

# uhlib\_2022\_016\_lgv\_20010108\_edit

📅 Thu, Sep 28, 2023 9:20AM 🕒 1:51:48

## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

people, gay, lesbian, years, mcc, jesus, study, book, talk, aids, protests, issue, smoking, homosexuality, include, number, hiv, church, god, religion

## SPEAKERS

Glenn Holt, Jack Valinski, Cindy Friedman, Joan Devlin

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**J** Jack Valinski 00:09  
Welcome to another edition of lesbian and gay voices. This is Jack Valinski. And

**J** Joan Devlin 00:13  
I'm John Devlin.

**G** Glenn Holt 00:14  
And I'm Glen Holt.

**J** Jack Valinski 00:15  
I'm able to speak a little bit better tonight. But you sound a lot better this week. Still not totally back to normal. And it's not a holiday. What a strange thing to be doing a show. And it's not a holiday

**J** Joan Devlin 00:26  
next year. You know, if we're still on Monday nights, which I have no reason to believe we won't be. We will be doing Christmas, even New Year's Eve. So that's pretty interesting. We have to do holidays every year. It seems like well, I

**J** Jack Valinski 00:38  
guess that's our punishment, but saying that we're not actually no, there's, there's one on Thursday It's my birthday

Thursday, it's my birthday.

J Joan Devlin 00:43  
That's right. But that's not a national holiday yet.

J Jack Valinski 00:46  
No, not yet. But I do want to thank you, John, for putting together my annual birthday party at the Thai restaurant.

J Joan Devlin 00:51  
Oh, yes, it was a lot of fun. And the joke is that three years from now, when Jack turns 50, we might go someplace else for his birthday.

J Jack Valinski 00:59  
They may not be open. We have a good show tonight.

J Joan Devlin 01:04  
First up, first step Dr. Rembert, true luck, who is the author of recovering from Bible abuse. And it's kind of a 12 step program. And he's been conducting some classes at MCC are in Houston. And he was kind enough to stop by the studio and do a quick interview with us.

J Jack Valinski 01:20  
And then we're going to be talking about stopping smoking, the prevalence in the gay and lesbian community and stuff like that some of the studies and why it would be good to stop smoking.

J Joan Devlin 01:30  
Right. And then at nine we'll be talking to Peter Lundberg, who is funding and developing something called our town what our town is, is a village for our retirement home actually for GLBT seniors. He's going to be talking about some of the dynamics of that and also giving us a little update on how our town is progressing.

J Jack Valinski 01:48  
A bunch of things coming up. It's January and Sundance is happening out there in Park City, which none of us are going to guess, but the Sundance Channel is showing a number of gay

which none of us are going to I guess, but the Sundance Channel is showing a number of gay titles, gay and lesbian titles, including the edges 17 Get real and Stonewall. So if you have the Sundance Channel, it's channel 69. On Time Warner in this part of town. They have some great stuff. Of course, queers focus, continuing on Showtime.

 Joan Devlin 02:14

And then Wednesday anatomy of a hate crime, which is the story of Matthew Shepard will be running commercial free on MTV at 8pm. And MTV is also going to be spending a few days listing the names of victims of hate crimes on their channel.

 Jack Valinski 02:28

And landmark theater is going to be bringing goin slide three sometime in the near future. What else we got a bunch of stuff going on.

 Joan Devlin 02:38

Firstly, three has Christina Crawford and it's I would advise you not to waste your money on that.

 Glenn Holt 02:42

We also of course, have our weekly look at what's been happening in the news.

 Joan Devlin 02:47

And one more thing, lifetime TV is presenting something called What makes a family starring Brooke Shields. It's a story of a woman whose lover dies. And because she is not the biological parent of the child, they are raising the grandparents come in and try to take the child away from her then that will be running at 8pm on January 22 on Lifetime TV,

 Jack Valinski 03:08

and a little update on Pride stuff. The applications for the parade and for events are available on the web at [Pride.ustream.org](http://Pride.ustream.org) and a deadline for nominations that Whoa, just and you know, the way we line up the parade is how the completed applications come in. And nominations for Grand Marshal which include female Grand Marshal, male Grand Marshal, honorary Grand Marshal and organizational Grand Marshal. That deadline is the 12th which would be Friday. And that is also available on the web the form that you need to fill out. Okay, so I guess we're all tucked out. Let's go to news wrap from this way out.

 03:48

 I'm Cindy Friedman

 03:49  
and filling in for specialty. I'm Donald Herman with

 Cindy Friedman 03:52  
news wrap a summary of some of the news in order affecting the lesbian and gay community for the three weeks ending January 6 2001. The Netherlands Senate approved extending legal marriage to gay and lesbian couples by a two to one margin last month. The lower house had already passed the bill with an even more lopsided vote in September. The world's first legal SAME GENDER marriages will take place April 1, with at least 14 couples holding a communal ceremony in Amsterdam. Only citizens and legal residents of the Netherlands can marry their the Netherlands had already been registering legal domestic partnerships, essentially equivalent to marriage since 1998. And those couples can convert their relationships to marriages if they wish. Although the Senate also approved expanded adoption rights for gays and lesbians. Even married SAME GENDER couples will still be barred from adopting children from other countries,

 04:48  
or resolutions supporting recognition of gay and lesbian couples has been approved by the leading professional organization of us psychiatrists. It reads the American Psychiatric Association so ports the legal recognition of same sex unions and their associated legal rights, benefits and responsibilities. Gay and

 Cindy Friedman 05:07  
Lesbian partners will be recognized as next of kin in tiny Liechtenstein a European nation best known for its postage stamps. Least in Stein's parliament, the lawn dog voted 25 to 23 last month for this and several other significant criminal code reforms to take effect January 19. The age of consent formerly 18 for sex acts between men will be equalized at 14 male prostitution will be treated the same as female prostitution, bans on gay and lesbian organizations and on distribution of positive information about homosexuality will both be lifted.

 05:46  
anti gay discrimination has been given only secondary recognition in proposals by the Japanese justice ministries Council of human rights promotion. The council has proposed creation of a national human rights commission to respond to seven forms of discrimination that mentions sexual orientation only among other issues to be further investigated for possible inclusion. Tokyo's gay and lesbian group occur has called for an international letter writing campaign demanding that anti gay discrimination be added to the mandate for the Human Rights

Commission. occur continues to struggle for inclusion of sexual orientation discrimination in Tokyo's own pending human rights measures, where it has been included, removed, replaced and dropped again.

 Cindy Friedman 06:32

To exiting us governors took actions against sexual orientation discrimination in state employment. Newly overhauled state employment policy soon to go into effect in Montana include sexual orientation as a class protected from discrimination, as specifically requested by Republican Governor Mark Rascoe, an important ally of incoming US President George W. Bush, democratic Delaware Governor Tom Carper made one of his last official actions an executive order to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment by the state's executive branch.

 07:08

Democratic Iowa Governor Tom Vilsack had issued a similar order in September 1999, which included gender identity as well as sexual orientation among its protected categories. That set off a lengthy controversy that ended up with 23 Republican state lawmakers winning a lawsuit striking down the order as unconstitutional. Vilsack announced this week that he will not appeal that ruling, but will instead work with legislators to enact laws to the same effect.

 Cindy Friedman 07:38

In Dade County, Florida, where ballots from the November elections are still under review. Officials will have to check all 51,000 signatures submitted for a referendum to repeal civil rights protections for gays and lesbians and association of groups led by the Christian coalition had failed earlier in 1999, to gather enough signatures to place a repeal measure on the ballot, but use the November polls to try again. When elections officials carried out their usual sampling of the signatures submitted, they found that more than 30% were invalid. That projected to a shortfall of 4% from the minimum number of valid signatures required, which was considered too close to call.

 08:20

And in Oregon, where voters in November defeated a measure to keep positive portrayals of homosexuality out of public schools. The anti gay Oregon Citizens Alliance this week filed a slightly rewritten version it hopes to place on the next ballot. OCAC original proposal, which appeared as measure nine on the November ballot would have prohibited public schools from presenting homosexuality in a manner that promotes encourages or sanctions such behaviors. The revised initiative addresses the key arguments of measure nines opponents by specifically exempting age appropriate objective and factual aids and human sexuality education instruction, affirming the human worth of all students and suicide counseling. However, the exempted functions are still supposed to be carried out in a way that is consistent with the statutes general principles, which define homosexuality as yielding, whether in thought or

deed, respectively, to urges or temptations to engage in sexual activity with members of the same gender. It also says the measure should not cause the termination of openly gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender teachers.

 Cindy Friedman 09:32

Traverse City, Michigan instituted a campaign for tolerance in mid December only to drop it this week in the face of protests. In the wake of some recent racist and anti gay hate crimes. The city printed up 10,000 bumper stickers with the legend we are Traverse City showing a half dozen linked abstract human forms in different colors on a rainbow background. The stickers were placed on all city vehicles and made available to the public But the American Family Association of Michigan organized protests against what it viewed as an endorsement of homosexuality, and some city workers driving the vehicles complained as well. At a packed City Commission meeting, the mayor said he thought he'd been conned into supporting the program unaware of an association between the rainbow and gays and lesbians. The city attorney convinced commissioners that the stickers should be removed from city vehicles, rather than make them a public forum for which it would be difficult to deny future requests from other groups. However, private individuals in Traverse City still wants to use the bumper stickers and have arranged for more to be printed.

 10:41

Those bumper stickers pale beside a huge billboard in London, showing two women clad only in their underwear engaged in a passionate kiss. The promotion for the queer company.com website is captioned. Thank God for women, but some Britons don't agree. In the wake of their complaints. The Advertising Standards Authority is monitoring the campaign, which is believed to be the first but it's certainly the most daring of its kind in the nation to date. Queer company plans to launch a similar campaign portraying gay men this month.

 Cindy Friedman 11:12

London mayor Ken Livingstone announced last month the appointment to his advisory cabinet of Angela Mason, the executive director of Stonewall Britain's National Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender advocacy group. Livingston said he hoped that Angela's outstanding record in campaigning for lesbian and gay equality will help us to ensure equal rights for all Londoners. Mason, who was inducted into the Order of the British Empire by Prince Charles a year ago for her civil rights work called her new job, a unique opportunity to help create a modern city where every individual is treated with equality and respect.

