

- Thank you, Sean.

- Bye-bye

- 526-4000 or 526-KPFT. John.

- Hello.

- Yeah.

- Yeah, I'd like to say that whoever assaulted that homosexual a few days ago or whenever it was-- Friday night.

- Yeah.

- Did a good Civic duty. And y'all can complain all you want-- I didn't do that. I had no part in it. But we're always going to be there.

- Who's we?

- Christians.

- Yeah, what do you think we are?

- So wait a minute--

- If y'all were Christians, y'all would be out praising God and not walking in perverse ways.

- So Christians are happy about the death of this man?

- Yeah. A true Christian would be because it says to slay the enemy. Slay God's enemies.

- I thought that the disciples asked Jesus what were the two greatest Commandments and he said, "Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one God." And the second was greater than the first to love thy neighbor as thyself.

- Yes, thy neighbor. Thy neighbor--

- No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, wait a minute. Love thy neighbor as thyself. That's what it says. Doesn't say anything if thy neighbor is a homosexual or if thy neighbor takes drugs or if thy neighbor is Black or if thy neighbor. It says to love thy neighbor as ourselves.

- Well, then--

- So you're saying that--

- Well, no, no--

- --we should celebrate as Christians, the death of someone being beaten unconscious and left in the street to die is a good thing, and God is all happy about it.

- He did a Christian duty.

- He did a good Christian duty. OK. So much for that.

- Brother.

- Jerry.

- Hi.

- Hi.

- I'm just calling to let you know that in regard to the first caller.

- Yeah.

- It doesn't matter how strong we are individually. Until we're all willing to take a stand together--

- We're screwed.

- --come out and support each other in the community. This is going to go on.

- Exactly.

- You bet I was talking to a woman--

- And that's why I've been screaming and jumping up and down for like the last year, and everybody goes, be patient. Calm down. Don't be so angry.

- Well, maybe it's time that we all get a little angry because we're dying in the streets.

- I think we should all have a few Twinkies and go downtown to City Hall and--

- OK.

[LAUGHS]

- I don't know.

- You going to organize it?
 - You are right because we are dying in the streets, and it is scary.
 - It's terrifying.
 - What part of town are you calling from?
 - Crosby. I live out in Crosby.
 - Well, listen.
 - My lover told me about it today, and we met today for a little while.
 - About what?
 - About the--
 - The beating.
 - --the beating, yeah.
 - Yeah.
 - And I was just outraged. I was furious. And then when I heard about it on your program--
 - It's made me crazy. I'm already crazy, and I do the papers to prove it.
 - I was talking to a woman earlier this evening, and I said we do hear about gay bashing, but we never hear about lesbian bashing.
 - Oh, yeah.
 - And she said, yes you do. It's called rape.
 - Yeah, well, anyway. Thanks for calling, Jerry.
 - Thanks.
 - You don't hear about lesbian bashing, listen to this.
 - Rebecca and I went camping. We made camp. We spent some time eating. We were laying down by a stream, and all of a sudden, there were shots. My arm exploded. Rebecca was hit twice and started to bleed to death.
- I attempted to carry her, but I was unsuccessful. The entire walk out of the woods, I believed myself to be hunted. My name is Claudia Brenner. We were identified as lesbians by a stranger with whom we had no connection. He will spend the rest of his life in prison. But Rebecca, who was 28 years old, is gone.
- Homophobia can kill. Education is the only lasting weapon against bigotry, which is why the Lesbian and Gay Public Awareness Project wanted you to hear and think about this message.
 - For more information, write us at Post Office Box 65603, Los Angeles, California, 90065.
 - Now, what did you say about nothing ever happening to lesbians?

- You're right.

[LAUGHS]

- It does happen, and it happens to all of us gay, and straight, Black, white. It happens to us.

- We just need to report it more because things like this traditionally have been under reported because we're afraid to call the police.

- Well, we'll talk about that in a minute, and I'll tell you what I think you should do. 526-4000 and 526-KPFT. Michael.

- Yes. You were talking about what we can do in response to the murder of Paul Brewster, and I have a couple of ideas.

- Is this Michael Crawford?

- Yes.

- Hi, Michael.

- Hi Jimmy. OK, I am a member of Queer Nation.

- Mm-hmm.

- And at our next meeting on Tuesday night, we are going to be discussing and making plans for a queer take back the night. Which will, I hope, trace a line from where Paul was murdered to the police station. The police substation on Westheimer.

- Mm-hmm.

- Now, what--

- Where is this going to take place?

- We haven't set a date yet. We're making plans for that.

- No, no, no, no, the meeting.

