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- And if you would like to write us, it's After Hours in care of KPFT 419 Lovett Boulevard, Houston, Texas, 77006. And as I was just reminded, it's more than a zip code. It's a lifestyle.

- That's right, baby.

- I had forgotten about that.

- I have that T-shirt to prove it.

- Do you really?

- I do.

- Well, girl. Anyway-- or you can call us on the *After Hours* hotline at 529-4636.

- So get your pens and papers and Crayolas, and we'll give you that address here in a little bit.

- You bet.

- Anyway, back to the telephones. KPFT, you're on the air.

- Hi, Buddy. This is Rick.

- Hi, Rick.

- Yeah, I just thought I'd interject a little bit of information or a little observation. The callers earlier talking about the harassment by the police and such. And I think I think they have to realize-- take things from a little bit different point of view, kind of step back.

As someone who's been on both sides, working for the city as a patrolman and now on the outside in the gay community looking in, I think it's easy for me to see that I've got people that embarrass me that are poor salesmen and poor clerks in stores and such. And the same way with the Department-- there are going to be some that-- we may not agree with their attitudes and may not be appropriate in a lot of situations.

But overall, I can tell you, from past experience, most of the people working in the area, other than a few of the rookies that didn't have much choice of assignments, are working there because they want to work there-- maybe not by definite choice, but by the fact that they don't mind working there-- may be a better way to put it.

- That's true.

- And that there are some that have very legitimate care and concern in the neighborhood. As one that presided over quite a few breakups and separations and such, you go into it just like you do any other breakup, whether it's a man and a man or a woman and a woman or a husband and wife.

- A disturbance is a disturbance.

- A separation

- I guess sometimes we think of the police as more of-- I don't know-- gods, or that a policeman would never think of his job as a job. It's a calling or something like that. I think we expect too much from police sometimes.

- A lot of times, the officers are very uncomfortable dealing with the situations. And we were out at the club tonight, and we were talking about some of the officers. And happened to be a couple that kind of walked through the club, which is a little bit unusual, but they were getting a feel for the area.

- Actually, they've been doing that this weekend.

- And I thought it was a little bit unusual. I was talking to a couple of the younger folks there around the club. And we made the observation that a lot of the officers really have no idea of what's going on. And the reason is because we want it that way.

- That's true.

- And until they really have an idea of what our feelings are-- and I'm not talking about standing out on the street corner screaming. I'm talking about sitting down and saying, hey, how are you doing, guy? By the way, we're concerned about this. And until you get that type of attitude and that kind of communications, you're not going to have a positive feedback in a lot of cases.

- It's very true.

- That's very true. Sometimes we're more in the closet in ways that we don't even realize.

- Oh, I was at a club the other night and had an officer drive through. And the two guys stand there with me are like, oh, shoot. Here's the police. And I'm waving, hey what y'all up to?

- Right. It's like, I'm looking to see who they are.

- Yeah, I shock a few when they see me and it's like, what are you doing here? It's like, what do you think I'm doing here? Especially some that had no idea.

But as far as the other comment, I took one personally. DWI Task Force-- personally involved with that years ago. And I think a lot of people don't realize there was a thing that happened to, I guess, the community a few years back that made a big difference. And it was a little campaign that basically said, DWI has always been against the law. But that would make it socially unacceptable.

And what it referred to was the number of deaths that we incurred in the city. And things have changed considerably because of people's attitudes. The clubs-- you go in. It's like, if you can't-- you can't walk out the door, they don't let you go out the door. They call you a cab. That's a different attitude from even a few years ago.

- That's true.

- As far as the enforcement, you're talking 10 officers. And they can go out there and put enough fear and paranoia into the average drinking man to make them not want to drive.

- That's what's funny. The DWI Task Force is eight or 10 people. It's not thousands.

- 10 people, and during these deals-- what they're talking about on the news is when they get the constables and they get this DPS and the Sheriff and everybody decides to do it at the same time. But it's going on every night-- five nights a week or whatever. The big thing is it's all our perception.

- That's true.

- Write off this as being good and that's being bad, and that's the way it is. But it's not that easy. It takes a lot more than that to figure out what's really right and what's really wrong.

- Listen, thanks for taking the time out to call in.

- Have a good night.

- I'd still like to meet you sometime, face to face.

- You will.

- OK, I've heard that before. Take care of yourself.

- Thank you, Rick.

- You used to be a police officer. Just not there anymore.

- Interesting perspective, but, yes, I'm sure there are people at the police station to whom it is a job. And think about your own job and the people who are really interested in what they do and do it well and the other people who are just putting in time.