 11:49

A Scott who was driven by an outing threat to confess to a notorious murder in Northern Ireland in 1953, was finally cleared last month. Now 68 years old. In Hague, Gordon had been found guilty of the 1952 stabbing murder of Patricia Curran, the daughter of a high court judge who went on to become Lord Chief Justice. Desperate to close the case. Police arrested the 20 year old Gordon, a friend of Patricia's brother. After three days of intensive interrogation, they

threatened to tell his mother he'd had an affair with a man unless he confessed to the crime. Gordon was deemed insane and spent seven years in a mental hospital. He was released to his mother's custody and lived under an assumed name. Gordon only took up his quest for justice after his retirement in 1993. And the criminal cases Review Commission was only able to investigate after a change in the law that took effect in 1998. Following a hearing in October that offered new evidence and forced the prosecutor to admit Gordon's confession was not reliable. The Northern Ireland Court of Appeal quashed the guilty verdict.

**C** Cindy Friedman 12:55

And finally, not many Western publications have done what the Slovak spectator is done. The International weekly selected a gay activist as its Man of the Year for 2000 Peter Kralik calls himself a professional gay and told the spectator I'm trying to help change society so that more Slovaks can come out, and so that others accept the natural fact that homosexuals exist in Slovakia, and that we have always been here and will always be here. Kralik played a key role in bringing together a national coalition of various Slovak gay and lesbian groups called an A cost meaning difference. The group soon gained national media attention when Justice Minister Yan churna Gursky made a series of homophobic pronouncements. Kralik sees the invisibility of gays and lesbians, particularly in areas outside the cities as the first barrier to winning equality in Slovakia. He believes his vision of an accepting Slovakia will be realized in 10 to 15 years.

 13:56

That's news wrap for the three weeks ending January 6 2001. Written by Cindy Friedman, and recorded at the studios of KPFK. Los Angeles followed

**C** Cindy Friedman 14:05

the news in your area and informed community is a strong community for this way out. I'm Cindy Friedman.

 14:12

And I'm Donald Herman.

**G** Glenn Holt 14:14

And you are listening to lesbian and gay voices.

**J** Joan Devlin 14:27

And with lesbian and gay voices, and I'm in the studio tonight with Robert Trulock, who is author of steps to recovery from Bible abuse. And he's here visiting MCC er and I wanted to ask you, Dr. Trulock. What brings you to East and actually,



14:42

well, the invitation of MCC Carolyn mobile Dwayne Johnson, Ralph Lasher. These wonderful people that lead the MCC are I've been here before I came in 1993 and did workshops then. So it's just great to be back and visiting with them and this one Growing Congregational Church was full Sunday, and it's just wonderful the number of people they're reaching with the good news of God's unconditional love for all people.



Joan Devlin 15:11

And what prompted you to write steps to recovery from Bible abuse? Because I'll tell you when I first saw the book, and it's been out now, a couple of years, my first thought was, oh, it's about time. But what made you decide that you were the one that was going to do this?



15:25

Well, it goes back a long ways because I grew up Southern Baptist home in South Carolina with the Furman University Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, three degrees, including a doctor's degree. And then I was pastor, some large Southern Baptist churches and I was professor of religion at the Baptist College of Charleston, South Carolina of eight years till 1981. When they discovered I was gay and threw me out and went to Atlanta, got involved with the MCC in Atlanta, started doing Bible studies there after I'd been there for a while. Then I went to San Francisco in 1989, became pastor of Golden Gate MCC they and continued to do Bible studies for gays and lesbians. On the theme of the Bible, as the friend of gays and lesbians, now, of course, we more so gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender. And then I went to Nashville, Tennessee and became passionate MCC and Nashville did the same thing there. And I started Bible studies in my home on Wednesday nights, where we could have dialogue and it grew from just about three or four people to about 35 people every Wednesday night, we did that for about two and a half years. Then I went to South Carolina and began looking at my parents for a while, came back to California 1996 and started working on the book started a website at that point, which is called Steps to recovery from Bible abuse. While I was in Nashville, we developed the idea of steps to recovery, they were actually basically 12 steps and 13 steps of growing and continuing to learn. But these steps are really adapted to the gay and lesbian bisexual transgender people that had been abused by religion. And the greatest problem that I found in being a pastor of gay congregations. And only I had after I put my website on the internet with the same title, which is @trulia.com www.truelight.com I began to get a lot of email from people that talked about various ways in which they had been abused by religion. And so that's why it's directed to this. It's the most common problem that I ran into as a pastor, and then on the internet. And it is an attempt to give the information that will correct this, and will help people to know that other people are struggling with the same



Joan Devlin 17:33

thing. And what does the Bible really say?



17:37

Well, the Bible really says basically, the message of the Bible, especially in the New Testament, and the life and teachings of Jesus, is that God's love is unconditional and inclusive. For Jesus, every human being had equal value before God. There was never any leaving out of people, in fact that I said, in our workshop we just did and Sunday preaching it MCC that really Jason's Jesus was crucified for loving the wrong people, because he would associate with people that were total outcasts rejects because they didn't keep the laws, they were considered to be unclean. So when you look at Jesus and JSP, are really objective about what Jesus was like. His characteristic way of relating people want to respect people, he listened to people, he asked questions, he listened to the answers, and he helped people to feel good about themselves. I would say my mission in life is very simple, help gay and lesbian people to feel good about ourselves and quit hurting ourselves and each other.



Joan Devlin 18:33

Now, what would you say to someone who has been through for instance, these these ex gay ministries,



18:40

we have a section of that in the book and the website. And I've reviewed the books written by people like Bob Davies, who was ex president of Exodus. And the problem with the ex gay movement is that it is based on some some false assumptions, things that just not true. The American Psychiatric Association, the American Psychological Association, American Medical Association, the American Law Association, all of these knock bar sources, all of these professional organizations long ago in knight in about, I think was about 1973. They made official positions that, that homosexuality is not an illness, and that people who are gay and lesbian should be granted the same benefits and same recognition legally as anybody else. But now the people that have fought against that have been basically preachers and politicians, the scientists, medical doctors, I've talked to a number of psychiatrists, because they've written about this recently, in my website, I give the most recent information that's come out just recently, from the American Psychiatric Association. The book includes that too. And I've reviewed these books written by these people in my website and look, I do not know myself, anyone who has changed their sexual orientation. The American Sign Catterick Association said last year after doing studies on that, that there is no evidence, no scientific evidence that anyone's sexual orientation has ever been changed. And yet the whole religious movements based on the idea that it can be through some sort of therapy, and it the see the Bible nowhere says that you can or should change your sexual orientation. Because the Bible never talks about sexual orientation. Most people don't realize it. But the Hebrew of the Old Testament and the Greek of the New Testament do not even contain a word for sex. There's not a word in Greek or Hebrew of the Bible, that equals our word for sex. That's a Latin term that came later. sexuality in Latin, there is no word in Hebrew or Greek. For homosexuality, there's just not a word for it. Now realize that we're homosexuals. We look at the relationship of David and Jonathan, and we certainly see a gay dynamic in that. And we see the relationship of Ruth and Naomi. You know, it's interesting in the book of Ruth, that it says four times that Ruth loved Naomi Neff says Ruth, love Boaz, because he was just a convenient person to take care of him. But later on when she had the baby, the baby was given to Naomi to raise the baby. So the

dynamics of loving people, people that love each other at the same sex is in the Bible. It's very clear, but there is no teaching anywhere that singles out homosexuality and condemns. It's just not there.

 Joan Devlin 21:20

What would you say to people who are still laboring under the belief that Christianity and homosexuality are mutually exclusive, and they're aching, because they really want to go back to church, and they really want to get back into the Bible. But they're just terrified because they don't want to be attacked for being gay?

 21:38

Well, I think the best thing for them to do would be to read my website and read this book, because we deal with that it is a book is 550 pages. It deals with all of these issues about the misuse of the Bible against gays and against other people too. But it also contains 52 lessons, it could be used for a weekly, small group discussion and dialogue, which is being set up now in Houston. Tomorrow night, we'll be having our workshop at resurrection MCC, which will be at seven to 8:30. For people that are both in the church there, but other church pastors and churches of other denominations that are gay, friendly and supportive, and they are some of their people will be coming to, for us to do a workshop on the book. And on using it as a means of guiding a small group. I've come to realize, particularly when I was in Nashville that had this study group at my own home, that people don't change the way they see gay and lesbian people that have been convinced that they're evil, they are an abomination to God, there's something wrong with them, they're not normal. And of course, that kind of thinking leads people to be suicidal and self destructive. But those attitudes don't change with slogans and protests. And just a few words of encouragement. It takes time for a person to reconfigure how they see the universe and their place in it, how they see God, how they see themselves and how they see other people. So the book is designed to be used over a period of time with a lot of resources. And particularly it is designed for people to be in a small group and dialogue about it to share talking about it with each other. It's just like a, it's like any other recovery. It takes time, to grow, to learn, to recovery, and heal, and so that the time is built into it, too.

 Joan Devlin 23:25

Now, I wanted to talk to you about something else. You said you were a Southern Baptist. I've looked at the history of the Southern Baptist Church, and they're certainly not unique, although they they get the most press, I guess, because they're the most virulent ly anti gay right now. But it seems that certain churches, throughout history have existed or almost centered their existence around victimizing a specific group of people. For a long time, it was Catholics. For a long time, it was black. So many people felt that black people and white people shouldn't go to church together. What is it that makes someone I guess draws them into a group that seems to exist only to stand there and point the finger at other people and say, You're wrong, we're right, you're wrong.

 24:12

Well, maybe it's the devil. I don't think God does that. I think that what happens so is when people feel that they themselves are inadequate or inferior than they are looking for somebody else. Second, they can classes below them. And you know, it's been said often that that gay bashing, and rejection of an oppression of homosexuals is the last socially acceptable prejudice in America. And people people will love will use religion as a basis for justifying this when really what's what's inside is a great sense of inadequacy themselves. That's just part of the nature of prejudice. And then there is also the dynamics of oppression. The oppressed always themselves has become oppressors when they get a chance to, if they don't get a change of heart, about their own sense of value, and their sense of, of having worth before God, and within themselves, I really feel like the greatest problem facing gay and lesbian people is low self esteem. So the leading cause of death of gay and lesbian teenagers is suicide, it still is. And for every kid that kills himself or herself, there are hundreds that are miserable. They quit studying, they drop out of school, they, they never learn marketable skills that can't get along with people, because they are so down on themselves, they feel like they shouldn't live. So, you know, the best way to exterminate vermin, if you have either insects of some animals, you want to exterminate, you figure out some way for them to self destruct, maybe we'll put something into the environment, something into their food that will cause them to destruct when they've tried to mate. And that they'll get rid of them, this country and in the world, just generally. And the churches are responsible a lot for this, they have been steal so much self hate and self rejection into gay and lesbian people, that they don't have to kill us. We're killing ourselves. And this is the tragedy. This is why I feel like that the treatment of gay and lesbian people in America by the churches and the culture and politics has been genocide. You know, if you're trying to get rid of a group of people because of who they are as genocide, and I don't think you can protest genocide too much. So I go along with everything, everybody does act up, queer nation, whatever they do, no matter what they do, it's never too extreme. For me, though, I don't use the function that way. When I was in San Francisco, I was involved a lot with the salt protest, and was there when they set fire to the State Office Building that I was I had left before that actually happened. But then I had to go to bat to help defend some of these people that were being arrested, charged with felonies because they had gotten involved and caught up in those protests. And I'm able to speak to City Hall. And I said, you can't protest genocide too much. And what these people have done is just been to try to save themselves and the rest of us from the destruction that was not a calm, because of a decision the Governor made to veto a bill that would have given protection for gays and lesbians in their workplace. Well, if you don't protect gays and lesbians in the workplace, because of their sexual orientation, then they're going to lose their jobs, they're going to lose their health benefits, and people are going to die. And this is the thing I felt was happening. So we have to face some realities in this. The reason gay I like to say gays and lesbians, all crazy, but it's not because we're gay and lesbian is because of the way we've been treated for being gay and lesbian. I say this kind of thing. One time I have it in the book, having a website and had a preacher asked me one time, he said, You don't mean to say that gays and lesbians are depressed because of churches had been mean to him, do you? So that's exactly what I'm trying to say.