- It's going to take place at the Montrose Palace.

- Mm-hmm.

- Which is located at 1501 Nevada at Commonwealth, and it's going to be at 7:30 on Tuesday.

- OK.

- If anyone wants more information, they can call our number, which is 931-0884.

- Oh, that's new, isn't it?

- Yeah. New number. In addition to that, I'm also hoping that we can put together a protest at City Hall which would demand several things, including the addition of sexual orientation to hate crimes legislation, additional lighting inside Montrose because, I mean, it's really dark there.

So there's no way to know if a gay basher is lurking in the darkness anyway. And more police officers patrolling the Montrose area. So if anyone is interested in organizing an action, taking some kind of real action that will result in positive things, they can come and meet with us and help get this done.

- And I don't want to keep sounding like I'm saying everything's all right at the police department because it's not. But we're not going to get any more police officers patrolling Montrose until we get more cops.

- Right.

- We need like 1,000 to 2,500 more police officers in the streets.

- I agree. That's why I think we should not let this die down and why I do want to have--

- We can't let it die down.

- --it at City Hall. I mean, in the same way, I think we should-- remember when Ida Lee Delaney was killed.

- And how city council was filled with people screaming and yelling.

- Black people.

- Yes.

- Black people were everywhere screaming and yelling about this murder.

- Gay and lesbian people should be in city council screaming and yelling, we need more police.

- And we should do these actions in an organized manner.

- Exactly.

- Otherwise, everything will be diffused, and we'll look like a bunch of--

- Bunch of fools.

- --flaming queens who don't know what we're talking about.

- Yeah.

- We do know what we're talking about, and I'm sorry that this guy-- that Sean, our news director, got shot at and got the wrong person. If you call the police and you're treated poorly, or you're treated bad you need to hang up, call back, and ask for a supervisor. There's supervisors there who supervise people and tell him what happened. Someone down there does care. I mean, everything is not perfect at HPD, believe me. I'm there every day.

But they do care. The police officers who patrol in Montrose are very aware as to what happened on July the 4th. And they're very alert as to the cars driving around the neighborhood. But if we don't tell them-- if we don't call in and say, hey, I just called, but they didn't really give a damn. I need to talk to someone. I need something done. We need to pursue it. We need to stay after it. Nothing's going to happen.

- I agree.

- But you're right. We need to organize and do something. I would like to see 100,000 people down in front of City Hall Monday morning, saying this stinks. But it's not going to happen. Not today, not in Houston.

- Queer Nation in New York just held a take back the night a couple of weekends ago, and they managed to get 5,000 people. While I don't expect that many in Houston, I do think that we can get at least 500.

- Listen, if you guys get this-- if you guys, I know there are women involved in Queer Nation. If Queer Nation gets this going, come down here and tell us so we can talk about it and help promote and help push it.

- OK, I will. And I can repeat the number one more time.

- Yeah, go ahead.

- Yes, please do because it's a new one.

- OK, the number for Queer Nation is 931-0884.

- OK, perfect. OK, thanks for calling.

- Thank you, Michael.

- Sure. Hello.

- I've got a message for John.

- Who's John?

- The one that called. That Christian, supposedly.

- Oh, yeah.

- Yeah, well, John. I think you can eat it because what kind of Christian are you? You're a hypocrite. If you're a Christian, you don't go around beating people up just because of their sexuality.

- Some Christians did. The church used to do.

- Isn't that incredible?

- The church still does it. What am I talking about?

- I don't understand how--

- Accusation, [INAUDIBLE]

- --how you can call yourself a Christian and act that way and really feel that way.

- Well, if you do it all in Jesus's name, it's OK. Hallelujah. Praise God.

- No, it isn't OK.

- Yeah, I know.

- Oh, well. I'm pretty sure he knows who I am, and he just raised my temper, and he knows I can be the biggest bitch there is.

- All right.

- Anyway, thanks for calling. Thank you. Philip.

- Hi.

- You're visiting from London.

- Uh-huh.

- What's going on in London?

- Oh, well, the weather's not very good, as you can tell at Wimbledon.

- Yeah.

- I'm here on business.

- So what are you doing up at--

- Excuse me?

- What are you doing up at 2:45 in the morning listening to the radio?

- Well, that's another matter. But--

- Yes.

- --I read about the guy that got beaten up and killed.

- Mm-hmm.

- Mm-hmm.

- Right.

- Believe me, I'm appalled because I've always assumed that Americans, because of the Constitution, all the rights they have. [LAUGHS] Which are implicit in the Constitution--

- Uh-huh.

