

- La, la, la, la, la. Caller who is a patron of the club.

- Yeah.

- OK. Wants to know if there are any plans to move the metro bus stop in front of the establishment. Yes, I know as a fact that was taken out because of drugs, and an incident that took place out there.

- Oh, it's not there anymore?

- That's not because of the club. That's because of other things going on in the street.

- Well, no, I think he-- his response was that there were some unsavory characters.

- Yeah.

- They used to hang out there.

- They were gone, right?

- They were gone. The bus stop was moved a little bit further down the street. Midtown Spy Incorporated and the Metro have had a tangle a few times around over that after they moved it back on the edge of our property. And that is still in the works there. Moving out.

- Plus, you've got-- no, I don't know if-- I don't think CBC does.

- When, in fact, I know they don't. But Midtown, you guys have security, right?

- Yes, we do on-- especially on our busy nights. Friday and Saturday nights you come in, and the security guard is there from about 8 o'clock at night until 8 o'clock in the morning.

- Oh, hang on just a second.

[MUSIC - GEORGE MICHAEL, I WANT YOUR SEX]

- No, we don't have any answers.

- I never have any answers about anything.

- But why, Jimmy? You can jump into it if you want to. Why do you think this country has such an obsession with not talking about sex? And not--

- I have never understood that.

- It's just like, they don't want to pass out condoms to the school, to the high school kids. Isn't that crazy? They don't want to have sex education classes in the schools. I don't understand. I mean, I'm not asking you as a business person. I'm just talking as a friend.

- I don't know, it's-

- There's so many-- it's close-minded, basically.

- I think maybe the religion has a little bit to do with it.
- I think so.
- They're so repressed religiously about sex. And I'm not picking on any one particular religion because I think they're all guilty of it.
- I had spent about eight years in the Ministry before completely coming out.
- Mm-hmm.
- And that was one of our basic issues, was, let sex be taught in the church or at home.
- Oh, yeah.
- But it's not taught there. And you have to learn it somewhere, on a safe, concerned level.
- Yeah.
- And the main issues was the condoms. But if they're going to have sex, they need to have those things available to them.
- And they need to have the information about sensible sex.
- And they have condoms everywhere, at both clubs here in town.
- Do that. We offer condoms free at the door in our club. And we do tell people where they can receive condoms outside the club and/or any other particular items that they would want.
- Sure. Good idea.
- Somebody called and said they wanted to know what's the policy, an age, because you can't just come in as an age, right, legal age, I guess.
- Yes, there is.
- Right?
- The legal age is 18.
- Absolutely.
- They have to be 18 in order to come in.
- That's just legal age, period, right?
- Yes.
- So what else, Mary?
- And that has to do with the Texas statutes.

- I think it has to do with anything.
- If you have sex with someone younger than 18 and you are over 18, that's term statutory rape no matter what the sex.
- A girl, if--
- And no matter whether the partner is willing or not.
- If they came out tomorrow and had a shot where you could get rid of AIDS, right?
- Yeah?
- Do you think everything would go back like it used to be in the '70s?
- Oh, boy, I certainly would hope not. I'm afraid it might, but I-- you see, the problem with the '70s is that we got-- we became obsessed with sex and we weren't doing anything else. We were--
- Some of us are still obsessed with sex.
- Going to work and having sex.
- Yeah. [LAUGHS]
- And since--
- What's wrong with that?
- Well--
- How about, go to work, have a little sex, and develop your life? How about having a lover and taking him with you to the tubs.
- Yeah
- Will you get bored? Sure. See, I tried that. And I met this guy, and he was like, well, I don't want to go to the baths.
- Oh, honey, it's--
- But now, every time I go by Midtown, his truck's down there, that hateful, crazy queen.

[LAUGHTER]

- Who said that? No.
- That's not good.
- Yes. In fact, I personally know of several couples who celebrate their sexuality together at the tubs.
- Because it's a safe environment. If you had-- what is that? Caller wants to know if the club is handicap accessible?
- Good question. We've got one particular patron that comes in on a regular basis.
- Mm-hmm.
- That he's in a wheelchair. We have a freight elevator that we use. We can take them up to the second floor.

- OK.

- And we can bring them back down again. And what their limitations are in the club, the crew there does their best that they can do to take care of that particular customer.

- OK, well, there's already a wheelchair patron of this club. So I imagine two, three, or more--

- Uh-huh?

- --you'll be happy to have them.

- Yes.

- Let me get a pencil. On what are your busy nights?

- And that's a good point.

- It really is.

- Because--

- What?

- Because-- and this is what you-- going back to what you were talking about, all the beautiful people standing around. Not everybody is beautiful, and not everybody is physically abled. A lot of people are physically disabled.

- Well, that's true.

- Or differently abled.

- Is at the term nowadays?

- And everyone has a very strong sexual desire.

- The thing that caught my eye.

- Except Republicans.

[LAUGHTER]

- The thing what?

- I'm sorry.

- The thing that caught my eye last night as I was going down to the front dance, two paraplegics had checked in.

- Uh-huh?

- And not because they were paraplegics, but because I normally don't see paraplegics in the club. And I have no problems with any kind of handicap or racial, but it really surprised me. And I was actually glad to see them in because they're hindered in so many other places.

- It's true.

- I have been saying for weeks now that, no, I don't want to go to the clubs because I've gained 10 pounds.