J

Joan Devlin 27:50

Yeah, that makes sense. So what is the real message? If you if somebody out there is listening tonight, and they feel like, you know, the myths and the lies that have been told over and over again, about God and about Jesus and about the church? What is the real message,



28:07

you know, it's simple, it's one word, it's Jesus. The fact is that Jesus is not like Jesus has been represented by the church. I want to, I like to talk about discovering the real Jesus, and people like James Bond, and Bauer Bow, bow wrote a book called stealing Jesus way showed house, he has wonderful book it and also, John spunk best book was the one about how the church while the church must change or die. And what they deal with is the fact that the Jesus of traditional religion, and a specially modern fundamentalist is a distortion of what's in the, in the Gospels. So the sequel to this book, on step to recover from Bible abuse, is a book a series of Bible studies that I call the Jesus Bible series, where we'll take a look at Jesus, as to how, as a human being, Jesus was different than people ordinarily see him to be. And what Jesus did first, as a guide us was to come out and be himself to declare who He was who He really was, which was different. You know, Jesus, Jesus and affects it. I'm different, get used to it, but most people never did get used to it. He was he was willing to be the human that God made all people to be, I believe we're all created in the image of God. And therefore we have great spiritual power within ourselves already. And if you want to see God, look in the mirror, if you want to see Jesus, look at the person next to you, because Jesus said what you do to others you've done to me. It's unfortunate that the Bible has been distorted to be used as a weapon to hurt people, because then the people that most need this encouragement and need, the strength won't turn to it. They are afraid to they're afraid it's going to condemn them or hurt them more. But you can go to the Bible, you can go to the New Testament, and you can read the story of Jesus in the four gospels, and realize that Jesus never mentioned homosexuality even hinted at it. I'm Hope. People have looked very hard. try to find some reference here. But there's just not anything there. What Jesus did instead was to identify with the most rejected people you could imagine. And that's especially true in the Gospel of Luke. So my Bible studies on Jesus to help all people oppressed and an alienated by religion will be on the Gospel of Luke. It seriously people don't realize how inclusive the story of Jesus is, in the Gospels. When Jesus first was born, the people that the announcement was made to was the shepherds. Well, the shepherds were considered senators at that time, because they couldn't keep the Sabbath laws. So they were not righteous people, we used to see them, we add the allies, and as these wonderful folks out there, keeping those sheep, but in that culture of that time, the shepherds would have not been allowed. When they were having to work on Sabbath day, they wouldn't have been allowed into the synagogue. And then at the very end of Jesus life, the last thing that happened, the gospel of Luke, Jesus is hanging on the cross. And a convicted murderer is hanging there next to him, and says, Remember me, when you come into your kingdom and the thief on the cross, he's more than a thief, he was a murderer. He's saying except me. And Jesus says, I accept you.



Joan Devlin 31:08

It's amazing. But there's so much misinformation out there. And it's just wonderful that people like yourself and Bishop sprung and others are fighting and soul force, you know, male, white,



31:18

male whites, good friend of mine, and he's, he has put my website is the link on his and when I send these updates out, he will reprint them to his groups on town. He's one of the few people that wrote something on the back of the book about the book. And he said, I've linked my new soul force site to yours, I am recommending your site constantly glad your book is finished,

congratulations, we need it. Male white author of stranger at the gate and director of soul force. So um, you know, that's another one was protest, I can't get to Rome, but I'm there in spirit, I wish I could be there and be part of what they do and all these protests this year. It is it is a wonderful corrector to some of the attention that's been given by the media, to the ex gay forces that are just totally misdirected, and not based on fact,

 Joan Devlin 32:02

or even to the religious right. Because when you have an issue that's, that's divisive. And they'll say, oh, for instance, a gay rights ordinance and they'll say, Well, now let's talk to the opposition. And we'll talk to somebody like Jerry foul, let's get the religious perspective. And they'll talk to somebody like Jerry Falwell, well, he's not the religious perspective. He's one particular religions, sometimes even personal perspective. So I think the fact that we've got people out there saying that, no, that's not mutually exclusive, you can be gay and a Christian

 32:35

began a question of course, because you know, being a Christian just means simply you trust Jesus Christ with your life. And the whosoever ideas is still very important, very prominent, whosoever believeth in Christ can not throw their life away, but shall have eternal life, For God did not send Jesus into the world to condemn the world, but that through the third, Jesus, the world might be liberated. Actually, the word saved means to be liberated, means to be set free. And religion tends to take a form of the use of power by people of other people to control them in the name of God. It is really a distortion of what Jesus came to do. Because Jesus came to set people free to be themselves. I really feel that one of Jesus's main concerns was to help people learn to think for themselves.

 Joan Devlin 33:21

And that would be frightening enough to people, probably to make them want to crucify him, don't you think?

 33:28

It was? Like I said, I think Jesus was crucified for loving the wrong people. But Jesus always considered people more important than religion. If you go into a synagogue, and that bring somebody in, that was crippled, that was against the rules there and it was the Sabbath day and was the absolute law against healing or doing any work on the Sabbath, He just go ahead and heal them. And they hated that, because he was breaking their laws. One of the problems with what's happened to the church today and to Christianity today is it is configured itself as legalism, judgmental legalism, and legalism is an idolatrous religion. There's a section of the book on that. And the website also that deals with legalism is an idolatrous religion, where the laws become absolute, they become more important than God. And this is, was a problem Jesus dealt with legalistic religion kills because it sets people against each other, and always kills, you know, outreach and love and care and including people because you reject the people that don't keep the rules. So we're trying to change that.



Joan Devlin 34:29

Okay, and one more time you will be at MCC er tomorrow.



34:32

Yes, tomorrow at 7pm. And anyone that wants to come as welcome, we'll be doing a workshop that we feel will be helpful in addressing these things. And there are a number of pastors of other than MCC churches that plan to be there and start these groups. In fact, there's a pastor's group for Montrose pastors or clergy group that is starting the study of this book for a year. They'll have one Tuesday a month. They will meet and study one of the steps. And then they will all set these small groups up in their churches. And our Metropolitan Community Church is located at 2025 West 11th Street. And their phone number is 713-861-9149. If you want to call and get information tomorrow I'm grateful for you. I'm grateful for this radio station. Because you only interviewed me some time ago, when I was at Maranatha Baptist Church. They have this Maranatha MCC. And I'll be meeting with one of their groups tomorrow at noon time. I'm excited about being in Houston. There's such a wonderful progress is being made here for gay and lesbian people. Carolyn moblie, who's sitting here right now while we're doing this interview was big and I became friends in Atlanta 20 years ago when we both went to MCC there. And she has been here now for 10 years working with MCC er. And she has been marshaled gay pride parade. And she has had opportunity to extend this Christian spirit and this spirit of love and acceptance and affirmation and inclusion to many, many people in the city and I'm grateful for what she's doing. And as I mentioned the elders earlier past to hear now that and and John Gill when he was here, he was a friend of mine and what Dwayne and Ralph Lasher and others that are on the staff, this church is is really quite an extraordinary MCC. It's the second largest MCC and the fellowship. And it has had a long history. When Chuck Larson was here many years ago, for six years, this was the largest MCC in the fellowship, he became a friend of mine in Atlanta, he hadn't come to Atlanta just when I needed somebody to pick me up, dust me off and put me back to work in the ministry. And Chuck Larson is one that came up with the idea that we should do a study of the Bible as the friend of gays and lesbians, and not just concentrate on answering those six verses used against us. It's not hard to show that they don't really save what people say they say they're three of them are translated wrong. Three out of them were taken out of context and used to say something that don't say, and that's part of the book that's in the book also. That's one, one brief section in the book is the scriptures used against us. But most of what the book is about is that Jesus helps you deal with the things you have to deal with, like family rejection, he went through that Jesus had his best friends turned against him. He had religious leaders, turn against him, and misunderstand and misrepresent what he was saying, he got tired, he was thirsty, he was hungry. He had to deal with all these things we have to deal with, he dealt with loneliness. And he dealt with temptation. And if we just look in the New Testament of the gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, and look for what Jesus did that was human, we find things that speak to us as human and not supernatural. I, you know, I think following Jesus doesn't mean walking on water or raising the dead. Following Jesus means listening to people, which he did. It means asking questions, it means having compassion. It means being who you really are with courage and faith in God. And it means including people that everybody else has left out. These are some basic principles of what I see it means to follow Jesus. So I'm trying to be positive about this, it's easy to attack the churches, it's easy to attack religion, because religion really exposes itself is out of touch with the world today. Basically, religion configures itself on our on a medieval

pattern. And people are not like they were in 1500. People can read, they couldn't read that people are able to make decisions for themselves now, if they're given accurate information. So that's what we're trying to do give accurate information, and some encouragement, and maybe a little bit of fun and excitement along the way, by learning about experiences of other people that have gone through this. So the book has my experience in it, I tell my story. But it also has experiences from a lot of other people that have wrestled with this and found peace and joy in Christ, within their sexual orientation, whatever it might be. Now, you know, one of the problems we're facing now that's happened within the last five years or so, is rejection even within the gay community of transgender people, transsexual people, yes, I get a lot of letters from people in email, I get 10s of 1000s of email letters. Because of the website, we've we've had over 10 million hits on the website, but that was a year ago. It went to it came out came on in 1997 in September, but I get a lot of mail from people that are transsexual, that feel isolated, abandoned and rejected by the gay community, and especially feel left out in the political movements within the gay community. So we still we always have our work cut out for us of being inclusive, and not bypassing or rejecting a misunderstanding some group of people even within our own group, so we were always planning we always have plenty of work to do.