- --that they respect everybody's rights. America is the plural society. And as I see right now, it isn't. I don't know what the hell is going on with your country, but your rights seem to be eroded every single day.

- What's happening is we have the Bill of Rights and the Constitution, but it's under glass, and we're taking real good care of it. Nobody has any rights, but the paperwork is still there.

- No, no, we have to fight for them.

- That's true.

- See, the death of that guy totally undermines the whole meaning of America.

- It does.

- As a European-- as a person who's-- I mean, I'm from Britain. We don't have a written Constitution. We don't have a bill of rights. And everything that America stands for is lost in the death of a person like Paul Broussard. It's terrible.

- It's awful, and that's what I said earlier. When we as a society can condone something as evil as homophobia and cheer about the death of anyone for any reason, we're screwed.

- I tell you what, I'm going back to England tomorrow.

- Yes.

- Well, today, actually. But I'm very, very disappointed to see and hear what I've heard. It's terrible. I mean, I have friends in England that are homosexual.

- Mm-hmm.

- They do not have the bullshit-- they don't have to put up with the bullshit I've seen here.

- You got to be-- you got to be real careful.

- Right, it's--

- Hello, hello. You got to be real careful, and please don't say any dirty words.

- I'm sorry, excuse me.

- That's OK.

- I know you're from out of town and that-- you're from out of the country. But see, there are people like Jesse Helms and other people who won't let us say certain things, and I have to tell you that's one of the things you can't say.

- Actually, it's not necessary to say words like that.

- Well, we know what you mean.

- And we know how--

- What the hell is going on? America is a great nation. If you look at--

- Used to be.

- --when I first came in contact with America was when I was 13 years of age. I read your Declaration of Independence and the Amendments to the Constitution. I thought this is a great nation.

- It is wonderful, but--

- I come here, and I see the stuff that goes on. I can't believe it.

- It's pretty sad, isn't it?

- I'm going home tomorrow. I still think Houston's a great city. Texas is a great state. And please put all this homophobia away.
- We're trying everything.
- Listen, take care of yourself.
- Good luck.
- And hang on just a minute. Let somebody get your address, and we'll send you some stuff. How's that? OK, hang on.
- OK.
- Get his address. Make sure they get his address. Kevin.
- Hi.
- Hi.
- I wanted to say a couple of things about the police, Buddy and I know you work there.
- That's OK. I tell you, everything is not perfect there, believe me. Go ahead.
- We've had lots of police before, and there was still-- there was never even anything but spit given to the gay community. I mean--
-
- They didn't have--
- They had a bag.
- They didn't have-- they didn't have an openly gay dispatcher at HPD doing a gay radio show.
- No. Well, that's not the same thing as when there's reportedly people in the Klan that are HPD officers. They don't even have the decency to get someone that maybe has a college education that might not necessarily just love to be around guns.
- See, that's what we have to understand, though. Is that bigotry and ignorance and hatred is going to always be there.
- But this whole weekend, it's been filled with DWI teams that have been--
- They're always out there.
- Well, no, these are special holiday ones where they pull over every single person in 10 specific points in Houston--
- Every holiday--
- --and ask your papers.
- Every holiday they do that.
- Well, they've been doing it since the Supreme Court allowed them two years ago.
- Every holiday, they do that, and if I'm not mistaken, the police department even publishes-- didn't you see, baby, on the news, they were saying where they were going to be and where they were going to be set up?

- Mm-hmm. So I mean, it's no secret.
- But that's a waste of time when there's 1,700 people 2 and 1/2 blocks away from a police station, and you never see a cop.
- That's because we're understaffed.
- The priorities are all wrong. They have cops watching graffiti and making studies of this stuff instead of going out and doing real police work.
- We can't do real police work.
- I live in Spring Branch, where every gay man is married to a woman.
- Yeah. [LAUGHS]
- And it's about like, oh, there's prostitution all up and down the streets, and all the police do are harass these people over and over again.
- But the police--
- And they're just poor.
- --the police don't have time to patrol anymore. They're outnumbered.
- Well, I still say they're a gang, and I've had more trouble with police than I've had from criminals.
- I wish I could agree with you, but I can't. If the police department was as bad as everybody thinks it is, I wouldn't be-- why do you think they let me come down there and work?
- Because you have civil rights still.
- I don't have any kind of rights. I'm not protected by anything. They tried to get a gay, lesbian, or a sexual orientation thing passed for the city of Houston, and it was voted out back in 1985, remember? I could be fired tomorrow for being gay.
- I was only in-- I've only seen one bit of gay bashing where I was walking with three friends, and there was another man about 3/4 of a block ahead of us, and we saw boys pull up in a truck. They passed by us and pulled up on the loner and got him about three blocks ahead. They didn't get him very hard. We ran up and stopped it. But basically, it is true when you're walking in groups, it is a hell of a lot safer. And this is my last observation, and I'll go. Homophobes are sick closet homosexuals.
- Some of them are. Many of them are.
- Like that so-called Christian that called up right now, a lot of closet homosexuals hide behind the church.
- What the hell is he doing listening to a gay radio show anyway?
- Because he likes to be mad and likes controversy. I'm not sure. [LAUGHS] I can't see how people can turn a religion of love and tolerance into just another way to hate whatever you call niggers these days.
- Yeah.
- I know. It's the same thing.