- Boy, that's true. [CHUCKLING]

- Yeah.

- We don't go down there when I'm there. It's bad enough having what's his name down there in the town? If you were down there, I'd never get anything done, especially since I can't carry poppers around anymore. And forget about you. That's right. No, no, no, no.

- No, I'm kidding. I know what you're going to say.

- Yeah.

- It's an environment that you can feel comfortable in. And I think what I enjoyed most, and I have continued to enjoy most about going to the baths over the years, is that you're around gay people, and you don't feel threatened.

- You're right.

- You don't feel pressured. You don't feel like you have to do something if you don't want to do. It's real weird, the night my father died and you were at my house.

- Yeah.

- As he was dying, I went to the club, and I was in the sauna. And in some strange way, I think that, finally, his spirit, if this makes any sense, could understand a little bit of what I've been going through for the last 15 or 20 years. And being alone and having that security, it's like, girl, if you don't want to be my husband, that's fine, the tubs are open and I'll be right back.

[LAUGHTER]

You know what I mean?

- Yeah.

- And why do we beat ourselves over the head with this guilt trip, about feeling guilty, because we're humans and we're very sexual creatures. What's wrong with that?

- We have a strong taught since--

- Don't touch that!

- --we were born, right, don't touch that. And not even approaching the subject of gay sex, but all sex was--

- Oh, just--

- --nasty and dirty.

- Yeah. And something like masturbation-- oh, forget it.

- [LAUGHING]

- Girl, you'll go blind.

- I haven't yet.

- Yeah.

- I see you wear glasses, though.

- Yes, do I ever.

- [LAUGHTER]

- Well, I don't, and I do. So there.

- Yeah, but you should, I think.

- Should what?

- Wear glasses.

- Oh, you hateful queen.

[LAUGHTER]

It's from the screens at the police department.

- Ah.

- I can't see anything.

- Yes.

- Do you know, just on-- this has nothing to do with-- it only has something to do with what we're talking about. But Kellogg's Corn Flakes, do you know why they were ever invented?

- No.

- Mr Post or General Post who invented cornflakes did it like in the late 1890s or early 1900s as the supposed cure for teenage boys masturbation. It was to give them a well-balanced breakfast so they wouldn't have the urge. Because--

- When you wake up in the morning, it's like, well!

- --in Victorian times--

- [LAUGHING]

- --this was a big thing, trying to keep teenage boys from masturbating.

- Well, they still try it.

- And they succeed.

- No, they don't. Everybody does it. You just don't talk about it.

- [LAUGHS]

- I would still like to be at-- in the sauna one night and have half the vice department walk in to take me to jail.

- Wow, girl.

- Before we go, you'll have to line up against the wall.

[LAUGHTER]

- We're talking about celebrating sexuality.

- Why don't the police bother these places. Well, number one, the clubs have been around for years in Houston.

- Early '70s, as I recall.

- Yeah, in New York and Los Angeles they have variations of the clubs, but the clubs, the baths themselves, were closed, right? In the beginning of the AIDS epidemic.

- Mm-hmm. Well--

- In some cities, they're coming back now--

- Yes.

- --under different names. And like I said, Joan Rivers just did a show recently with some people who are starting sex groups in their homes. I guess in their homes, I don't know.

- Mm-hmm.

- Caller wants to know what type of activity the members of the club engage in? Sexual. Well, girl, if you're naked, do it. [LAUGHS]

- Also, Joe, maybe you can respond to this a caller called in. Are there various levels of club membership that entitle different privileges?

- The only one is our six-month memberships, and that entitles you to go to any of the Midtown clubs in Texas as well as Denver--

- Mm-hmm.

- --New Orleans, and the clubs in California.

- OK.

- A six-month as versus a year membership? Or?

- Six months against a temporary membership.

- Oh, I see. You have a temporary one.

- Right, in six months.

- OK, OK. That's kind of what I thought.

- And the six-month memberships, we do offer specials to them. On Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, half-price locker days and the half priced room day on Wednesday.
- Now, this is for the six-month members?
- For the six-month members.
- Oh, OK.
- And we do have that special in Houston as well as Dallas.
- Uh-huh. OK, so they do get kind of, they get reduced rates on certain days?
- Uh-huh.
- Oh, OK.
- As opposed to the temporary membership, where that's for that one time only that you go?
- Right. Correct. Two-day membership, and then, but you still had to pay the full price on a special day, where if you would have had a six month membership already.
- Oh, OK, OK.
- I've been in the Midtown, and not only Houston. In fact, I was down the other night at CBC.
- Uh-huh?
- And since Joe came in, a lot of folks are going down to Midtown now.
- I see.
- Somebody said, oh, you're a traitor. I said, what? And they said, well, you have a membership card in Midtown. How long have you had that? And I said, about 10 years.
- Yeah.
- Give me a break. I said, girl, these kids, if these queens in these clubs have cards to their pocket to both places, they go to all the bookstores, call all the 976 numbers, and go to all the bars. I mean--
- Yeah.
- Christ.
- Yeah.
- Anyway.
- That's not being a traitor. That's just finding the better deal.
- Oh.

- Right now, I know where the better deal is in Houston, but I won't say. I have had a great time in Dallas and I have had a great time in Los Angeles last year--

- Mm-hmm?

- --at the Midtown LA. Let me tell you about this California boy.

- I see. You've talked about place in Florida. Is that--

- Oh, girl.