**J** Joan Devlin 39:59

Yes, yes. Well, I want to thank you so much for taking the time to be here tonight. I also want to thank you for your book, which was recovery from Bible steps to recovery from Bible abuse. And you will be at resurrection MCC 2025 West 11th Street tomorrow night, from seven to 830. Everybody's welcome. And that number again is 713-861-9149. We've been talking to the Reverend Robert trula, or Dr. Robert Trulock. And he is the author of steps to recovery from Bible abuse, among other things currently working on Have you finished the gay Sunday school lessons well, habits

 40:35

finished at my mother's 89 years old, she lives in a retirement center in South Carolina, she's read the book three times now. Not too good. And every time I talked to her, she said, Well, are you working on the Sunday School list? Because she wants to see him finish. Because the bottom line, the last thing I would want to say is as a parting word is give Jesus another chance. Learn about what Jesus is really like in the Gospels and not what the church has said, and decide for yourself if you can find a direction that is spiritually powerful and satisfying for you in Jesus Christ.

**J** Joan Devlin 41:10

Well, thank you, Dr. Tree locker, appreciate you being on the show tonight. You're listening to lesbian and gay voices.

**J** Jack Valinski 41:16

And this is lesbian and gay voices. This is Jack Valinski. We are gonna be talking about a very serious subject tonight. Although a lot of you all may think it is sort of cool and has anything to do about smoking. Well it isn't. And we have two guests here tonight to talk about that. And

do about smoking. Well, it isn't. And we have two guests here tonight to talk about that. And actually, I'm gonna let them introduce themselves. And the prevalence of smoking within this community, especially if you go to the bars. And you look, you see people there and it looks like at least every other person is smoking, if not more, gentlemen.

 41:51

My name is Dr. Paul sincerer peeny. I'm an associate professor in Department of Behavioral Science at MD Anderson Cancer Center. And I'm here to talk a little bit about our smoking cessation projects, and tell you a little bit about the recruitment process and what we can do to try to attract people into to get some treatment, and particularly how those issues might affect the gay and lesbian community.

 Jack Valinski 42:18  
Okay.

 42:19

Thank you, Jack. I'm Dr. David Genetec. And I'm a postdoctoral fellow in psychology training under Dr. sincera peeny. And I'm one of the clinicians that work on his staff with the study.

 Jack Valinski 42:32

Okay, well, let's talk about this. I mean, smoking, it's a tough issue. I mean, people have grown up to it, they've seen the commercials, we've been socialized in it, we've grown up with our parents or our friends. And, you know, I guess when you're young, it just looks like it's sort of a cool thing to do. It's a neat thing to do. Everybody else is doing it. Well, is that the reality?

 43:00

Well, the Surgeon General's reports over the years have indicated that smoking is the number one cause of premature death and disability in our country, number one, number one, cause it accounts for more deaths than fires and accidents, heroin, alcohol abuse, all the major causes of death and disability since we've been keeping statistics, so tobacco related disorders figure very prominently in health as a public health problem in the United States. What's important in the sense of our current study, is that the if you look at the prevalence of smoking over the last 20 years, that we've declined as a population going from about 40 to 45%, about 25 years ago, down to about a quarter 23% of the population overall. In the gay and lesbian community, it's significantly higher, depending upon where you sample, and the educational levels can range anywhere from 32% to his highest 70%.

 Jack Valinski 44:14  
Do we know why?

 44:16

Well, there's some speculation about I mean, I think that that the socio cultural reasons that people have have talked about, or that one might be the perhaps a higher prevalence, prevalence of alcohol use. And we know that across the board, if you look at the percentage of people who are identify themselves as being heavy drinkers, who are also heavy smokers, that's very significant that is in the 60s and 70% range. But it might be a combination of number of factors having to do with exposure, so that just like adolescents that that I have smoking in common have other risk behaviors in common. The same may be true in the gay and lesbian community so that smoking is more more prominent. It's also higher levels of exposure and modeling. And so you have, as adults, a number of the, of the current smokers having had higher levels of exposure to adolescent peers who also smoke

 Jack Valinski 45:27

interesting. So what do we do how you know, and even though it's more difficult now to smoke, the fact that most places you can't smoke, and you have to go outside, it's just more difficult to smoke, but people are still smoking

 45:43

when we treat people. So we first of all recognize that we have a, an addiction, in the same way that we would identify alcohol, cocaine, amphetamine, heroin abuse, we treat people and we provide a treatment that is targeted at both the psychological characteristics, psychosocial characteristics of the behavior, as well as the physiological components of the behavior. And in the study that we're currently engaged in, is designed to go after both of those components, to break long standing behavioral patterns. And to provide a component of nicotine replacement using the nicotine patch to aid the smoker in reducing withdrawal symptoms as they as they try to quit. Maybe David, you'd like to say a little bit about the the protocol, the treatment study, sure.

 46:50

What our patients are oriented to our, to our intervention, we teach them how to use a behavioral intervention that's programmed on a handheld computer. So the patient throughout the day has little palm pilot is a high tech treatment, there might be a copyright on that term, but they use a handheld computer small one. And is yes, it's very high tech. And the computer guides them throughout the day on what to do with their smoking. We also ask them questions periodically throughout the day so that we can learn more about what this experience is like live while it's happening for people trying to quit smoking. We'll ask them things like what's your mood? Like right now? What are some of the circumstances around the cigarettes so that we can learn more about the quitting process?

 Jack Valinski 47:40

 JACK VALINSKI 47:40

Well, as you're talking about this, I mean, a lot of people probably have tried a number of times, I would guess, to stop smoking. And you're taking, you're trying to encourage them to to do another trial of Stop, stop smoking

 47:55

as many times as it takes, okay. And that's really the watchword. What the studies suggest is that people who attempt to quit on their own, about half of the people who ever have smoked, have quit. The other half are currently smoking, but about 70% of those folks want to quit, or at least they've expressed interest in quitting. But only about a third of them actually make an attempt. During an annual, on an annual basis, a good time of the year to start is is an excellent time of the year to start. And it's never too late. And what we talk about and discuss in our protocols is that when you enter a treatment study like ours, you have an extended period of time, in this case, up to three months where you are engaged in an active attempt to quit. So even people who may falter a little bit in the very beginning are still provided with the support and the encouragement to continue making that cessation attempt. And one thing to add to what to what David has said is that is this is a research study, so that we're really trying to get at what is the best possible combination of these treatments. So not everybody gets every single treatment, some people get one treatment, some people get another and some people get both, and and all of those treatments by themselves are effective. In other studies that we've done, and other people have done,

 Jack Valinski 49:35

what are some of these things? Are they like peer counseling? Well,

 49:39

this particular study does not involve an extensive counseling, intervention, what it what we've designed the study dues to be. What you might want to see implemented, say in a primary care setting because a lot of people when they want to quit, they go see their family physician, and the family physician oftentimes does not have a great he'll have opportunity to provide extensive counseling. So what we've tried to do is to package some of those counseling components in the handheld computer that give advice and information about circumstances and situations in which they might learn other coping skills. Everybody gets that, because everybody gets a handheld computer. And they all get that. That segment of advice giving that comes in the computer. Everybody also gets nicotine replacement using the nicotine patch. And that's provided totally free of charge. And there are no fees involved. By the way, in this in this study, everyone gets an active nicotine patch. Some people get that patch, beginning on the very day they're supposed to quit. Other people get that patch a couple of weeks before they quit. And they're also beginning to reduce their cigarettes at the same time. And that's what we're really trying to figure out is, if we do something prior to the quit date, by putting people on this schedule, does that help a little bit more, I'd say quitting abruptly. And we don't know the answer to that question. That's why we're doing this study.



**J** Jack Valinski 51:08

That's great. Now, how much time would a person have to put into this

**i** 51:13

will, the first thing they would do is call us and we'll set up a telephone interview with them. But then we'd have them come in for an orientation session after that. And we'd ask them to come back, depending on what group they're randomly assigned to pre there three or six follow up visits. And that's the initial part of the intervention. We also have some follow up work that comes six months and 12 months down the line. But basically, it's an about an appointment out once a week, about 45 minutes long, for a one to two month time commitment. That doesn't seem like a lot to me. No, not at all. And they spend a lot more time smoking. Yeah, sure. And in that the costs are free. We even pay the parking.

**J** Jack Valinski 51:56

That's that's a big set of their the medical center. Yeah,

**i** 51:59

definitely. So. And in fact, there's even financial incentives, if people can guide there, they are coming into their visits, when we would like them to for data purposes, so that we have financial incentives for them to try and come in on those times.

**i** 52:16

If they make every single visit that we've scheduled them for, then we have a small incentive that we provide them for doing that

**i** 52:23

I actually even have the opportunity to earn money on this one. The best

**J** Jack Valinski 52:27

incentives would be to quit. You're absolutely right. So is this just starting? Or is there some already going on now?

**i** 52:35

We've we've been recruiting people for this study over a year now, but we'll be doing it for another year and a half.

**J** Jack Valinski 52:42

Okay. Have you found some results that you can talk about? Or is it too early to?

**i** 52:46

It's really too early to tell? Okay. The clinical trials like this are designed to look at this is a very large trial. We're we're targeting as many as 700 people. And so it's really kind of too early to tell what you know what what our results might be? The the way smoking studies work is that you measure the effect of a treatment A year after you've completed the treatment. So it's not just what happens in the immediate term. But what happens a full year later. Yes.

**J** Jack Valinski 53:20

Now, how has this been funded?

**i** 53:23

There are two sources of funding for this study. One is from the National Institute on Drug Abuse through a grant that I have obtained about two years ago. And the other is through the the settlement funds that were provided to the state of Texas, through the master settlement with the the state for the in funds that were provided to MD Anderson Cancer Center that were in turn used to do direct tobacco cessation intervention.

**J** Jack Valinski 53:58

And you were telling me earlier that a lot of this money coming back into Texas is actually going to prevention.

**i** 54:04

Absolutely. I I've had the privilege to be a part of the the negotiations that were that were initially engaged in to look at how the tobacco settlement money would be used. And in the cancer center. All the money that was provided for tobacco treatment is going for tobacco treatment, and for education for physicians and other health care providers. So we feel very fortunate to have had that ability.

**J** Jack Valinski 54:42

You're listening to KPFT Houston Pacifica foundation station. So if somebody is interested in this and really wants to give up smoking, how can they get involved?



