

SPEAKER 1: 91604. This is Pacifica radio KPFK FM 90 in Houston.

NARRATOR: The following program contains language or images of a frank or sensitive nature that may be considered objectionable by some. Listener discretion is advised.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

What do you go for? Go see the show for? Tell the truth, to go to see the beautiful dames.

SPEAKER 2: *Torch Song Trilogy*, the movie is the man's story, a life story, of a man trying to find his place in the world, a world that isn't necessarily built for him. And he builds, because he's brave of spirit and true of heart, builds a place, builds a world within the world for himself to exist.

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

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

SPEAKER 3: The disorders began with a routine police raid on a homosexual bar, The Stonewall, on Christopher Street in the heart of the West Village.

[SCREAMING]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

SPEAKER 4: They've got to understand something! They've got to understand something! We are not talking about crotch politics! This is not a movement from the waist down! We are talking about our right to love, and to choose, and to live! And I don't care about straight tolerance! And I don't care about straight understanding! You better hear me in Washington! We are demanding! We are demanding our civil rights! Go on and say it so they can hear you in the Capitol!

CROWD: (CHANTING) For love and for life, we're not going back! For love and for life, we're not going back! For love and for life, we're not going back! For love and for life, we're not going back!

SPEAKER 5: I think that's right.

SPEAKER 6: I'm here partly tonight to say some good things about Texas. I'm proud to be a Texan. I know that I could not have heard Harvey Milk's challenge to me had not something in my life in this state prepared me to hear the words of freedom that Harvey spoke to us.

I am here tonight, because it is time that all of us who love this state that gave us life, and has nurtured us, and taught us our values, to stand up and claim the history of this state for freedom and justice and human respect away from the forces of narrow mindedness and bigotry that too often dominate the politics of the state of Texas.

HARVEY MILK: Come on out. Join us. Bring a friend.

SPEAKER 7: What do you think about the turnout so far?

HARVEY MILK: Well, it's never enough. Never enough. Never enough.

MARTIN But somewhere I read of the freedom of assembly. Somewhere I read of the freedom of speech. Somewhere I
LUTHER KING read all the freedom of prayer. Somewhere I read that the greatness of America is the right to protest for rights.
JR.:

[APPLAUSE]

SPEAKER 8: But I ask, I ask people all over this country to do one thing. Come out. Come out, America. Come out.

RAY HILL: Well, good evening. Good evening.

BUDDY Oh, God.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: How are you doing, baby?

BUDDY I'm not doing too good.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: Oh, what's wrong?

BUDDY Oh, I don't know.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: Oh, one of those nights?

BUDDY I'm in a blue funk. Can you say blue funk?

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: I think you can.

BUDDY I don't know how to spell that.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: Yeah, don't spell it. Just say it.

BUDDY That's what's going on. I hope everybody out there is doing great. This is *After Hours* radio celebrating live from

JOHNSTON: the heart of Montrose coming at you live on KPFT in Houston 90.1 FM. This morning, we're going to be talking about the 20th anniversary of something called Stonewall.

SPEAKER 8: And I ask--

JIMMY CARPER: What? I hear that daddy's here.

BUDDY I thought Harvey was going to say something else.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: I'm sorry.

BUDDY Well, he probably would if he were here.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: I know he would.

BUDDY I'm sure he would say a lot. How long-- first, I got to say, what happened last week? Because I wasn't here.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: We had a great show.

BUDDY It was fun. You know what I did--

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, celebrating Black History Month.

BUDDY Yeah, it was a good show. You know what I did?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: What did you do?

BUDDY I called in sick, and I got in the Jeep. And I drove around in the Montrose and listened to you guys on the radio.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: No kidding?

BUDDY Yeah, I just-- I don't know. I get tired sometimes of being here and not being able to be out there.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: So you played hooky.

BUDDY Oh, it was wonderful. It's so much fun to listen to this show out there in the streets.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: It sounds different, huh?

BUDDY Yeah, it does. It really does. It was fun.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: We did have a fun time.

BUDDY Does this one work?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: It wasn't the same without you, baby.