- I'm telling you, everything is not perfect at the police department.

- No, or anywhere else.

- And as far as the guy that was talking about people that go out to Memorial Park and bust those people for being in those toilets, men should not be in public toilets doing such things. I've said that before. I wouldn't want to take my niece to the park and have straight people screwing and doing all kinds of things. You should not be out doing that.

But of course, society is not going to let us grow up and fall in love and learn how to take care of our feelings. So we have to wait until we get out on our own, and sometimes that's the only place to go.

- I'll bet there aren't too many cops who enjoy doing the park duty.

- I don't know. People debate that. I don't want to debate that.

Anyway, if there is a problem, though, we need to fix it. And one of the ways to fix it is to talk about it. That's why we're here every week, I guess. It's frustrating as hell, trust me. I know it is.

It's 16 minutes after 3:00, 90.1 FM, KPFT Houston. And Angela--

- Yes. You made a comment earlier about straights that don't have homosexual friends?

- Yeah.

- I'm straight. I have some homosexual friends, and I think what they did to that man is absolutely atrocious. And those two Christians that called in? What about, thou shalt not kill, or does that not count anymore?

- Apparently, it didn't count to them. Isn't that sad?

- That is so sick. How can they really enjoy that?

- I know.

- You're not doing anything to them. You're not making them listen to you. Why are they even listening to this station?

- It's a good question, Angela. I wish I had an answer.

- I think you guys are wonderful.

- It's a crazy world, isn't it?

- It's so stupid. My uncle works at Heaven. He's a disk jockey there. And it scares me.

- It's very scary.

- It is very scary.

- It's stupid. I wish you guys the best of luck in trying to get through to those people.

- Thanks for calling.

- Thank you, Angela.

- Bye.

- She's talking about, how could people do that? I remember, two or three weeks ago, when that man kidnapped his own children and drove out into Southeast Houston and shot his children in front of the police. The police officers were standing there and couldn't do anything.

If a man will murder his own children, what makes you think that somebody won't come out and hurt you? Anyway-- it's 18 minutes after 3:00-- 90.1 FM, KPFT Houston. I guess this is the answer.

- What?

- We just can't let happen, is let this Thomas guy, whoever he, is get selected for the Supreme Court. He's very conservative, and he doesn't like anything.

- Carl Rowan, the guy you talked about last week, the Black writer, did a scathing article about him.

- Well, he's pretty scary looking. Anyway, all I know, kids, is that, if we don't work together, we're screwed. I keep saying that. And don't ask me why we keep coming here to say it? Because there are those in the community that think I should shut up, and I'm not going to shut up, and that's too bad. I'm not going to tell you everything's right because it's not. It's not right. I'm not going to tell you everything's wrong either, because it's not wrong.

Harvey Milk, one time, was in a group of people in San Francisco. And they said, Harvey, everything has gone to hell. It stinks. We just need to go downtown and burn down City Hall.

And Harvey said, well, what if you were the mayor and you were the chief of police and you and you and you and you were on the city council? They said, oh, well, that would be great.

And Harvey said, well, wait a minute, you just said, everything stinks. It's not working. It's not the system that stinks, boys and girls. It's the people who are running the system that stink, and we need to get rid of those people.

You're just now beginning to see the wonderful legacy of Ronald Reagan fall apart around them. You're hearing about how Casey went over to Europe and did all kinds of secret things to keep the hostages from being released until after President Reagan was sworn in, just making sure that Jimmy Carper didn't get re-elected.

Some people will stop at nothing to take your freedom away from you. And if you continue to let them take it away from you, you won't have any.

And this guy that's going to be put on the Supreme Court-- Thurgood Marshall is the only one that has really fought for civil rights, for women's rights, for rights dealing with abortion issues. Anything that had to do with people-- he was all for it. And one of the only people that stood up there and fought for us, and now he's leaving because he's old.

And if we let them put in somebody that's just as conservative, you can kiss *Roe v Wade* goodbye. You can kiss a lot of your freedoms goodbye. You can probably kiss this radio station goodbye, because they're already at-- the FCC has already got a big tight grip on all the radio stations all around the country. And they couldn't strangle us all, so now they've sicced the Justice Department on us, and even the Justice Department is having trouble.

You get somebody on the Supreme Court that's going to swing everything their way, we're screwed. And we're not just screwed till George Bush is gone. We're screwed for 30 or 40 or 50 years, until all these guys get old and die or go away. And I just cannot emphasize enough to you that whatever you think is the right thing to do-- you better get on the phone and call your elected officials and say, hey, I'm here, and I'm queer, and I don't really like this, and this has to change or I'm not going to vote for you no more.