- Yeah, anyway, thanks for the time.
- Sure.
- Thank you.
- Bob. What's going on?
- Hello.
- Bob.
- Yeah.
- I'm going to have to agree with John on that and disagree with love thy neighbor because if you're loving somebody that's homosexual and you believe in God and you believe in the Bible. Then you would see homosexuality as in a sin, which it says in the Bible.
- Yeah.
- Yeah, and you said that love thy neighbor, and if you were my neighbor, then that would be love sin.
- That would be what?
- That would be like loving sin.
- OK.
- Do you understand what I'm saying?
- In how he's saying--
- Not really.
- --that the religion is beautiful, and it's building up hate. It's not actually building up hate. There's more to God.
- When I hear religion, though, I hear things like he without sin cast the first stone and that kind of stuff.
- I couldn't understand you.
- I said when I hear about religion, I hear things like he without sin cast the first stone, judge not least, you be judged.
- Yeah.
- Those kind of things.
- And.
- So we're all going to hell and that's that. So what's the point?
- Well, I guess you can go on to hell, sir.
- OK, Thanks. Chris.

- Yeah.
- What's up?
- It's the opposite of down.
- We've only got like five minutes, so hurry.
- Oh, I only get five minutes, jeez.
- No, we've only got five minutes. You only get like 30 seconds.
- [LAUGHS]
- OK.
- I'm sorry. We got a lot of calls, and we only got like five minutes to go.
- All right. Well, first, I want to say thanks for the tape that I just recently received.
- You bet.
- And I appreciate you guys converting that over to tape for me because I don't have a CD player because I'm poor.
- Yeah, I can relate to that.
- Uh-uh, yeah.
- What's on your mind?
- But the thing I wanted to mention was-- OK, your first caller he said that you guys-- he said that you guys should carry clubs and stuff like that.
- Yeah, I remember that.
- But then, I'm torn between that and the fact that what we're trying to do is-- I don't know. I guess get everyone to notice that we deserve the same rights as heterosexuals. And so we can't go around being quote-unquote vigilante homosexuals.
- It only makes us worse than them.
- Yeah.
- Running around looking just like the gangs and punks and all that are doing what they're doing to us.
- We're running out of time.
- I'm sorry.
- No, that's OK,
- It's not your fault. I'm sorry. I wish I could stop the clock, but I can't. What part of town are you calling from?
- Spring.

- Spring. Everybody's in Spring this morning. Thanks for calling.

- Take care, baby.

- Hello.

- Hi.

- Yeah.

- My name is Kevin. I think I was your first caller.

- Uh-huh.

- I do a lot of work with police, and I am a lawyer, and this understaffed nonsense is nonsense.

- OK.

- They have enough cops to cruise every park and every toilet in this town, and they can't have two policemen to walk around 12 hours a night? It's a six-square-block area. And every cop in this city, for \$13 an hour, would be a security guard.

- OK.

- And that would pretty much solve the problem, wouldn't it?

- Thanks for calling back. Who's going to answer all the calls, though, Jimmy, if you don't understand how the system works? Actually, how it doesn't work because it's not working. Terry.

- Yes. This is my first time calling, and all I had to say about that guy that called that was glad that guy got killed is that I'm a Christian. But I have two friends that are gay.

- Yeah.

- And what I wanted to say is that my friends that are gay. They know how I stand. I prefer women.

- Yeah.

- And they prefer men, and that's how we look at our friendship.

- Uh-huh.

- And right now, I'm trying to figure out what I'm going to say, but--

- That's OK.

- That's just a bunch of bull crap.

- Yeah, I know.

- And he just got me all riled up and I'm--

- I'm glad that all Christians don't feel that way because there are good people in the church.

- That's right.

- And anyway, thanks for taking the time to call us.

- You're welcome.

- Thank you.

- Gary.

- Yeah.

- What's up?

- Buddy, I wanted to call. I apologize for calling so late. I wanted to tune into your station tonight. And first of all, I don't guess I'll play the role of the devil's advocate. I am an HPD officer, as you well know.