BUDDY Really? It was fun. I had fun. But anyway, this is the 20th anniversary of Stonewall KPFT'S beginning its 19th

JOHNSTON: year. Houston Pacific radio is celebrating its 40th anniversary. And we got a lot to talk about this morning. So stay with us. Wait a minute. What?

ROB: Nothing.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh--

ROB: Just looking over your shoulder.

JIMMY CARPER: Rob Ditto just looking over our shoulder. OK, we'll play this. And we'll be back.

I've decided that we're going to play this song from now on. I don't know how long that is. But this is generally what I want to say.

And it's real funny because the group is Yaz. They're from England. And they're-- can you say that word?

ROB: I don't know.

BUDDY (WHISPERING) Homosexual. Can you say that?

JOHNSTON:

ROB: This is Texas.

BUDDY Yeah, you can say homosexual. It's a gay group, and they're openly gay. And they're singing about something called Clause 28 or 29 or some homophobic law that has a lot of gay and lesbian people in Great Britain oppressed right now.

And it's funny as hell to be driving down the street and hear all these other radio stations playing it, singing stand up for you-- and everybody's going yeah, this is great.

JIMMY CARPER: I know it.

BUDDY And they're singing to you, kids. So listen. Listen to the words and get in the spirit. This is *After Hours* on KPFT

JOHNSTON: 526-4000. I want to talk to you right now.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

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

BUDDY You think anybody's getting the message, Jimbo?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Boy, with all of that, I don't know.

BUDDY OK, 526-4000, that's the number to call. Wait a minute. Who's--

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

BUDDY Hello, KPFT, you're on the air.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 1: Yeah, hello. I'm a straight caller. And I was just calling in to say that, first of all, I agree that the anti-sodomy laws and laws like that are oppressive and unfair and people should be allowed to do whatever they want voluntarily.

BUDDY That law affects you too. Did you know that?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 1: Yeah, it does. And I'm aware of that. And I've engaged in such activities. And I'm not ashamed of it.

RAY HILL: Well--

BUDDY Well, I mean, not--

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: No, we understand.

BUDDY Have you got hair on your chest?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 1: The typical heterosexual kind.

BUDDY Have you got hair on your chest? No, never mind.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: No, never mind.

CALLER 1: No, but I've always say that I don't agree with those laws. And I think that they ought to be off the books, and they're wrong. But I would also like to say that I think-- and that's the side of the homosexual movement that I can buy, and that's fine. But the side that really disturbs me is the idea, first of all, that businessmen should not be able to discriminate against homosexuals.

And the reason for that is that homosexuality is actually a set of actions. It's not really something like race, which is just a natural intrinsic part of a human being. You can say that people are born with it or not. That's debatable. I think that if it's true that people are born with it, then once everyone comes out of the closet, all homosexuals will be gone within a generation because they just don't reproduce.

BUDDY Why would that? Wait a minute. Wait a minute. Wait a minute wait. Wait a minute.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 1: Unless they intentionally reproduce.

BUDDY Yeah, but wait a minute. Wait a minute. Wait a minute, OK. Wait a minute.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Wait a minute.

BUDDY I was born in a small town in Arkansas that had 300 people in it, a large percentage I'm sure of who were

JOHNSTON: heterosexual. I went to a school that was taught by-- and we were in a heterosexual neighborhood. There were no gay bars in my neighborhood when I grew up 35 years ago.

There were no gay radio stations to listen to. There was nothing that would have influenced me to be homosexual. Yet, I was feeling these feelings when I was 14 and 15-years-old. How do you explain that?

CALLER 1: Well, like I said, it may be true. But if it is true, then homosexuals will probably disappear from the face of the Earth within a generation.

BUDDY Well, wait a minute.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 1: So it's becoming accepted. And then they'll get stopped. Because a lot of homosexuals have gotten married because they either feel guilty or they don't know they're homosexual supposedly or something like that.

BUDDY Where do you think--

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 1: And it's of course--

BUDDY Where do you think we come from?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 1: Huh?