- Is that kind of a separate place, or is that a Midtown affiliate?

- No, no, no.

- No, it's not.

- You're talking about the--

- Parliament House.

- No, Mary. Parliament House is the oldest gay hotel in Florida.

- Oh, OK.

- Its' nothing to do with the baths. It's better.

- Oh!

- It's better than the baths.

- Oh, I thought it was a bath.

- It is. [LAUGHS] No, Mary, it's a hotel.

- Oh, OK. I didn't understand that.

- No, it's an honest to god hotel on the side of the road.

- Oh.

- In the back--

- Stop and shop.

- I see.

- Oh, girl, in the back at night--

- I see.

- --let tell you about it.

[MUSIC - GEORGE MICHAEL, I WANT YOUR SEX]

- Really?

- I can't tell you about it. You just have to go your own self. And when I go this year, I'm going by myself. I'm not taking any hateful queens down there.

- He doesn't mean me.

- No.

- I hope not.

- I mean, I always like fall in love the first week before vacation, then I always have an awful time. Forget that. I'll be down at that club this year opening presents Christmas Day.

- I see.

- Anyway, it's a nice place to be if you want to be sexually active and be sexually responsible, I think. I think that's-- I don't know, maybe I'm wrong. I don't think so. Because everybody tells me how awful it is.

- Well--

- And then you see them down there in the middle of the night when they know you're at work. Oh, girl, what are you doing here?

- They're not going to put a gun to your head if you're not sexually responsible, but--

- You'd be.

- --it's wonderful environment to always keep it in the back of your mind.

- That's true.

- Yeah.

- But in the 10 years of going to the tubs, I only had one cop in the sauna.

- Oh, I'm sorry.

- And he didn't even work for the police department when that happened. So what a bummer. At least one cop that I knew about. I'm sure there are some more.

- Yeah.

- OK. Anyway, Joe, we want to thank you for coming by and telling us about Midtown. And I promise you, I'll be back. No, that's like saying, I'm not going to come. Well-- if and when you have the, especially the AIDS testing, when is that again?

- Yes, that's the third Friday of the month.

- Mm-hmm. And you said, occasionally, you do, once in a while, you do all kinds of special things, like the-- like what?

- Multiple sex.

- Like the same-sex workshops?

- Yeah.
- And you did, the-- I can't think. I'm thinking about sex, Mary.
- Self-defense.
- Self-defense. Yeah. So when things like that are going on, you let us know and we'll tell folks.
- OK.
- Especially when something special is going on.
- You bet.
- Plus, I think-- well, I don't know. I know all during the month of November at CBC, they were taking like Stone Soup-- I mean, donations for some soup.
- Right.
- I think that's over. I don't know.
- Yeah, it is. That went through-- at CBC, that was through November 27.
- But I can tell you this. On Saturday nights when you don't hear me here, you can find me in the sauna or at the spa.
- Ah, ah, ah.
- Well! And I would much rather have been spending the last five years in the sauna than sitting here on my-- you know.
- Yeah.
- Anyway.
- [LAUGHING]
- Thanks, Joe. What's the number down there? Can somebody call it? It is listed, though, right?
- Yes, it is. But the number is 522-2379.
- OK, great, and we'll see you there.
- OK. Thank you.
- Thank you very much. Keep doing wonderful things, especially for Stone Soup. And let me tell you about that little room in the back.
- [MUSIC PLAYING]
- That's exactly what I was thinking, Mary.
- And I want to play a song now for some of those Calvin Klein queens standing around right now, in their towel.
- Oh, yeah?

- Probably both at Midtown and CBC.

[LAUGHTER]

Girl, lighten up. It's only a-- well, never mind. Listen, have a good time, kids, while you can. And don't have such a heart of stone, you hateful bitches.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Oh, well. They'll realize one of these days that it's not such a big deal. I'm talking about these hateful queens, now.

- Oh, yeah.

- It just bothers me, because it seems like if it gets dark enough, and they've had enough to drink, they'll do anything. And I'm not in the mood for that.

- Let me tell you one thing--

- And that's why I come home frustrated, you know what I mean?

- Let me tell you when--

- It's her girl, please.

- --they'll get over it. Let me tell you when they'll get over it.

- When?

- When they have crow's feet.

- [LAUGHING]

- Do you think so?

- I know so, I've seen it time and time again.

- Well, I am just not in the mood for it. And I came home one night after one of those marathon rolls, where you go to like, both bathhouses, and about 18 bookstores, and the French Quarter?

- Yeah.

- And you think, what's wrong? And it's like, well, these queens don't do anything for me.

- Yeah.

- You have to get excited first, physically, before--

- Yeah.

- --one night, you think, well, something's not right here. And it's like, girl, you don't turn me on. Number one. It's like this whole idea of, like, if you're just drunk enough-- and that scares me, Jimmy, it always has.

- I've always avoided that type.

- It always has scared me. And I like to watch to see who's going into everybody's room. And like, all those people that are like flitting around like butterflies, I'm like, forget this, girl.

- I've always, when I've been there, I've always left before 2:00 o'clock. Because there's a lot of people who go to the bars, and then get tanked up, and then that's when they have the courage enough to go to the baths. And frankly, I'm not interested in having sex with someone--

- Who's drunk.

- --who has to get drunk to accept their--

- To have a time.

- --to accept their sexuality.