54:55

The first part is just a call our main study line and it's 713. So Open mind 22265. And we'll be glad to talk with them. Get them started in the program as soon as possible. That can be in the, in the study as early as next week if they call the day clown. That's



Jack Valinski 55:14

great. Well, I really hope, you know for a lot of success, and maybe you can come back and talk to us after we get some data back and, and let us know and hopefully we'll be able to find some better ways for people to quit smoking, we'd be happy to and this is all part of the MBS Anderson



55:33

as part of MD Anderson, tobacco research and treatment program. And this particular study is referred to as Project Kasey. Little like the Cassiopeia it's a computer assisted stop smoking intervention.



Jack Valinski 55:52

Great. Well, thank you, David and Paul, for coming by tonight and let us know all about this and hopefully we'll keep up to date on it. You're listening to lesbian gay voices.



56:02

John Reggie's 1963 debut novel city of night has been ranked as one of the 25 all time best gay novels by the publishing triangle of New York. His second book, the sexual outlaw, a documentary was included by the San Francisco Chronicle book review as among the 100 best nonfiction books of the century. Richie is also a winner of Penn West's Lifetime Achievement Award. His latest book promises to match his highest standards. This way out, Steve pride got to spend some time with the author and teacher to learn more about his new bestseller.



56:38

More than three decades have passed since author John Ricci shocked America with the homosexual abandon depicted in his first novel city of night. He followed this auspicious debut with three more odes to cruising the sexual outlaw numbers and rushes before shifting to the more mainstream with the miraculous day of Amalia Gomez, Our Lady of Babylon, fourth angel, the vampires, bodies and souls and Maryland's daughter, now a respected teacher writing at the University of Southern California John Ritchie's latest book, The coming of the knight returns them to the abject territory of dark streets, buff bodies, gay bars, and the endless sexual Hunt.

 57:31

In his apartment, Jesse outfitted himself in the uniform of many gay men in West Hollywood, snug shorts to show off his legs and round but a tight tank top to show off his swimmers torso, and his slim waist, and Reeboks without socks to bring it all together. Proud to be gay and sexy. Older people, people over 30 still had all those guilts about being gay, guilty about what he'd like to ask them. He wouldn't change being gay for anything in the world. He didn't have to march in the gay pride parade to show he was proud. He did go though to Cruz among all those showy guys without shirts, marching or watching. He always drew lots of admiring looks himself and extended a lot. He wasn't what people called an activist, he showed his pride by being gay, every moment of his life. What better way was there? What was so special about being heterosexual? He had noticed that very often attractive, heterosexual men didn't do much for themselves, let themselves get out of shape, or baggy clothes. Gay men of the same age cared, went to the gym stayed trim healthy Bestival at 22. And here just who decided to wear his faded denim cut offs cut short, rather than the khaki shorts, he had first pulled out, he had his whole life before him, the part of it that mattered when you turned 29, you plan to die, just die. Growing old was kind of like dying, maybe worse, because you were aware of growing old, making out less and less, until you couldn't make out anymore. What is the biggest misconception about John witchy? Well, there are so many one that lingers is that I'm quite threatening in some way. And in interviews very often I have to spend the first few minutes convincing the interviewer that I'm not hostile and that indeed I'm quite amenable. I think that that comes about mostly from misinterpreting some attitudes of my character and putting them on to me or your characters

 59:42

are quite rough coming up and fooled either on a Harley and

 59:46

sure, and yet I am not very friendly toward the s&m faction of you know, in the on the gay frontier and not at all. And yes, my characters do in all All kinds of things, that does not mean that I approve of what they're doing by any means. And I try very hard in my books to indicate where my true feelings lie. I know that I was asked about ageism, for God's sake, because one of my characters in the coming of the night is 22 and refuses to go with anybody over 30. I mean, obviously, that's not my attitude, and I decry the ageism. But I have to be true to that character, when he expresses

 1:00:26

himself when you're writing to the character sometimes take control. Yes, they

 1:00:30

do. But always within my firm grasp, I'm fond of saying that if you create a very good character, he or she does begin to assert himself. And then you tend to want to be kind. And I tell writers that that's with in life, because you've created a character that's so good that you want to be kind to him or her.

that I deal with in life be very, very, very kind. But in your art,

 1:00:52

be brutal. Take me back to the first book city tonight. It's hard to believe that in retrospect, they came out in 1963.

 1:00:59

It did. Well, I can tell you, I had no intention of writing city of night, it began as a letter that I wrote to a friend of mine, right after I had some experience was in New Orleans, after Mardi Gras, and I noticed pretty wiped out in many, many, many ways. And I wrote a long letter to a friend of mine, after I left New Orleans, of course, and I kept the letter, I didn't send that and then came upon it a few, maybe a week or so later, and then thought it sounded good. And I redid it, and I sent it out to two literary publications, and both of them accepted it. And so it appeared as a letter, but now more formally structured, called Mardi Gras, it appeared in the Evergreen review in 1958. And based on that story, my soon to be editor wrote me and asked if that is perhaps a part of a novel. Until then, I had not ever thought of writing about my experiences on the streets and in the cities. And I was so eager for salvation. And it seemed like salvation, because I saw myself really, really, really falling psychologically. So I answered yes, that it was part of a novel. And then time passed brief time, and then he asked to see the whole manuscript. There was no manuscript at all, but I continued the subterfuge. And by then I began then recording some of the experiences into a book. And then I was offered contracts by four different publishers for the book, which surprised me very much. I accepted one from Grove, and then I didn't finish the book. I roamed for more, and then a friend of mine was kind enough to allow me to go back to El Paso to spend some time there and finish city of night. And that's how the book came out. I didn't anticipate that it would create the sensation that it did. Not at all, I thought it was going to be hailed as a literary work, and that it would sell a few copies. Instead, the first review was people forget this now. I mean, I don't know about it. The first reviews of Steve Knight was scathing, scathing to the point that I left the country. But then the sales were something else. He was national bestseller.

 1:03:20

But it had to be a very shocking book to people in 1963.

 1:03:24

City of night was, and I suppose I was naive. Well, I don't think too many people consider their own experience as shocking, because by then you've lived with them. So I was very surprised at the alarm that was so incredible, people became alarmed by it.

 1:03:41

You've had a number of wonderful novels since the sexual outlaws of night and this



1:03:45

was my 12. And a curious thing that might be of interest is that when I veered away from the subject of homosexuality centrally in my novels, I sadly lost my gay audience in large part, and did not gain that many heterosexual readers, which is sad, because they are literary books. I was asked if I thought that heterosexual people would be reading the coming of the night. And I answered that for many reasons they should. But the main reason is just to keep up with what is literature, what has been produced. And this is not happening. We're categorizing things by subject. Still too much.



1:04:31

You are a first generation Mexican American. How much influence does that heritage have on the patterns of masculinity that you detail in some of your



1:04:39

books? It doubles the problem, and I am very saddened that even today and within my family, not my immediate family, but in laws and everything. It's very difficult for young people to come out because the whole thing is doubled. You have the machismo in the background, and then you know, you have the general business of the hatred of homosexuals that still lingers no matter how we say not. So you have to work against two currents, the generalized one that comes from religions mostly, and the more particularized one that comes from the damn Mexican machismo that accounts for the reason that there are so many Hispanic and black gay bashers. Though I think a lot more in Los Angeles are Hispanic, much more, many more. They're Catholics supposedly that you know that they can reconcile one with the other. But then, of course, you know, you'll have the pope saying we hate the sin, not the sinner. I mean, how do you separate one thing from the other,



1:05:43

besides being a writer and a teacher, you're also an icon, sort of a symbol. Right now the gay movements appeared where many people are demanding their rights to be scout soldiers, Republicans married and have kids? Have we grown up?



1:05:57

I approve of everything that has been done to allow us to join? And then I would say, then don't join. I mean, we should have the right to do all those things to join all those organizations. But I would say them stay away from who wants them?



1:06:18

Do you think maybe it's a backlash after having come through an epidemic?

 1:06:22

Yes, that's one of the phenomenon out of the epidemic is the emergence the prominence of the muscle queen. And I'm glad to consider myself a former runner of that school. But I think that the aversion to the imagery of death that we were seeing among our friends everywhere, has created this new drive for physicality. It's always been there in the gay world. But now more prominently than not, you have a new gay figure, among the males, who is often quite muscular, and still quite effeminate. You know, and it's a new creation, it's a new creation.

 1:07:05

In the coming of the night AIDS is a spectrum that hovers around the edge of the party. What was your inspiration for the book,

 1:07:11

an actual event, Steve, that I couldn't get out of my mind. Most of my novels sprang out of actuality. And then, of course, I embellish and derive. Back in 1981, I was in I think it's called the West Hollywood Park, late, late at night, on weekends had turned into the site of orange juice and a lot of sex and a very beautiful young man. I would say 2122 proceeded to remove all his clothes, and push himself against the wall, and to allow the people that he decided to have intercourse with. And that same night, I ran into a friend of mine from Texas. While all that was going on, he said, Have you heard about this illness that is appearing? And as I have heard about it, and he said, Do you believe it? And none of us wanted to believe it? No, of course not. But I thought that night, my God, if it is true, what is happening in this park with men lined up? I didn't write about it until you know, many years later. But of course, that's what is included in this novel.

 1:08:26

Is there a message?

 1:08:29

Oh, yes. I'm sorry that some people have missed that it is a very cautionary novel. Not because as has been said, We recording aids. That's absolute nonsense. We were not quoting aids, any more than Legionnaires we're recording Legionnaires disease, or swimmers? We're recording polio. It's only because we are still outcasts. And our sexuality is so central to our lives, that that judgment was passed, that it was a judgment or a sexuality. That simply is not so. But the question here was the same one that I voiced earlier that we were substituting feelings and emotions for sensation, where nothing was enough, the central character Jessie wants to celebrate his year of being gay by having as many contacts as he can, to the point, of course,

where it all is now. Any kind of sensation. And there's brutality that was at play. So yes, indeed, it is a cautionary tale, at the same time that it celebrates on that I continue to celebrate our abundant sexuality.



1:09:45

This has been a conversation with author John Ricci. I'm Steve pride. Thanks for listening. Strangers in the night.