- Oh, hi. I didn't know that was you.

- Yes, first of all, I'd like to say to your listeners we're not all bad. We do not run calls and say, well, are they Black or homosexual or whatever. But I would like to remind all listeners to please get involved in the PIP program. It's the police Positive Interaction Program that is a viable solution to solving some of your problems.

- That's true.

- And go voice your opinion. I've been listening to the show for the last 30 minutes, and I'd like to remind your listeners that only two weeks ago-- maybe last, it was the gay Pride Week. You're talking about the members of City Hall, all of us go do it. Show your Pride.

- That's true.

- This is an election year. If you've got a problem of understaffing with your police or a problem with your police, make your voice known.

- Can you tell me how do I answer these people that call in that say we're not like understaffed? I work Central, and you know that, and I've got police officers who are running around in circles and don't have time to do nothing. They don't even have time to eat dinner.

- This is true.

- And we're not--

- There again, I do have an answer for that. There is a program for that, which allows citizens to ride with their police. Go ride. Ride these areas, ride these streets, and become involved in your police department.

- That's true.

- Be involved with your cop on the beat.

- That's true.

- Know this guy, not by a police officer, but know him by name, John, Bill, Fred, whatever. And see what this man goes through. Being a police officer is not a bed of roses.
- Walk a mile in my shoes.
- Yes. Very well put.
- Should gay and lesbian people be afraid of the police?
- No. No, they should be friends with the police. We discussed this topic earlier tonight. It gets back to the old boogieman factor until you are exposed to a certain element. You may be scared of that element.
- That's true.
- That's what we keep telling all of our straight listeners because you don't know a gay or lesbian person, you're afraid of them. And that's what we must tell our gay and lesbian people because you don't know the police, you're afraid of them.
- That's true, and it's a two-way street. The form of an advocate and proponent of the PIP program, it's a very good program, and every segment of society has a voice in their police department.
- That's really true.
- I'm not familiar with this PIP program.
- We'll get in more information on it.
- Oh, OK.
- I believe Buddy can explain this about--
- Yeah, OK.
- --the PIP interaction program. You should have one centrally located in the neighborhood of the Montrose area. It's similar to what a civic center operates as.
- Thanks for taking the time to call.
- All right, y'all have a good night.
- Thank you, you too.
- BBC News coming up at 3:00. I am not going to tell you that everything is fine at HPD because it's not. But I will never ever sit around and let my people, who I know work hard and care get battered because it's not right. And they can't speak up. I mean, it takes a lot of courage, especially like this, to call in and say something.
- You bet.
- But you cannot tell me that the police department just doesn't give a damn because that's not true. There are people down there who don't, but there are ways to deal with that. Anyway, we've got to listen to the news from the BBC at 3:00 and *Blues For You* will be here at four.
- In fact, the Blues Broads are already here.

- Are we going to do more calls, or what do you want to do?
- We have that tape.
- Yeah, we'll do that later. We were going to listen to an interview that Frank had with Annise Parker.
- Yeah.
- But we'll listen to that next week.
- Oh, next week.
- Yeah, because we got carried away with the phone calls.
- I know we usually do that at 2:30, and I'm really excited about this interview with Annise.
- But we were also going to have Christmas in July.
- Yes, I know.
- And play Christmas music. I was really touched by this-- I was really touched by this guy that called from London that's saying what's wrong with your country? I really wish I knew.
- Well, I think maybe sometimes gays and lesbians in other parts of the world think that the United States is a Garden of Eden for gays and lesbians, and it just isn't so. [LAUGHS] It may be better than what they're experiencing, but it is far from perfect, even in more populated areas.
- Well, I guess we'll take some more calls after the news. You never know what we're going to do, so stick around. KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. We got news from the BBC coming up at 3:00 and *Blues For You*, and until then, we'll just have to see what happens. So stay with us. This is Pacifica Radio 90.1 FM KPFT Houston and *After Hours*.
- And we're here and we're queer.
- I don't feel as bad as I did when I started.
- I know. I don't feel wonderful, but I don't feel as bad.
- No, because I know that we're-- I know that there are a lot of people out there that are just as frustrated as I am, and it's really frustrating. So anyway, maybe we can fix it. Doesn't hurt to try. We'll be back in a minute. Remember, every Saturday night at midnight. Every Saturday night at midnight on *After Hours*, we play music.
- This is Craig Washington reminding you that none of us are free until all of us are free. So keep listening to *After Hours* KPFT Houston 90.1 FM.
- [MUSIC PLAYING]
- This is London.