- Plus, I remember working at CBC. It always scared me.

- Yeah?

- And I would always tell the kids on the desk. And they do the same thing at Midtown, I'm sure. If somebody comes in, and they're like more inebriated than god and they need a place to stay--

- Yeah.

- --get them in here where it's safe.

- That, yeah, good point.

- Off of the street.

- Good point.

- You know what I mean? And we'll put them in a room and lock them up, and let them wake up in the morning and wonder where they are.

- [CHUCKLING]

- Where am I? Anyway, where are we? We're listening to After Hours on KPFT 90.1 FM. It's time for *This Way Out*.

- Oh, was it? I was--

- With Greg Gordon and Lucia Chappelle.

- Say one more thing real quick about that.

- Well, say it.

- I had a friend who lived in Pasadena and liked to drink on weekends, but hate-- would not, absolutely would not drink and drive. So he'd come in on Friday and like, park his car, and go and have fun at the bars. And then go to the tubs just to sleep.

- Mm-hmm.

- Because he would not drive.

- Well, when I went to Dallas, not the last time, but the time before that. I stayed at Midtown Spa because it was cheap and you can be left alone.

- Yeah.

- If you know what I mean?

- That's right.

- If you don't want to be bothered, you're not bothered.

- Yeah.

- And I remember the first time I took my best friend, David McCain, to the baths, he was like really irritated. And like, well, girl, how come nobody grabbed me when I was in there?

- [CHUCKLING]

- Said, well, Mary, if you think they're just having like marathon sex-- and this didn't even happen back in the '70s.

- [CHUCKLING]

- Oh, a little bit, but not like it-- not anything compared to what it is now.

- It's kind of a mid-weight point. It's--

- Exactly.

- The big people in Pyle's routine. It's not that, but it's--

- I wish it was, but it's not.

- You're probably not going to find a lover there either.

- No. Of course, no.

- We're talking fantasy sex.

- Mary, please.

- Celebrating your sexuality.

- Anyway, we're celebrating life from home, Montrose.

- I've had--

- You said you're going to be quick.

- I know. I'm sorry. I've had a lot of lesbians complain that they wish there was a tub-- tubs for lesbians.

- That's true. We are going to *This Way Out* with Greg Gordon and Lucia Chappelle, and then we're going to be coming back and talking about Bob Lanier, who is the new mayor, or will be sworn in January--

- Oh, OK.

--as the new mayor of Houston. We're going to be talking about Nelson Mandela. He'll be in town today to speak--

- Yes.

--twice publicly. We're also going to be talking at the top of the hour about the 50th anniversary of Pearl Harbor, and what all that meant. And how the Americans who were of Japanese descent were locked up by this country and incarcerated. And it's another ugly story that they wish you would forget about. And it's all going to happen after this. So stay with us. This is 90.1 FM KPFT Houston, After Hours.

- We're here, and we're queer.

- And we'll be back. So stay with us, kids.

- I just can't tell you that the high regard that I have for this athlete.

- The three friends went out on an early morning hunt for, quote, someone who society wouldn't care about.

- Part of our most sacred teaching is the idea that each one of you listening to the sound of my voice is a sacred being, no matter who you are. It's a sacred way of being and a sacred way of seeing.

- This is Lucia Chappelle.

- And Greg Gordon. And you're listening to *This Way Out*, the international lesbian and gay radio magazine on After Hours.

- Right here on Pacifica radio, 90.1 FM KPFT Houston.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Welcome to *This Way Out*, the international lesbian and gay radio magazine. I'm Lucia Chappelle.

- And I'm Greg Gordon. Reading, writing, arithmetic, and rights in US schools.

- Naked city bashing murder gets first biased conviction.

- And giving thanks for diversity through Native American eyes.

- All that and more, because you've discovered *This Way Out*.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- I'm Mark Saccomano.

- And I'm Cindy Friedman.

- With *Newsroom*, a summary of some of the news in or affecting the Lesbian and Gay Community for the week ending November 23, 1991. School-based programs for lesbian and gay youth are a focus for action across the US. In Maryland a presentation by the sexual minority youth assistance league, SMYAL, at a Howard County high school last month has stimulated parent protest.

At the school's invitation, two staff and a youth member of SMYAL made one-hour presentations to six classes of juniors, raising consciousness about stereotyping of gays and lesbians, and providing information from research. Parents Anne and Jim Sullivan instigated a protest campaign with a letter to the school board, demanding that a second presentation be made by people who can accurately express the traditional family, and how students can turn away from homosexuality.

Identically worded letters have been generated by local conservative churches, creating publicity in area newspapers. A confrontation is expected at the next school board meeting open to public comment.

- On a more positive note, a committee of the Milwaukee, Wisconsin School Board voted unanimously last month to accept a report from a task force on lesbian and gay teens. The report includes recommendations for high schools which might be applied to junior high schools as well. Recommendations cover curriculum, school policies, sensitivity training for personnel, and dropout prevention activities.

In Massachusetts, there's legislation in the House Committee that would establish a gay and lesbian advisory board in the state's Department of Public Health, which would set up support services and suicide intervention programs. The bill has the backing of Massachusetts Republican Governor, William Weld.

- And this week, the Los Angeles Board of Education voted to form a gay and lesbian education commission at the suggestion of openly gay school board member, Jeff Horton. We can expect more such action in California as Queer Nation has planned an ambitious program of activities for the upcoming California School Board Association annual conference in San Francisco, where 10,000 educators are expected to attend.