We need more police officers to patrol our streets. We need more funding for things dealing with things like AIDS. We need the government to get off our back and let us live the things that are guaranteed us in the Constitution.

- We need more people to vote, period.

- Bingo. You have to understand that, somewhere along the line, we have allowed somebody to come in and lay their Bible down on top of our Constitution. This is not one nation under God. I'm sorry, kids. This country was built on people running away from stuff like that. We got in our boats and floated away from England and all that stupidity back then.

So don't let them tell you this was a nation built, la, la, la. This was a nation built on personal freedom, on individual freedoms, on your right to choose. And when they start telling you that, da, da, da, that's not true, you look in the Constitution and nowhere does it say, so help me God, when the president is sworn in. I think it was Franklin Roosevelt, who put that in or somebody. It's not in the Constitution, Mary. I really wish they'd quit saying it, but they're not going to.

And you talk about the church and how good the church is. And just read in your history books-- the ones that you can find that have the truth in them-- and you will read how the church has treated people throughout the history. It hasn't been very good. They don't tell you that when Christopher-- Christopher Columbus came to America, that he went out and rounded up the Indians and put them in slavery and those who refused to work-- their hands were cut off. They don't tell you all those--

See? They lie all the time. People lie all the time. All I know is that, when they do come to get us, we're going to be kicking and screaming and fighting back. So I hope you are, too. Anyway, we're not going to shut up.

[MUSIC - TOM PETTY, "I WON'T BACK DOWN"]

I love that. Sisters and brothers, what have we done? We're fighting each other instead of the front. We've got to get it together.

- The odds are against us, 20 to 1.

- It's Tom Robinson from long ago, and you're listening to *After Hours* on KPFT, Houston 90.1 FM. We're not good homosexuals, but we're here.

- And we are really queer.

- The disorders began with a routine police raid on a homosexual bar, the Stonewall on Christopher Street, in the heart of the West Village.

- Say it's so they can hear you in 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 love and for life, we're not going back!

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!

- 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.

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

- We're queer.

- As president of the board--

- I'd like to say--

- I mean-- I mean-- as president of the Board of Supervisors, it's my duty to make this announcement. Both Mayor Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk have been shot and killed.

- I have a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore.

- They've got to understand something! They've got to understand something! We are not talking about crotch 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 power, and I don't care about straight understanding!

You better hear me in Washington We are demanding-- we are demanding our Civil Rights!

- And I ask-- I ask people all over this country to do one thing.

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

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

- Come on out. Join us!

- 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.

[CHEERING]

Once they realize that we are indeed their children and we are indeed everywhere, every myth, every lie, every innuendo will be destroyed once and for all. I ask people all over this country to do one thing-- come out! Come out, America! Come out!

- Can I tell you what the gay movement's about? After I got elected, I got the phone call I knew I'd eventually get. I got quite a few of them. One was from a 17-year-old child in a small town in Minnesota and the boy is handicapped. And the boy's parents found out that he's gay, and they want to put him in an insane asylum. That boy needs help.

And the gay movement is about the letter I got from Southwest Africa when he read about a gay person getting elected here, and that person has hope. And that 17-year-old kid in Minnesota has hope. And we have gay leaders not understanding that and are more worried about their own personal power. They're not gay leaders. They're offensive.

- Somewhere in Des Moines or San Antonio, there's a young gay person who, all of a sudden, realizes that she or he is gay, knows that, if the parents find out, they'll be tossed out of the house, the classmates would taunt the child, and the Anita Bryants and John Briggses are doing their bit on TV.

And that child had several options-- staying in the closet, suicide. And then, one day, that child might open a paper and it says, homosexual elected in San Francisco, and there are two new options. The option is to go to California--

[APPLAUSE]

--or stay in San Antonio and fight. Two days after I was elected, I got a phone call, and the voice was quite young. It was from Altoona, Pennsylvania. And the person said, thanks.

And you've got to elect gay people so that young child and the thousands upon thousands like that child know that there's hope for a better world. There's hope for a better tomorrow. Without hope, not only gays but those Blacks, the Asian disabled, seniors, and S's-- the S's. Without hope, the S's give up.

I know that you cannot live on hope alone, but without it, life is not worth living. And you, and you, and you got to give them hope. Thank you very much.