BUDDY Where do you think we come from? You said we can't reproduce.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: What is the Genesis of homosexuals?

CALLER 1: Well, it's obviously passed-- well, if you're born with it, then it's passed on genetically. And that's the point.

BUDDY Yeah, but who-- I'm not passing it on to anybody. Well, I can't say that.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 1: The point is that if homosexuals come out of the closet [INAUDIBLE] heterosexual behavior--

RAY HILL: Let's get back to the business people argument, all right?

CALLER 1: OK.

RAY HILL: Let's get back to the business. I don't-- I really don't disagree with what you have to say. But if people are going to leave us out of their employment policies, then they ought not to be really hacked off when we leave them out of our buying policies.

CALLER 1: Well, that's true. And you have every right to boycott whoever you want to.

RAY HILL: Brought Coors beer to their knees in five years.

CALLER 1: Well, are you saying you already have or--

RAY HILL: We brought-- they came to this radio station and gave me their sword.

BUDDY Do you--

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 1: Really?

RAY HILL: That's right.

BUDDY Do you know what percentage--

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 1: Do you know it works, and that's your right because you have--

RAY HILL: So-- so-- so-- so--

CALLER 1: We'll just say the people have a right to associate with whoever they want to. And if they don't want to employ someone for any reason--

BUDDY Wait a minute.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 1: --they should still have that right.

BUDDY Do you know what percentage of the country, though, is gay or lesbian? Do you know what percentage?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 1: Well, I don't think anyone knows that.

BUDDY Well, the Kinsey Report--

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: The Kinsey Report gave a pretty good hint.

BUDDY --from the late '50s.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: In the first place, there are so few exclusive heterosexuals out there that it makes me wonder about what interesting experiences you've had that I might be interested in.

CALLER 1: Well, I am really heterosexual.

RAY HILL: Yeah, huh, uh-huh. Yeah, I think maybe you stay up until the middle of the night to listen to this program to explain how heterosexual you are.

BUDDY Listen, thanks for calling.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: And you're not motivated by staying up until the middle of the night to listen to this program. So that you can call us and explain how heterosexual you are.

BUDDY Hang on just a minute.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: He thinks you protest a bit much, darling.

BUDDY Hang on a minute. This is Ray Hill. And he's the president of the Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus. And we'll be back with him in just a minute. As you can see, it's going to be an interesting, interesting evening.

Romanovsky and Phillips coming up next. 526-4000. We want to hear from you. Stay tuned because we're going to have a--

[MUSIC PLAYING]

(SINGING) Give me a guy who's glad to be gay. [LAUGHS] Bong, bum, bum, da, da dum, bum, bum, bum. Romanovsky and Phillips and "Give Me a Homosexual." We got in trouble for playing that one time, right?

RAY HILL: Really?

BUDDY Yeah, because--

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: Por qué?

BUDDY Oh, they said-- what did they say? How straight do they look when they're down on their knees or something.

JOHNSTON: And some woman called up and said, all they were talking about was, ta, ta, ta, ta, ta, ta, ta, ta.

RAY HILL: I remember her.

BUDDY I got called in on the carpet.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: I remember she used to be a member of Newtown Association--

BUDDY I got called in on the carpet.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: --before they died.

BUDDY I said I didn't do that. Anyway, we're very pleased this morning. Well, I'm always glad to have Ray here. But I

JOHNSTON: want to say--

RAY HILL: Well, it's a real honor to be up at 2 o'clock in the morning, whether I'm on the show or not. But being up at 2 o'clock in the morning.

BUDDY I just want to say that it's nice to have you here as president of the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus. It's no secret to my audience and to a lot of my friends and to a lot of other people that we've not had a very good rapport. Is that the right word?

RAY HILL: Well, you've had--

BUDDY We've been misunderstood like Dr. Pepper.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: I mean, if you attend many caucus meetings, you hear this scratching sound--

BUDDY What is that, Ray?

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: --clawing at a closet door. After the referendum, the series of presidents that followed that we're all wonderful people. I worked with them all in that. But they thought that the thing to do following the referendum was to walk very quietly and carry no stick at all.