An impressive list of demands extending to both primary and secondary education include, sensitivity training for personnel, correcting and updating of texts in curriculum, suicide prevention, AIDS prevention, and support programs for lesbian and gay youth.

- A few more US election results have become available. In Massachusetts openly gay Boston City Council member, David Scondras, was re-elected. While Elaine Noble, who in the '70s became the first openly lesbian elected state representative in the US, lost a bid for the Cambridge City Council. In Chapel Hill, North Carolina, openly gay City Council Member, Joe Herzenberg, was re-elected.

Open gays and lesbians losing city council races included John Noble in Greece, New York, Annise Parker in Houston, Texas. And in Concord, California, Gill Block, also known as Sadie, Sadie the Rabbi Lady among the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. In Arlington County, Virginia, open gays Michael Ward and Richard Sincere lost bids for a County board seat and County treasurer.

- Kent Carlsson recently became the first openly gay man to be elected to the Swedish parliament. His victory came despite a major defeat for his Social Democratic Party. In the same general election, Sweden's newly formed New Democratic Party had first put forward and then removed to openly gay candidates from its slate for a town council race.

- The Parliament of the Republic of Latvia has voted to decriminalize sodomy. Of the three former USSR Baltic republics, Estonia is expected to follow Latvia's lead as both are primarily Lutheran. Similar action is not expected in heavily Roman Catholic Lithuania.

- The famed homoerotic artist known as Tom of Finland, actually, Touko Laaksonen, died of a stroke earlier this month at the age of 71 in his home in Helsinki, Finland. A documentary about the artist, which was financed by the Finnish Film Board had its initial screening just a few weeks before his death, and will be broadcast on Finnish national television early next year. In January, Finland's largest publishing house will be printing a biography of the man who earlier this year was elected Cartoonist of the Year by the Cartoonists Society of Finland.

- It's hard to believe, but San Francisco no longer has a single predominantly lesbian bar. Amelia's was the last remaining, and after 13 years, it celebrated its final last call on November 16. Amelia's owner, Rikki Streicher, also owned Maud's, which closed two years ago after 23 years. She believes that San Francisco lesbians have stopped patronizing neighborhood bars, opting instead for the novelty of once a week rent a bar events.

- And finally, Roman Catholic Monsignor, Norman Balthazar was an active opponent of anti-discrimination legislation recently passed in the city of Tampa in the County of Hillsborough in Florida. Apparently, it was a case of his protesting too much. Balthazar was one of six arrested in a sting operation this month for soliciting sex with a male undercover police officer. Now, released on bail, removed from his pastoral duties, and undergoing psychiatric evaluation, Balthazar, like so many before him, says, I had too much to drink and was not in control of my senses.

- That's *NewsWrap* for the week ending November 23, 1991. Follow the news in your area. An informed community is a strong community.

- *NewsWrap* is compiled and written by Cindy Friedman. For *This Way Out*, I'm Mark Saccomano.

- And I'm Cindy Friedman.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- A New York City jury has convicted two men of murdering a 29-year-old man they spotted while on a gay bashing hunt. The crime was the first to be tried as a bias related murder in New York City. Betsy Lemke has the story.

- In July of 1990, Julio Rivera, a gay Latino man was stabbed to death in a dark schoolyard in Queens, New York. The killing was not investigated by police detectives until organizations, including Queer Nation and the New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project demonstrated outside Mayor David Dinkins home and in the community where the killing took place. The Anti-Violence Project posted a \$5,000 reward, which the mayor's office matched with an additional \$10,000.

Three weeks later, three men were charged in the killing, David Doyle, Erik Brown, and Esat Bici. Doyle confessed to manslaughter in a plea bargain to avoid a murder charge, and agreed to testify against Brown and Bici. During the trial, district attorney Dan McCarthy led Doyle through a story of the night of July 2nd, the three friends went out on an early morning hunt for, quote, someone who society wouldn't care about.

Erik Brown lured Julio Rivera into a dark alcove, with Esat Bici and Doyle following after. They punched Rivera to the ground and Doyle stabbed him. They continued the assault, pounding the defenseless man with a claw hammer and a plumber's wrench. The district attorney said that all three acted in concert and the murder would not have occurred in the way it occurred without each taking part in the intentional attack.

The jury found both Bici and Brown guilty of murder with depraved indifference to human life. Although their attorneys plan an appeal, the two are scheduled to be sentenced in January. Gay activist attorney, Paul O'Dwyer.

- I think this has certainly galvanized a strong sense of community here. I think it's made people more aware of the fact that there is a gay community. I think it's made people within the gay community a lot stronger, feeling a lot more empowered.

- Alan Sack, a longtime friend and one-time lover of Julio Rivera.

- A clear message is being sent out, that acts of violence against gay men and lesbians will no longer be tolerated.

- I'm Betsy Lemke.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- I think sometimes we think, well, only gay people can get it, it's not going to happen to me. And here I am, saying that it can happen to anybody.

- A couple of weeks ago US basketball star, Earvin Magic Johnson announced that he had tested positive for HIV. He seemed anxious to emphasize that he had contracted the AIDS virus through unsafe heterosexual contact from any of the countless women he had slept with. The general response to Johnson's stunning revelation was unqualified admiration for his courage and honesty, the continued support of his big corporate sponsors for whom he's been an advertising spokesman, and an appointment by US President George Bush to the National Commission on AIDS.