1:10:03

Thanks for choosing this way out the international lesbian gay radio magazine. This week Cindy Friedman, Donald Herman Graham Underhill, Jason Lynn Chris Ambridge, Brian Nunez, Rex Walker, Matt oz. Dorf and Steve pride contributed program material, Frank Sinatra sang strangers in the night and Kim Wilson composed and performed our theme music. Some this way out. Operating expenses are funded by grants from the kicking assets fund of the Tides Foundation and the CPSS Guadalupe foundation by planet out from designated contributions by uncommon cloud Visa card holders who have chosen this way out and through direct charitable donations from our listeners around the world. For audio cassette information or with any questions or comments about this way out, please email us at T wo radio@aol.com. visit our webpage at this way out.org Or write to US Post Office Box 38327 Los Angeles, California 90038 USA and please be sure to include the call letters of this station. Remember you can also hear this way out anytime online exclusively on planet out. Just point your browser to www dot planet out.com. And click first on multimedia than on radio. For Greg Gordon and the entire this way out family I'm Lucia Chapelle. And we thank you for listening on CIT are Vancouver British Columbia, W MNF. Tampa, Florida, kn o in Dallas, Texas and more than 125 other stations around the world, including this community radio station. Now y'all stay tuned.



Glenn Holt 1:11:40

And this way out is heard every week as part of lesbian and gay voices here on KPFT in Houston.



Joan Devlin 1:11:48

Good evening, I'm Jim Devlin. And as Glenn said, you're listening to lesbian and gay voices. I have on the line Peter Lundberg, who is currently working on developing something called our town, which is retirement village for GLBT people. Peter, are you with us? Yes, I am. Joan, would you tell us a little bit about our town, mainly why you feel like this is something that's needed in our community?



1:12:12

Well, it's something that is really the result of many friends, like I'm sure most people have experienced talking about what they're going to do when they retire. And it struck me about seven years ago that it was a perfect combination of my background. And the result was

seven years ago that it was a perfect combination of my background. And the result was developing a list of mailing lists of people who are interested in such a project and getting them to participate in this survey and information.

 Joan Devlin 1:12:39

And what's the response been so far?

 1:12:41

Well, it's quite extraordinary. To date, we have about 1700 people have responded to our website, or registered through parade celebrations, Pride celebrations in San Francisco, Los Angeles and Chicago. And of that about 700 people have completed a very detailed six page survey.

 Joan Devlin 1:13:02

And what has come out of that survey, what are the needs? What are people's concerns? What are their desires?

 1:13:09

Well, kind of one of the interesting things is that people who are most interested in it, have the amenities that they desire, our assisted living is very strong. Over 95% of the respondents felt that that was very important to have in any type of community. But also kind of an interesting sidelight was that 98% of the people felt that there should be a gym included. So I guess it kind of speaks where the priorities are for gay and lesbian people.

 Joan Devlin 1:13:38

And have has the response, the people who've responded, have they been mostly men, mostly women? Have you had a pretty broad cross section?

 1:13:46

It's very broad. It's about 5050. It is predominantly throughout the country at this point. It's about 50% are outside of California, and the balance of them are located from in California.

 Joan Devlin 1:14:00

And where would our town be located? Would it be around San Francisco?



1:14:03

Well, we have prime markets, we do not yet have a site. We have designated certain locations that are of prime interest, which is result of the survey and putting out locations and people rating them. Sonoma County is probably the most desired location, San Francisco. Number two, and then a very close third is a mix between West Hollywood and Palm Springs.



Joan Devlin 1:14:30

And I guess the next question I have is, I know a lot of younger people don't really understand why there's a need for this. What would you say to them?



1:14:41

Well, we have found that there's a very distinct generational difference in response to this. People who I kind of call of the coming out before the Stonewall factor like the idea but are not necessarily wild about living in something that is gay and lesbian identified. People who are more of my generation, which I'm 50, the baby boomers really respond to it very enthusiastically. Also, I would have to say is that most of our respondents have been in over the age of 45. So I think the younger generation, and it's normal, you don't start thinking about retirement as you get to be older.



Joan Devlin 1:15:20

Right. But what I want to talk about to here briefly is, you know, for years, the gay community has had this focus on young, beautiful, healthy people. Yeah. And, you know, as I've said before, it's almost like when we hit 40, you are supposed to just disappear while you do disappear. Yes. But we really don't. Right. And, you know, just like heterosexuals, just like everybody else, there may come a time in our lives when we need to go to assisted living facilities. And it's going to be very difficult, especially for people. I'm 36. I've never really been in the closet. Yeah, I would hate to have to go back into the closet at age 65 or 70. Or whenever I needed to go into assisted living. Yes. So what is that happening? Now? I mean, what do people do here and now that are looking into assisted living, I mean, do they just not have an option,



1:16:13

there really is not an option available. There is no assisted living facility that's primarily geared towards gay lesbian population, a number of organizations talk about being accepting of gay and lesbian. And one of the things that the American society on Aging, which has a network that's called L game, lesbian and gay action Information Network, one of the things that they do, and I participated in this at their annual conference is to educate people who are administrators, and who have assisted living facilities, to the needs of gay and lesbian and bisexual and transgender people, that they may not be forthcoming with their sexual orientation, and that they have to be respected. And a large part of that, of course, is training of staff to be respectful, and accept the diversity that exists in our country.

**J** Joan Devlin 1:17:09  
Now, currently, what phase are you in? Regarding our town?

**i** 1:17:14  
Right now we are in the business formation stage, which is also going to involve the raising of the seed capital for this venture?

**J** Joan Devlin 1:17:23  
And about how much seed capital Do you think you'll need to get it started,

**i** 1:17:27  
we're looking for about a million and a half and seed capital, that would bring us to the point of having a site identified the necessary environmental studies, the more detailed market research into exactly what the facility would look like. It would also brings us to the point of having the major equity, which of course, would depend upon the size of the project in place and ready to go, I really anticipate that it's probably just because the development process is very time consuming, lengthy build full of dead ends, that were probably about five years before we would actually be putting shovel into the ground.

**J** Joan Devlin 1:18:06  
Do you have any idea once our town is built the cost to individual people that might want to become residents there, you know,

**i** 1:18:15  
it really varies upon the location and upon the property that one buys. The one of the things that we deal with here in the Bay Area, of course, is the extraordinary high price of real estate, things such as Palm Springs is much, much less expensive. So it's really going to be dictated by the location, also by the size of the development. But you know, I would anticipate that it's probably going to be a minimum pricing of about 250,000, we have found that most people are interested in actually purchasing like a condominium versus renting. And that also tends to coincide with national trends of people who are kind of considered to be the young old, who are 55 to 65 are more interested in buying than renting. People who are older in the 7590 year old are really much more interested in renting.

**J** Joan Devlin 1:19:11  
And I guess the other thing, too, is the pluses that would come from from that community of

having a mix of people of different ages. Yes. What do you foresee? I mean, first of all, what do you think that the community around the community? How do you think their response is going to be?



1:19:31

It really all depends upon the location. We fortunately live in what's kind of paradise here in the San Francisco Bay Area and that being gay and lesbian is kind of a big yawn. It's tonight day outside, you know, I know that the development in Florida palms Minnesota, they really have not experienced any difficulties. So I really think there is a general acceptance that's taking place around the country.



Joan Devlin 1:19:57

That's a great thing. Yeah, yeah. Once you're open for business, do you foresee having a waiting list available? For instance, you had mentioned that there's actually a home in the Netherlands and it's already got a huge waiting list?



1:20:11

Well, yes, they only developed seven units. And it is connected to an assisted living facility there. They had before they even started kind of talking about it, they had a list of 42 people who are interested in moving in, and it did open in September, two years ago, now. The size of the communities that we envision, which would be in the village concept would be anywhere from four to 500 units, more you urban location would probably end up being about 100 units, is that I would love to have a waiting list, because then we could start the second one immediately. But as being a real estate development, that it's going to happen in phases, right, as things sell in the next is is developed.



Joan Devlin 1:20:57

So if people want to get in touch with you, or contribute to the seed capital for our town, what do they need to do?



1:21:03

Well, I have to make a disclaimer that we're not soliciting for money, really, at this point, we're in the process of, of forming that and getting filed with the SEC. So we really can't talk about that at this point. People are interested in further information or would like to be contacted when we are ready, they can go to our website, which is w w dot, our town villages. And that's a plural all one word.com. Or they can call or 155664100. We'll be happy to send them information in the survey.



1:21:11

 Joan Devlin 1:21:41

Okay, and if they just want to take the survey, can they do that on the web as well,

 1:21:44

they could register right through the web and it comes right to us, and then we'll send something out to them within the next day or two.

 Joan Devlin 1:21:49

Well, great. Well, thank you so much. I appreciate it. And we will be in touch with you probably as time goes on to hear how our town is coming along. I think it's a wonderful thing that you're doing and it's very just necessary.

 1:22:02

It certainly is necessary and there certainly is a need. And it's exciting.

 Joan Devlin 1:22:08

Well, great. Well, thank you so much. We've been talking to Peter Lundberg, who is in the process of putting together something called our town which is a GLBT Retirement Village. We'll be right back to hear Glenn Holt do his news. You're listening to KPFT lesbian and gay voices.

 Glenn Holt 1:22:27

What is Q patrol? You've probably heard the name. It's a nonprofit corporation operating a volunteer citizens watch patrol in the greater Montrose area. Our patrols have been a successful deterrent to crime over the past five years. And we'd like to be even more effective. I'm Glen hold the president of cue patrol asking you to donate just one night a month to make our community a safer place. Get your exercise walking on a foot patrol, rollerblading or bicycling or if you prefer you can drive or ride in a mobile unit. To patrol is a great way to do something positive for yourself and your community. Call us at five to wait safe. We need community minded people like you. That's five to eight safe 52872332 patrol is affiliated with the Houston Police Department's citizens on patrol program.

 1:23:31

Save please. Save space for me. In your in your same place for me. Save space for me. Kids grow up and kids dream. Some dream of going to college. Dreams The United Negro College Fund helps make real well for every deserving student we help that one we can not without the funds. Please help us ensure there will be a place for everyone with a dream. Save please, please support the United Negro College Fund The mind is a terrible thing to waste call one 800.