BUDDY And just kind of blend in?

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: Right, kind of blend in because they thought otherwise might fan the flames of prejudice. And prejudice as a result of the referendum had already burnt the house down. And so I resisted that as a member of the caucus and finally, got a hold of the fly stick myself. And I'm having a wonderful time and things are not quiet at the caucus.

BUDDY I was working at the police department as a dispatcher when all that was going on. And I remember the night of the referendum, it came across the computer 78% against the queers. And Roger and I were living out at Highway 6 in Mission Bend. And I cried from 61 Riesner until I got to Highway 6--

RAY HILL: In heavy traffic.

BUDDY --in heavy traffic. But Katy Freeway was all torn up, holding that piece of paper in my hand that said 78% against the queers. And I believe that's the first time I had called the caucus because I was so angry and wanted to do something. And I felt so helpless.

RAY HILL: Well, you think you felt helpless. I was on the inside at the time. And my instructions were shut up, sit on your hands, and don't say anything because we don't want to make them angry. And Houstonians will vote for our rights because they're going to be asked to do that by Baptist ministers from Beaumont. And gay people should low profile it.

And that's not the history of any referendum that we have ever won in this country. The referendums that we have won are where gay men and lesbians literally get out and touch people and introduce people and tell people that they are gay because you see you can know one gay person and get a real distorted image about what gay people are like. Or, you can know no gay people and get an even more distorted image because what you get is what they say from the pulpit of first and second Baptist church, which is really sick and twisted.

But if you know five gay people, then it's hard to tell your gay friends from your straight friends because gay people-- if you know five of them, there's going to be enough diversity in that group that gay people will show up acting just like and being just like everybody else.

BUDDY And you know this from experience because we've been so close over the last year or so. When I started doing this program working for the police department, I was afraid they were going to bust in here and kill us all. And I come to find out that all I got from the people that HPD and the other people I worked with was respect.

And most of the flack or most of the negative response we've gotten over the last year or two years has been from the word queers that are not happy with their sexuality that can't-- what's the word?

RAY HILL: Right, well, it's a range of things. In the first place, you take people like Steven Hotze who spend a large part of their daily lives worrying about what homosexuals are doing. It's not my gayness.

BUDDY He's a very straight slate.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: Yeah, he's a straight slate, not. It's not my gayness that drives Steven Hotze. What drives Steven Hotze is the internal conflict; otherwise, he wouldn't have that much energy for it in trying to resolve that.

And so people who are the greatest danger to gay men and lesbians are the men and women who are either so avidly protecting their closets if they think that my and your being openly gay is a threat to them personally or the people who have not resolved those internal conflicts because we were talking about the Kinsey Report early.

Kinsey Report is a scale from one to seven, from zero to actually. Exclusively heterosexual was zero. And exclusively homosexual was seven. And most of the people in this population fell somewhere between two and five. And so on that scale, everybody out there, or virtually everybody, deals with their homosexual attraction. And my God, making the bar tour tonight, occasionally I saw some women that would make me want to be a lesbian.

BUDDY You went on the bar tour tonight touring bars, promoting the March on--

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: March on Austin.

BUDDY --Austin, which we'll talk about later. You told me you saw the faces of-- how many gays and lesbian people there?

RAY HILL: Eight to ten 10,000 gay men and lesbians I saw and got to talk to with the microphones in the various bars tonight. And what I saw were healthy, happy, excited, dancing, cheering, loving, touching, feeling, beautiful, and some not so beautiful, and some sad, and some people that had serious health problems. But overall, I saw enough people to build an army of warriors.

BUDDY Eight to 10,000. You were in Washington in '87, right, and, of course, '79? You know what I enjoyed the most

JOHNSTON: about the parade last year other than throwing the rubbers and the beads at the people going down West Highway was when the parade was over and we met across the street at the Disco Kroger parking lot across from that. I was standing up in the back of the Jeep and watching as 20,000 gay people filled that parking lot. And that multitude of people we felt like such a community. It was just wonderful.