- I just can't tell you that the high regard that I have for this athlete. And I can empathize with him. It's a tragedy.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Another world-renowned athlete commented this week on Johnson's announcement.

[MUSIC - TOM ROBINSON BAND, RIGHT ON SISTER]

- Openly lesbian tennis star, Martina Navratilova, told the New York Post, quote, if I had the AIDS virus, would people be understanding? No. Because they'd say I'm gay, I had it coming. If it had happened to a heterosexual woman who had been with 100 or 200 men, they'd call her a whore and a slut. The corporations would drop her like a lead balloon, and she'd never get another job in her life, end quote.

[MUSIC - TOM ROBINSON BAND, RIGHT ON SISTER]

- Unfortunately, some mainstream media pundits interpreted Navratilova's comments as criticizing Magic Johnson. So let us be perfectly clear about this. Taking nothing away from Magic Johnson for his courage in going public about his HIV positive status and his stated desire to become a spokesman for safe sex and AIDS education, we'd like to thank Martina Navratilova for speaking her mind, and, we think, many of ours, verbalizing how many of us reacted when Earvin Magic Johnson delivered yet another wake-up call to the American public about AIDS.

[MUSIC - TOM ROBINSON BAND, RIGHT ON SISTER]

- This is Charles Pierce as Eleanor Roosevelt, here to remind you that you're listening to *This Way Out*, the international lesbian and gay radio magazine with Greg Gordon and Lucia Chapelle. If I were alive, I know I'd be listening.

- It's the season of Thanksgiving in the US, recalling, according to what we've been taught since our earliest school years, how Native Americans helped the pilgrims survive in their new world, and joined them in a feast of celebration. Of course, these immigrant pilgrims and their descendants proceeded to establish their new world order in the years to come. Thankfully, at least some of the ways Native Americans have looked at the world did survive and seem to be enjoying increasing attention and popularity today. We can all give thanks to *This Way Out's* Dave Buell for producing the following special feature.

- As a young Taos Pueblo, Warm Springs Indian, Terry Tafoya was taught the art of storytelling. Today, Dr. Terry Tafoya is a part-time researcher at the world-famous Kinsey Institute of Sex Research in Indiana. He is one of the founders of the National Native American AIDS Prevention Center.

He is a psychologist, and he is also a family therapist, working with a number of interracial and multicultural same gender couples. He uses traditional Native American legends and rituals as a regular part of his work. Earlier this year, Terry Tafoya was at the University of Kansas as a featured speaker during Gay and Lesbian Awareness Week.

- [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH]. [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH] in our language means, this is the way it was. It's how we traditionally begin a story.

[DRUMS BEATING]

Long time ago Coyote was traveling along.

[DRUMS BEATING]

Now Coyote, in our language, we call him [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH]. And [NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE] means, one who imitates, one who copies, one who Xerox's because we update these things periodically.

[LAUGHTER]

And Coyote was always trying to do what other people do, always trying to be them. And Coyote, as he was traveling along, he saw something very strange, something very mysterious. He saw [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH]. And [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH] in our language means, a rabbit. But this is no ordinary rabbit. This rabbit was what we call in our language a [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], Indian doctor, medicine person.

As Coyote watched, the rabbit sang, ho, wiki, oh, ho, ho! And the eyes, the rabbit flew out of his head and sat on the branch of a tree and looked down at the Coyote and the rabbit. Now, Coyote was very impressed by this. But as he watched, the rabbit said, [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], which in our language means, come here. And sure enough, the eyes, the rabbit floated down very gently and fell back into the rabbit's eye sockets, the rabbit could see again.

Well, Coyote ran up to the rabbit and said, show me to do the trick, trick, trick, trick, I want learn another trick, show me, show me that trick, show me, just show trick. The rabbit said, no. Coyote said, no, no, really, I want to learn how to do that trick. Show me another trick, show me the trick. The rabbit said, no.

And four times Coyote begged and pleaded to learn this thing, and four times the rabbit said no. But on the fifth time Coyote asked, the rabbit said, I will show you how to do this thing, Coyote, but you must never do it more than four times in one day. If you do it more than four times in one day, something terrible will happen to you. And Coyote said, no problem, no problem, show me the trick.

[LAUGHTER]

And so he learned how to sing the medicine song of the rabbit. And Coyote sang, ho, we, ho, ho, ho, ho! And sure enough, Coyote's eyes flew out of his head and sat on the branch of a tree and looked down at Coyote and the rabbit. And then Coyote said, [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], come here. And sure enough, the eyes of Coyote floated down just gently like this, and fell back into the eye sockets of the Coyote and then Coyote could see again.

Well, Coyote decided to practice this again. In the meantime, rabbit left to go into another legend, and Coyote, he practiced this the second time.

[LAUGHTER]

[DRUMS BEATING]

He did it a third time.

[DRUMS BEATING]

He did it a fourth time.

[DRUMS BEATING]

Then he thought, why am I wasting my time doing this here where nobody can admire me, nobody can see how clever I am. They don't even have evaluation forms for me.

[LAUGHTER]

And so he went out looking for the closest village of Indian people. He called them all up together, and he said, now, check this out, which is again loosely translated from our language. And they all gathered together, and Coyote sang, ho, we, oh, ho, ho! And sure enough, Coyote's eyes flew out of his head and sat on the branch of a tree, and all the Indian people were impressed by this, just like, right now, if my eyes roll out on this podium, you'd be impressed too.