G

Glenn Holt 1:24:21

This is lesbian gay voices and taking a look now at what's been happening in the news. The issue of whether the city of Houston should provide benefits for workers unmarried partners was pushed to the forefront last week after a conservative Councilman brought up the matter at a city council meeting. Houston Councilman Rob Todd asked several questions during last Wednesday's council meeting about the makeup of a committee that is negotiating the city's health insurance contract, which is up for renewal the spring. He implied that the committee is meeting secretly or stacked with people who support a certain agenda. That committee will have existed for more than a decade and is comprised of representatives of every city department and one council member. On Thursday, some council members provided various views on same sex partner benefits and an issue that Mayor Lee Brown had promised to consider during his 1997 campaign. Councilwoman East Parker who is on the committee and had been an activist for gay rights, said Todd's questions came after she asked in a meeting whether the city's insurance contract would allow for coverage of same sex partners. And East Parker has been a longtime supporter of benefits for unmarried partners. And she said that she thinks council needs to consider the issue and wanted to make sure its decision would be based on policy rather than a technicality such as the terms of the contract. She said she did not intend to push the issue onto the council's agenda. But Councilman Rob Todd's questions at the council meeting created a commotion among elected officials, who were suddenly swamped by inquiries from the media about their positions on the issue. Mayor Brown said the city should move ahead on the issue but only when a consensus is reached. Councilman Carol Robinson said he thinks the city should provide health insurance for anyone employees want to cover and choose to pay the premium for that could include parents, cousins, even neighbors. I don't think there should be a heterosexual versus homosexual issue. He said, I think it should be about expanding health care as much as possible. Councilman Bruce Tatro and Robinson said Robinson's proposal would cost the city too much. Chatra said he opposed unmarried partner benefits. Because there is no legal way to determine who is a domestic partner. Quote, the city should not adopt a policy which equates same sex benefits to heterosexual marriage Tatro said. And East Parker said that she and at least one of her aides as well as other cities, city employees would like to include their partners in the city health insurance. She said that she does not know whether the issue has a chance of approval. Gay advocates are seeking to overturn Louisiana's 196 year old law barring sodomy, maintaining that it unfairly targets members of the gay community. In 1999, Judge Carolyn Gill Jefferson upheld the law, ruling that it violates Louisiana's right to privacy but does not violate other rights protected by the state constitution. And appeal was filed by the Louisiana electorate of gays and lesbians Incorporated, also called legal for short and nine gay or lesbian individuals, on grounds that the law quote denies us the right to have sex under any circumstances, said John D. Rawls who is legal's attorney. State Attorneys, however, contend that the law is needed to promote marriage and encourage procreation. Arguments are scheduled Monday before the state's Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal. The case affects 63 of Louisiana's 64 parishes. A separate case in Jefferson Parish just outside of New Orleans has been put on hold until the rulings in this case are final. If legal loses the case cannot be appealed to federal court, Rawls said, quote, we have not raised any federal issues in this case, it is based entirely on the broad human rights that the people of Louisiana have preserved for ourselves in the state constitution. Also, the US Supreme Court ruled five to four in 1985 that the US Constitution does not provide a right to private privacy for gays and lesbians. He said Monday's appeal does not concern the right to privacy. Instead, it deals with the rest of Gil Jefferson's findings, but the privacy issue does remain under review. In July, the state Supreme Court ruled in another case, that the right of privacy did not

extend to oral or anal sex in a motel room between consenting non gay adults. The court reason that if consenting adults have such sex, both are guilty and therefore there is no victim. Three months later, the court ordered Gil Jefferson to reconsider her decision that the law violates privacy rights. And the judge has scheduled arguments on that issue for March 9. Just days after he announced that he was gay, the Reverend Charles carpenter lost his ordination from Christ Church of the valley in Peoria, Arizona, and he ignited a firestorm of controversy about whether the state legislatures Chaplain should be dismissed because he is gay. Just past 10am On Sunday, carpenter got the rev, before his name again, along with a job at a gay friendly Phoenix church. Indications are however, that he shouldn't be as optimistic about his job as the legislature's spiritual adviser. As state legislators headed back into session today. They had to grapple with the fallout of carpenters decision in October to announce that God had created him a gay man. There are Human rights issues Carpenter has refused to resign, citing that it would send the wrong message to the gay community. But there are also administrative ones such as Why does the legislature need a chaplain in the first place? What seems clear is that the chaplains October surprise will put an end to the position created in 1996. By then house speaker Mark Killian. A closed door meeting of that Senate leadership last week seemed to indicate that, for his part, carpenter celebrated Sunday morning as if he had no cares. He spoke to parishioners at his new church, the Community Church of hope about the difference one man can make citing Reverend Martin Luther King Jr, and Mahatma Ghandi. He shook hands accepted congratulations, and generally made the rounds of the church where he has accepted an ordination as Minister of peace and justice. Quote, who would have thought that after all that has happened, that we would arrive here surrounded by all this peace and love he asked after after the service. When I made my announcement, I felt deep in despair. I felt I could lose my family. I felt I could lose my career. Well, instead it appears that carpenter will just lose his state office. MTV will break away from regular programming for 17 hours this week to run a continuous list of hate crimes victims. The gesture, which is a scroll starting at 10pm PST Wednesday, kicks off a year long public service campaign against discrimination. The commercial free airing of victims names will cost MTV about \$2 million in advertising, said Brian graden, the network's programming president. Our hope is that it really gets the attention of our audience and motivates them to get involved great and said the campaign is prompted, at least in part by MTV his own corporate soul searching over the over its role in the rise of Eminem. The rap star who received four Grammy nominations last week, has been criticized by gay advocates for profane anti gay lyrics. His latest album also depicts the killing of his wife and the rape of his mother. MTV gave Eminem a two hour special days before his album was released last year, played a sanitized video of his song, the real Slim Shady and saw him take top honors in its annual award show in September, great unsaid that MTV gave Eminem less airtime, when the nature of his lyrics became apparent, and examined the controversy in its news programs. I would be lying to you if I didn't say that that was something that we struggled with, he said. Also this week, the cable music channel will air and made for TV or actually made for MTV movie about the bias related murder of Matthew Shepard and an MTV News special on hate crimes. On a related note, the head of the group that hands out the Grammys predicted that there would be a lot of criticism for nominating Eminem for four awards, and he was right. The Academy has logged 1000s of emails and phone calls from people angry about the nominations for the rapper whose album, The Marshall Mathers LP contains venomous and violent messages about gays and women. Eminem who won two Grammys last year was nominated for the prestigious Album of the Year Award and in three rap categories, quote, I don't understand how they could ignore his hateful homophobic lyrics in their decision making process, said Joan Geary, Executive Director of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. It is just not okay to be provocative at the expense of an entire community of people in Eminem is lyrics he refers to fags fantasizes about raping his own mother, and jokes about domestic violence. He even has written songs about killing his wife, with whom he has

had a troubled relationship. Last year he filed for divorce from his wife who tried to commit suicide than reconciled with her. He was also sued by his mother and arrested for attacking somebody with a gun. Michael Green president of the Recording Academy couldn't say exactly how many calls and emails had been received. But he said they numbered in the 1000s response was about two to one against the nominations he said. While the response was strong, he said it wasn't unusual for the Academy to receive protests to nominations. Recalling an outcry from Catholics. When John Osborne's one of us was nominated for Record of the Year in 1996. One of us is that popular song which muses about the possibility of God being like a typical person of the Eminem Grammys Green says the academy was commenting, commending rather the artistry of The Marshall Mathers LP and not its vulgar themes. Quote, I don't think it is an acceptable position to say that the message has anything to do with why the recording got a nomination, he said Friday. Again remember this organization is very cognizant of theater. Eminem is theater Glads Executive Director Joan Geary said quote, to those who have been supportive of this album, perhaps they should spend a little time with the kids who have been beat up in play rooms and beaten up in locker rooms because they are gay. Eric Parker, Music Director for The Source magazine said with the kind of success Eminem has had, quote, The Grammys couldn't help but recognize that I mean, it would have been a blatant oversight not to recognize Eminem. As for the protests from groups like glad, Parker said, quote, I think they have a right to be upset, but I don't think that they can censor the Grammy nominations based upon the temperament of someone's music, if it is artistically appreciated and acclaimed. In response, glad said it was not trying to censor Eminem, quote, This is not a discussion about art or discussion about censorship. This is a discussion about responsibility. GLAAD protested the MTV awards in September after Eminem was nominated and invited to perform. But Gary would not say whether there would be a similar demonstration when the Grammy ceremony is held February 21 in Los Angeles, Gary said Eminem is a hero to many kids and could influence them to hate gays. But Greene said that some adults may overestimate the rapper's influence, quote, I think the kids the see it as theater. I don't think they take it seriously at all, said Greene, who was a father of three, at least my kids don't. In other news, President Clinton on Friday awarded actress Elizabeth Taylor and aids researcher David Hogue with Presidential Citizens metals. Both recipients were honored for their work in fighting HIV and AIDS. Taylor is a co founder and spokesperson for the American Foundation for AIDS research. Ho, who is Scientific Director and CEO of the Aaron diamond AIDS Research Center in New York, is credited with being among the first to show how HIV might be eradicated from the body with the aid of protease inhibitors. The two are among 28 people honored by the President. In health news, HIV has been known to infect immune cells called macrophages. But a new study suggests that these cells play a larger role in HIV infection than previously thought, possibly even serving as the primary viral reservoir in the body. Researchers from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases report that macrophages contain and continue to produce large amounts of an HIV like virus in monkeys, even after the virus depletes CD for T cells, which is the main target of HIV. The author of the study, Malcolm Martin, chief of the institute's Laboratory of Molecular Biology, said quote, our research suggests that macrophages are an under appreciated reservoir of virus and HIV infection. These cells become infected immediately after exposure to HIV, are relatively resistant to virus killing, and are able to produce lots of new virus. Highly Active retroviral therapy, also called Heart for short, can reduce HIV to undetectable levels in a person's blood, but the virus usually bounces back when the drugs are stopped. The Institute's studies suggest this rebound may be fueled by the HIV reserves in the macrophages left relatively untouched by antiretroviral therapy. Quote, our studies suggest we need new classes of antiretroviral agents that can target HIV during infections of tissue macrophages, they could potentially eliminate this reservoir of virus and obviously complement currently available drugs. The Food and Drug Administration and drugmaker Bristol Myers Squibb have issued an alert to health care