- Sometimes I wonder why the hell you even listen to this because it's not a rosy picture, most of the time. Just like this morning-- we came on and said that, on July the 4th, about 3:20 in the morning Paul Broussard, on the 1000 of West Drew, was beaten almost unconscious by a group of eight to 10 kids, simply because they were out to beat up a faggot. Five hours later, he died in the hospital.

And we're real angry. It's like Michael Callen says in *Living in Wartime*-- "This is no time for doubting to stop and wonder why. This is a time for shouting. I don't believe the lies. One way or another, no one will be spared. I call out to my brothers. Doesn't anybody care?"

Conspiracy of silence, the enemy within. Complacency and arrogance makes us think we cannot win, makes us think that the battle has been won." But the thunder in the distance and the death of people like Paul Broussard tell us that it's only just begun.

"They try to break our spirits. They try to keep us in our place. They do it to the women and the poor of every race. We face a common enemy-- bigotry and greed. But if we fight together, we can find the strength we need"-- the stink, because there's a lot of stink also out there.

All I can do is come down here and do this for four hours, as long as KPFT lets me, and we will continue to share as much with you as we possibly can. But I'll never sell you short, kids. And as Elliot said in *ET*, I have absolute power.

I just hope that some of it opens your eyes and opens your heart and you realize that, if we do truly work together, we can change the world. I don't know why the gay community-- so-called leaders don't believe me, and I wish they wouldn't hate me so much, but they do.

Margo Cowan from the album *Purple Heart* and "Love Don't Need a Reason."

- By request.

- Did you see him on *Geraldo*?

- I sure did.

- Wasn't that great?

- You woke me up for it.

- Well, it was great. We watched it from Chicago, and then it was rebroadcast at noon on channel 11.

- He did this song live.

- Yeah, it was pretty good. Pretty good.

- His voice is not engineered, folks. This is a man who's had AIDS for years, and he can still belt out those tunes. But that last line, what we don't have is time-- we really don't. And for Paul Broussard, time ran out Thursday morning.

- Anyway, next week, we've got an interview with Annise Parker, who is running for District C on Houston City Council. If you want to see things change, elect gay and lesbian people like Annise Parker to public office and things will change. If you want to continue to see our world go down the toilet, well, sit on your butt and don't do nothing, and it will. Just keep dancing the night away. Have we got time to play Madonna?

- No.

- Thank God. Or thank whoever you want to. That's what America is all about.

I really am sorry that our friend from England called up and heard this show. I'm sure I wish she could have heard some of the other shows, like when we had the Houston Outdoor Group or the Montrose Singers or Heartsong.

- Texas Gay Rodeo.

- Gay Fathers or the young people come in or PFLAG-- Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, anything but us screaming and yelling about people being killed, but it does make you want to scream and yell. I've been so frustrated all week because I-- sometimes I do feel very frustrated being on the police department looking outside, hearing people say, well, the police are-- and knowing that the world is not a perfect place. But if we all work together-- well, who knows?

Anyway, get your pen and paper out and write down this address. So what else are we doing next week, girl? You're supposed to be scheduling people.



- I know I'm supposed to be.

- Frank wasn't here tonight with the news, so I don't know what that means.

- Well, we'll find out and have him back next week.

- And there are other people who aren't here, and that's because I don't want them here. And I am a hateful queen. Ask anybody. They'll tell you.

Anyway, you could say something corny like, well, I can see by the old clock on the wall--

- We do have a clock on the wall.

- It's time for blues for you. But get that pencil and paper and write us at After Hours in care of KPFT, 419 Lovett Boulevard, Houston, Texas 77006, or call us on the *After Hours* hotline at area code 713-529-4636. Or to find out what's going on in the gay and lesbian community, call the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard at 529-3211. Or if you're in Anytown and you want to know what's going on, look in the phone book under either Gay for Gay Switchboard or Lesbian for Lesbian Switchboard-- they'll be listed there.

And just do what I'm going to do over the next few days. Stay down on your knees, like a virgin-- no, no. Anyway, I'll see you next week.

- You didn't play one song. Well, it didn't fit into the scheme of things.

- Next week, we're going to do Christmas in July.

- The song you played last week.

- Next week, we're going to do Christmas in July, so bring me lots of Christmas presents.

- No, there is a Christmas in July fundraiser coming up.

- And next week, we're going to be playing Christmas carols. I'm telling you the truth. If they can have a Christmas in July, why can't we?

- Too bad.

- Anyway, have a great week.

- I love you, babies.

- And remember what Harvey Milk said. Rights are not won on paper. They are won only by those who make their voices heard. It's like writing your Councilman, calling your Congressman, writing a letter to the White House, sending a letter to the Gay and Lesbian--