And Coyote said, that's nothing. Now watch this. And Coyote said, [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], come here. And nothing happened. And Coyote said, [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], to hurry up, get down here! But nothing happened. The eyes just sat up there, looking at everybody, wouldn't budge. And all the Indian people, they could take a joke, so they left and they went home.

And just about then, a crow was flying by, and the crow saw Coyote's eyes and thought, mm, lunch, swooped down and ate Coyote's eyes and flew away. And now Coyote was blind he had no eyes. Now, Coyote doesn't like to suffer in silence, so all the time he was suffering like this, he was going, oh, oh, [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH].

Now, this is one of those awkward things, in terms of translation, from one language to another. This is a pun. And one of the things you find about humor is, if it takes longer to explain a pun than to say it, then it's really not worth it.

[LAUGHTER]

So trust me on this one.

[LAUGHTER]

And so Coyote was going around, going, oh, oh, [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], and someone heard him. That person was little [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], little mouse. And mouse said, what's the matter with you, Coyote? How come you screaming around like that? And Coyote go, oh, oh, [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], got no eyes, have to feel my way around like this, I'm blind, just pitiful.

And so little mouse thought about this for a while and took pity on Coyote, and said, [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], why, you poor, pitiful thing. I'll tell you what. I've got two eyes, I'll share one of my eyes with you. And so little mouse gifted one of his eyes to Coyote.

Now, a mouse is so small, it'll fit in the palm of my hand. Coyote's about the size of a small German Shepherd. And so when the mouse took out his eye and gave it to Coyote, it was so tiny that when Coyote dropped into his eye sock, saw kind of rolled around like a BB shot, like little tiny bead. And the eye was so small it hardly let in any light at all, that for Coyote was like looking through a little bitty hole. Coyote could just barely see how this mouse saw. It was really only good for seeing things close up, and he was still having to feel his way around.

And so all the time he was walking around with his mouse eye, was going, oh, oh, [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH]. And someone else heard him. And someone else was [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], the buffalo. And so [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], the buffalo, said, what's the matter with you, Coyote? How come you screaming around like that? And Coyote said, oh, oh, [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], all I got to see with is a mouse eye, so small.

[LAUGHTER]

Like looking through this little bitty hole, hardly lets in any light at all. Just barely see, I have to feel my way around like this. And so [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], the buffalo, took pity on Coyote, and said, ah, [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], you poor pitiful thing. I'll tell you what I'll do. I've got two eyes, I'll share one of my eyes with you.

And so [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], the buffalo, took one of his eyes and gifted it to Coyote. Now, is are the size of small German Shepherd, and the buffalo is about the size of Volkswagen van.

[LAUGHTER]

And so when the buffalo took out his eye and gifted it to Coyote, it was large it wouldn't all fit in Coyote's eye socket, half of it hung out here on his cheek.

[LAUGHTER]

And it was so large, it let in twice as much light as Coyote was used to. And Coyote was blinded by all that light. Coyote was having a terrible headache with these mismatched eyes, and he finally just gave up, and he through the eyes and the ground. And now he was blind again.

Now, when Coyote can't figure out what to do, he calls his sisters for help. And Coyote had three huckleberry sisters who lived in his stomach because they had housing shortages in those days too.

[LAUGHTER]

And so Coyote called, [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], which means, come here, huckleberries, and, sure enough, they jumped out of his stomach and landed on the ground in front of him. And they said, what is it this time, Coyote? Always bothering us, always asking us what you should do, and every time we tell you what you should do, you always say, I knew it all along, that's what I was going to do anyway.

Well, we're sick and tired of it, Coyote. This time, you just figure it out for yourself. We're not going to help you. and Coyote grew angry with his sisters. Now Coyote has certain powers of his own. And so Coyote started singing, (SINGING) And clouds started forming across the sky. And there's a flash of lightning, the sound of thunder, because Coyote was calling forth hail.

And huckleberries hate hail, because it hurts her little leaves and her little branches. And so his sister said, no, don't call out the hail, Coyote, we know what it is you want to know anyway. You want to know what to do about your eyes. Use flowers for your eyes. And Coyote said, flowers? They said, yeah, use flowers.

Now in our language, they were talking about a very special kind of daisy that we literally still call Coyotes eyes. So this is kind of flower they were talking about. And Coyote said, I knew it all along, that's what I was going to do anyway, and so his sisters got disgusted and jumped back inside of his stomach. And Coyote started feeling his way around, trying to find this special kind of Daisy.

Now it took him a long time to feel a way and find them, but he plucks them out and he stuck them in his eyes, and they worked. He could see with them. And the flower petals were like big, floppy eyelashes around his eyes, but he could really see well with them. He's just proud of himself, walking around looking at stuff.

And this went along until late afternoon when the sun started going down. And this kind of Daisy does something very special when the sun goes down, they close up.

[LAUGHTER]

And Coyote was blind. His sisters had tricked him. And so he had to spend the whole night blind again. The next morning when the sun came out, he was back out in the fields trying to find a special kind of Daisy. And it took him a long time, but he finally found some, put them in and he could see. And so he went out looking for someone to trick.