RAY HILL: There's not enough room there to do what you want to do with it in a crowd is a terrible thing to waste.

BUDDY Yeah, it was incredible.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: The thing about it is that there's not enough room and not enough sound system every year to accommodate and excite that crowd. And people's immediate reaction is well, we don't want to get too political. Let me tell you, with our people, politics is exciting because they've got everything to gain and at this point nothing to lose in politics.

BUDDY Talking with Ray Hill, formerly of the prison program.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: No, I still do the prison program.

BUDDY He does the prison program.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: Used to be with the *Wilde 'N Stein* show.

BUDDY Used to be?

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: Yeah, I'm retired from the *Wilde 'N Stein*. I felt that maybe it was a conflict to be a regular programmer. I hope Jack invites me back as a guest from time to time.

BUDDY Oh, I'm sure he will. But Ray does the prison program here on this afternoon as a matter of fact on KPFT. And

JOHNSTON: right now newly elected president of the Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus. We got more music for you. But we've got somebody here that's been holding on for us. KPFT, you're on the air.

CALLER 2: Yes, I would just like to mention I know that this country is kind of on a swing to the right, right now. But I work at a very conservative company. It's a school that teaches in automotive and diesel technology, which you could imagine. It could be very conservative.

I fired a person the other day. And when they walked out the door, they practically screamed in the front office because I don't try to hide. I'm not openly-- I sit around the office and scream that yes, I'm gay. But when this person was fired, when he walked out the front door, the first thing he said was, I don't want to work for no faggot.

And either everyone knew and didn't pay any attention to it or they didn't care, one or the other. And I think that something is important-- there was an article in 1978 in *Texas Monthly*, which I do think is a very good magazine. And it was maybe the article was, what do these Texas men have in common? And it was that they're gay.

And it said that one thing about the gay subculture is that no matter what force of outrage is directed against it, it's not going to disappear. So people should just learn to live with it because no matter what they gripe and B-I-T-C-H about--

BUDDY You can say bitch.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: You can say bitch.

CALLER 2: Bitch about.

RAY HILL: As matter of fact, I can sit here and be one.

[LAUGHTER]

CALLER 2: We're not going anywhere. Aren't I correct?

BUDDY You're right.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: You're right. You're absolutely right. And the thing about it is that if more gay and lesbian people realized that we're always going to be here and that the best thing they could do to win the respect of their gay and non-gay friends is to get rid of that closet door.

CALLER 2: Well, I think a good thing for every gay person to do if they have not, and they may think this is probably the best thing for every gay person to do, lesbian and gay man is to see *The Times of Harvey Milk* because it's a movie, not only is it stirring being gay. It also makes a lot of good points to the fact that he says that if we were raised to our culture and our influences by schoolteachers and what have you, we'd all be nuns.

BUDDY That's right.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: That's right because at one time all of the education in this country was either Catholic schools with nuns or public schools with schoolmarm. And we did not raise several generations of unmarried women.

CALLER 2: Exactly. I think that some of my friends consider me radical because writing letters to the post and writing letters to *The Chronicle*. I've even wrote letters to *Time* and *Newsweek*. And they've never been published of course. I've even written letters to the *TWT* in basically putting down the gay system as itself because I think that there's unfair [INAUDIBLE] in there as well.

RAY HILL: There's discrimination [INAUDIBLE].

BUDDY We'll talk about that later.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: Yeah, we've got to address that.

CALLER 2: And they don't even print some of the letters, right?

BUDDY Listen, I have had more letters--

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: Well, let me get you the secret to writing letters-- keep it brief, keep it short, and know the editor.

CALLER 2: Well, this is true. And also--

BUDDY That's the biggest problem.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 2: If they don't advertise in there, then you have a better chance I'm sure to--

BUDDY They don't print my letters either. So don't feel bad.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 2: That's beside the point. But the thing is it is true is that we're all here. We're going to stay here. And people can put up all the fights that they want, and we're not going anywhere.