professionals that pregnant women taking the combination of HIV drugs, zidovudine, and zalcitabine are at increased risk of developing fatal lactic acidosis. Lactic acidosis occurs when cells of the body are unable to convert food into energy, and as a result, excess acid accumulates in the body's organs, potentially damaging the liver and pancreas. The new warning follows three cases of fatal lactic acidosis in pregnant women taking zidovudine and zalcitabine in combination with other HIV drugs. In addition, the FDA has received several reports of non fatal acidosis among pregnant women taking the medications. In a January 5 letter to healthcare professionals, Bristol Myers Squibb, the maker of both 5x zero it recommends that the two drug combination be prescribed for pregnant women only when the potential benefits outweigh the potential health risks. One such situation mentioned by the company is when other HIV drug combinations have failed. The FDA will strengthen its existing blackbox warning for zidovudine and zalcitabine to include this new prescribing information, women who are prescribed the drug combination should be closely monitored for clinical or laboratory signs of lactic acidosis and liver damage. And at least 22 people have suffered serious side effects including liver failure from taking an AIDS drug intended to prevent HIV infection after accidental exposure. Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention documented two cases in health care workers and found that 20 similar cases had been reported to the Food and Drug Administration. The problems occurred after people took zidovudine a widely used AIDS drug after a variety of accidental exposures to HIV, such as jabbing themselves with needles or being splashed with infected blood. The most common reported side effects were liver damage and skin rashes. However, since reporting such incidents to the FDA is voluntarily, rather the CDC said that there are undoubtedly have been other cases zidovudine is marketed by Roxane laboratories under the name Zidovudine. The company's website warns that fatal liver damage has been reported in some people who have taken the drug and recommends liver tests before and during treatment. Government guidelines do not recommend Zidovudine for preventing infection after HIV exposure. But the CDC said doctors may prescribe it because it theoretically works more quickly than other AIDS drugs, and it is recommended for preventing AIDS transmission from infected mothers to their babies. This makes it very clear that there is a real risk factor said Dr. Helene Gayle, the CDC AIDS chief. The people mostly health care workers suffered the side effects between 1997 and the year 2000. After taking the drug an average of two weeks. None eventually contracted HIV. Gail said the government looked into the matter after a life threatening liver damage incident was reported in a 43 year old female health care worker who took the European after a needle stick and an a 38 year old male physician who had mucous membrane exposure. The woman required a liver transplant and the man was hospitalized with hepatitis. And finally, the Reverend Fred Phelps is planning to picket marry Jeanne and her father in conifer Colorado. On January 13, Phelps's the rabidly anti gay Baptist minister from Topeka, Kansas, who is best known for picketing the funerals of Matthew Shepard, and people who have died of AIDS complications. In a press release. Phelps says, quote, America beware, Dick Cheney is an arch deceiver, another Wyoming Antichrist pushing the unholy fag agenda to cover his own sins. Cheney is prepared to sodomize all of America by pretending it's okay to be gay. Well, now of course, you can't take Fred Phelps any more seriously than a flea circus. However, Phelps says the Vice President Elect is quote, using his Dyk daughter's sinful lifestyle for political advantage and spitting in the face of God. Cheney's health is frail. God has set him in slippery places. His foot shall slide. So Dick Cheney, I guess you've been warned. That is our look at what's been going on in the past week for LGV news. I'm Glenn Holt.

J

Joan Devlin 1:43:21

Okay. Thanks for the comic relief there at the end.

**G** Glenn Holt 1:43:25  
Yeah, no. Well, you know, it's, it's like a commercial. You know, you have to do that little comic thing right at the end.

**J** Joan Devlin 1:43:30  
Right. Fred Phelps is going to be the original when he dies. Is it hot in here? Is it just me?

**J** Jack Valinski 1:43:38  
Well, I'd rather be where it's warm than cold anyway.

**J** Joan Devlin 1:43:40  
Yes, you can wear your shorts. Exactly.

**G** Glenn Holt 1:43:44  
John, do you have any of that five pound chocolate bar left? No, the

**J** Joan Devlin 1:43:48  
five pound chocolate bar. This is so funny. Um, you didn't need it all? No, I didn't need it all. I ate about a quarter of it. I did. And it took me that took me a good week. And a friend of mine knows some some families that have a lot of children and they don't have much money. So we broke we broke the chocolate bar up. And she said and with get this with what was left of that chocolate bar. She was able to give chocolate out to for needy families to children or for needy families. And she said they appreciated it very much. But that was a huge chocolate bar still have the wrapper? I show it off to people and everybody says the same thing. Was that really a candy bar? Looks like

**G** Glenn Holt 1:44:26  
yes, it was a smell of the chocolate is still in the wrapper.

**J** Joan Devlin 1:44:29  
I know. Tell me about it. On my New Year's diet for now. Yeah,

**G** Glenn Holt 1:44:34

well, at least all that chocolate didn't go to waste specifically your waist. Yeah, right.

**J** Joan Devlin 1:44:38

Some of it did though. Trust me. Okay.

**G** Glenn Holt 1:44:41

I was telling Jack at one point or earlier in the program while we were listening to something else that I had an opportunity to see an episode of Queer as Folk last night. That's Jack's new favorite show. Yeah, well, I was really impressed. So it's very well done.

**J** Joan Devlin 1:44:56

I've been hearing advertisements for it and I don't mean disguised, ambiguous, you know, could be kind of anything advertisements I'm talking about flat out makes it very clear it's a gay show advertisements on different radio stations around town and radio. Yes. On the radio 96.5k RBE 104. Think I want to say those are the two that come to my mind. But I know there are others. I don't want to just name those. But I mean, this is during drive time.

**J** Jack Valinski 1:45:27

Well, you know, Showtime has put the money into doing this. They definitely want the gay audience. And I really it's working for him. Yes. I mean, I had heard in some parts of the country, they couldn't keep up with installing, you know, the converters to get Showtime.

**J** Joan Devlin 1:45:43

There really hasn't been that many protests that you know, you had we had a story here a couple weeks ago that some little place in Michigan but North Dakota, nobody did anything about it.

**G** Glenn Holt 1:45:54

Right, right. Well, I mean, there's really no reason why anyone should because actually, I suspect, what course I know that there are straight people who listen to this program, just because they care about gay people that they know. And because they're just basically curious. Well, if queers

**J** Joan Devlin 1:46:08

Folk is a good show, isn't that all that matters? I mean, for years, we watch shows that revolved around straight people that maybe didn't have much to do with our lives, if anything, but they were funny, and we enjoyed them.

**G** Glenn Holt 1:46:18

Right. So, Lucy? Yes, exactly. Well, yeah,

**J** Joan Devlin 1:46:24

you know, you've dated Cuban men before, don't sit there and say, I Love Lucy has nothing to do with your life.

**G** Glenn Holt 1:46:28

I really think that that's straight people. You know, if nothing else, have a little bit of curiosity, which is probably satisfied by the show, if they if they like to tune in and watch it, and it's

**J** Joan Devlin 1:46:40

smart, and it's sexy, and, you know, even some of the controversy that surrounds it would probably, you know, get people interested, too. And then once they tune in and realize it's good, they're gonna keep watching.

**J** Jack Valinski 1:46:50

Well, it is pretty provocative. I mean, it's pretty in your face, that this is our life. And this is how we, you know, live it. And it's not every, every gay or lesbian person, but it is some of us. Yeah,

**J** Joan Devlin 1:47:03

but shock value only takes you so far. I mean, you know, you shock value. That's, that's great for about a week, and then you're like, Okay, I'm over this, but this has gone on, and it's gone. Right. And it's, apparently it's very good. Well, it's been a big hit in England. You know,

**G** Glenn Holt 1:47:18

it was very touching in the episode last night, because there's this, this young kid and understand he's actually been a regular in the, in the serious, this, this young kid who's coming out and grappling with the issues of coming out, you know, as a young kid, and in the episode last night, he's, he's in a gay bar. And it's so one of those things, you know, like we do here in Houston sometimes, where if if you if you take your shirt off, you get a free beer or something

like that, you know, you get some some advantage, or getting free, something like that. So there's a bunch of gay men standing around in this bar without their shirts on and he's one of them, and his mother walks in. And, of course, that's the last thing that a young man is going to want his mother, you know, to see him under those circumstances. I have to pray for him to see his mother in a gay bar. And yes, you know, the whole thing. But then there's another really touching scene. When she went to the coffee shop, where he sometimes hangs out, she went looking for him. And the waitress, who was a PFLAG type basically sensed what was going on with the mother and and the, there was a sort of back and forth interplay between her and the mother, you would just have to see it. That dynamic was really well done. Yeah.

J Joan Devlin 1:48:37

Well, I mean, Jack, like I said, Jack's loving it, you know, at his birthday party he got taped so you can keep taping it. So

J Jack Valinski 1:48:42

yes, unfortunately, it will not be a fresh episode on this week. So it'll be repeated tomorrow on Showtime. And Sunday will not have an episode. There'll be another week before in other episodes on Thursday made like 22 episodes, if I'm not mistaken, they did

J Joan Devlin 1:48:57

a whole season. Wow. But make sure tomorrow, if you can to watch the Matthew Shepard. That's Wednesday. I'm sorry, Wednesday to watch the Matthew Shepard cmrt wanted it to be Tuesday. Because that's that's should be interesting. Nancy Ford wrote a bit of a column about it in in this week's triangle. But you know that? I don't know. I think that's just something we need to watch. And especially in essence, MTV has shown it commercial free and there's no excuses. You can you can sit in there having a discussion afterwards and talking to some of his friends and things. Well, what do we have our next week? Oh, well, now I tore up the little schedule. But actually next week, we have what is next week, the 15th David Elliot will be on to talk about the inauguration of the president select. Also Amy Beth Gill strap from landmark will be on to talk about movies in town and around town. And of course, Travis Mater from the LA theatre. We'll be talking about theater and plays and things like Oh, sounds

J Jack Valinski 1:49:51

good. Maybe I'll sit home and listen to the show. Yeah, why

G Glenn Holt 1:49:53

don't you do that? Give us the the Trulock website again because somebody called in about that.

**J** Joan Devlin 1:49:58  
Okay, it's WW. u w dot true luck, T R U L U C k.com.

**G** Glenn Holt 1:50:05  
Okay, and is his book available in stores now?

**J** Joan Devlin 1:50:08  
His book is available in stores. It's called Steps to recovery from Bible abuse, or you can order it directly from his website.

**J** Jack Valinski 1:50:15  
And if you'd like to have the number about the non smoking what would you call it non smoking seminar, non smoking and study 713-792-2265

**G** Glenn Holt 1:50:28  
You have been listening to lesbian and gay voices heard each Monday at 8pm here on KPFT publicly funded Pacifica network station. Lesbian and Gay voices is produced live in Houston with recorded segments from this way out which is produced at KPFK in Los Angeles, lesbian and gay voices executive producer is Jack Valinski on air voices are Joan Devlin Glenn Holt and Jack Valinski. You can write to us at the PO box 66071 Houston, Texas 77266 or send email to LGV news@aol.com. Be sure to listen to KPFT every Saturday night at midnight for After Hours with Jimmy Carper. It's queer radio with attitude, lesbian and gay voices credits the following news sources Associated Press planet out.com the Houston Chronicle The Arizona Republic, the Atlanta Journal Constitution, the gay financial network@gfn.com and had that this is the sound of Texas 90.1 FM KPFT in Houston. for lesbian and gay voices. I'm Glen Holt.

 1:51:39  
Houston is 90.1 KPFT the sound of Texas at Pacifica network station KPFT Houston.