Now he'd gone out so far, it wasn't until late afternoon he found somebody, was an Indian woman coming down from the side of the mountain, and she'd been picking berries. And she had a big basket on her back. It was just filled with berries. And he says, sorry, he called out to her, and he said, [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], which means, good afternoon. She saw this strange-looking person with the floppy petal eyes, and she said, [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], and he said, [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], which means, how are you.

And she said, [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], OK. And Coyote said, Oh, look over there! Do you see that pheasant? And there was no bird over there. And she said, what pheasant? What bird? And Coyote said, it's the bird behind the tree. Now this is a plateau area of the United States, where there are no trees, it's all flat.

And she said, what tree? And Coyote said, it's the tree behind the mountain! And she said, let me get this straight. You can see a bird that's behind a tree that's behind a mountain? And Coyote said, Yes, yes It's because of my magic flower eyes, so I can see everything. I can even see what your husband is doing while you're working so hard over here.

[LAUGHTER]

And she said, gee, I sure wish I had a set of eyes like that. And Coyote said, you do. I'll tell you what, I'll trade you three and a crutch. Give me your old, ordinary, everyday eyes, and I'll give you my magic flower eyes. And she said, will it hurt? He said, nah, just rip your eyes right out and hand them over.

And she said, well, as long as it won't hurt, and she reached up and she took out her eyes, and gifted them to Coyote. And Coyote treated her with his own eyes, the flower eyes. And now she had flower eyes, and the Coyote had normal eyes again. And she was looking around with her new flower eyes, and just about then, the sun started going down, and her new eyes closed up on her, and she was blind.

And she said, now I know who you are. You're that old trickster that stink Coyote. Well, I don't want these old things, and she threw the flower eyes in the ground. She said, give me my own eyes back. And coyote grew angry with her. And coyote said, you didn't want these eyes, then you'll have no eyes at all. You'll spend all eternity having to feel your way around the way I had to feel my way around.

And he used his [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], his spirit power on her, and she started shrinking. And she grew smaller and smaller and smaller, until she became the person we call in our language, [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH]. And [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH] in English means, snail. And that's why in the day when you see the snail, it still has to feel its way around for all eternity the way the Coyote did. And the basket she carried on her back became the shell that the snail still carries today.

[NON-ENGLISH SPEECH]. [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH] means the story's over. And this is a story I wanted to leave you with. Part of our most sacred teaching is the idea that each one of you listening to the sound of my voice is a sacred being. Each one of you is holy and was made the way that you are by the creator to be who you are, to see the world uniquely through your own set of eyes.

Because those eyes are ethnic, they are spiritual, they are religious, they are culture, they're also sexual. To be able to see the way that you see the world is a sacred way. And the reason why the snail woman is punished is because she was so willing to give her own eyes away.

That the other animal people in the story share their vision, their understanding, and their teachings, but they hold on to themselves so that they enrich vision, but they don't sacrifice their own in terms of acquiring a different way of seeing. And the snail woman was willing to give up her way of being, her unique sacredness in terms of understanding the world.

And there is so much pressure on people to give up their uniqueness, their way of being, who they are, and in doing so, give up that sacredness about them. The idea is that you share your vision. You enrich other people in terms of how you see the world, and you share their vision because they will enrich you.

But you don't give up your way of seeing because that's sacred. No matter who you are, no matter what type of eyes you have, it's a sacred way of being and a sacred way of seeing. [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH], the story is over. Thank you.

[APPLAUSE]

- Dr. Terry Tafoya and a story told to an audience at the University of Kansas during this year's Gay And lesbian Awareness Week. This is Dave Buell for *This Way Out*.

[CRICKETS CHIRPING]

[COYOTE HOWLING]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Thanks for choosing *This Way Out*, the international lesbian and gay radio magazine. This week, Cindy Friedman, Mark Saccomano, Betsy Lemke, Peter Klemm, and Dave Buell contributed program material.

- Judy Small, Yiruma and the Altered Boys, and the Tom Robinson Band performed some of the music you heard, and Kim Wilson composed and performed our theme music. *This Way Out*

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- Audio cassettes of *This Way Out* programs are available by mail, individually or by subscription. Write to us for more information.

- Or write to us with any comments, suggestions, or questions you might have, or just to let us know you're listening. Write to *This Way Out*, post office box 38327, Los Angeles, California, 90038.
- *This Way Out* is produced by Lucia Chappelle.
- And Greg Gordon. And we thank you for listening on KKFI Kansas City.
- WSUY Iowa City.
- And 3CR Melbourne.
- Among others.
- And for supporting this local community radio station.
- To which we know you'll stay tuned.
- Ah, yes. Mary, what was that Indian thing?
- I don't know.
- That was like boring. [LAUGHS] I mean, let's be real, what the hell was that?
- That, I'll have to listen to that later.
- There was a gay American Indian that we tried to get on here one time.
- Yes.
- He moved to Colorado or Chicago or New York, or someplace. He left.
- Mm-hmm.
- Anyway is there like-- could I do like one show without making somebody mad?
- No!
- [LAUGHING] What's this note, hypocrite? What does this mean?
- Oh, I don't know.
- Oh, well, hang on.
- World at this time, the celebration of Pride.
- For and by gay and lesbian people.
- I'm Bruce Reeves.
- And I'm Deborah Bell.
- And we are two of the members of the *Wild and Style Collective*.
- Coming to you every Monday evening at 9:00 PM.

- Featuring a community calendar.

- News.

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