BUDDY Listen, when you fired the guy and he walked out of the office and yells faggot at you, how did you feel?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 2: It was funny because I know my position at this place. And yeah, there's a few people there who know that I'm gay. And when he yelled it, I thought it really didn't bother me. I just thought these people know our reputation here. And besides, if they fire me for that, then I've got them in a basket anyway. They feel [INAUDIBLE], and that's that.

BUDDY Well, listen, baby. Thanks for calling. Have a good morning.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 2: You, too.

BUDDY 526-4000, that's the number to call. Talking to Ray Hill. And we're going to be hopefully talking to you.

JOHNSTON:

We've got more music from Michael Callan, a song called "Where The Boys Are." Does that sound like fun?

RAY HILL: Oh, yeah, it's a good one.

BUDDY But first, I want to listen to Joe Watts talking about those sweet young Texas men.

JOHNSTON:

MAN: The Seminole kid.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

BUDDY That was making my feet hurt. Michael Callan from the album *Purple Heart* and "Where The Boys Are." It's real nice to read this dedication on the album.

It says, these days I have two main goals in life to live long enough to be eligible for membership and sage at senior action in a gay environment and to help make the world a safer place for queers. I thought maybe music was a good place to begin. One final thought, our diversity is our strength. Let it not also be our weakness. Anyway--

RAY HILL: I was at the Leadership Conference when Callan came in.

BUDDY The war conference?

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: Yeah, the war conference in some real kind of elegant place outside of Washington DC, and Michael Callan came in. And he was just fixing to come out with this album. And so somebody said, what are you going back to singing? He said, well, I got tired of waiting around to die with this AIDS. And that wasn't happening fast enough.

BUDDY Ain't he wonderful?

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: And so I decided to go back to singing. And he came up with this wonderful album.

BUDDY I talked to him on the phone. He holds that note for about 19 seconds. It's Barbra Streisand did something. I

JOHNSTON: don't know the name of the song. He was telling me where she holds a note for like 17 point something seconds. And he wanted to outdo Barbra.

RAY HILL: Streisand, huh?

BUDDY KPFT.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 3: Yeah, I would just like to say a couple of things. First off, Ray, I stand behind everything that you do for this community. I think you're doing a fantastic job.

RAY HILL: Gosh, you're doing better than I do because I don't know [INAUDIBLE] support what I do.

CALLER 3: The topics that you speak on at the different places that you go, like on the bar run and talking about the march on Austin, that had to be the best thing I've ever heard in a long time.

BUDDY What did you hear them at?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 3: Well, a friend of mine came in was telling me about the run that they had made. And he was at one of the clubs. And he was telling me all the stuff that they had said because I had to work tonight. And I didn't get to make it. And another thing is that the radio station, this radio station I think is one of the best things that's come along in a long time also because I was listening to it earlier. And I had a customer come into my store. And she had had the audacity to tell me to turn off that faggot S word.

RAY HILL: The S word, right.

CALLER 3: And I told her, I said, well, I work here. You don't. You don't pay my bills. I do. You don't live my life. I do. If you don't like it, you can go to another store. She got very offensive and started calling me vulgar names, calling me faggot and queer and I was going to burn in hell. I said yeah, obviously, I am. And I will see you right behind me.

BUDDY You should of told my mom I said hi.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 3: But I thought I would just say that, BUDDY JOHNSTON, you're doing a fantastic job. And I really admire you for a lot of the backbone that you have to stand up to a lot of people the way that you do.

RAY HILL: Do you mind if I tell you a little something? Because Pacifica is one of my first loves. All right, I helped a group of people found this radio station way back in '68 and was active in it two years before we went on the air the first time. I mean, that's not before we were bombed the first time and then bombed the second time. I was in prison when we got back on the air in those times.

But the interesting thing about KPFT is that it was founded out of the genius of a man in San Francisco who committed suicide when they threatened to expose him as a gay man. And throughout the history of Pacifica Foundation, gay men and lesbians have played significant roles in significant periods of development. And I consider it one of the great honors of my life to have been manager of this radio station for two years in 1980 and '81.

And you will hear things on KPFT that are very offensive to gay people. And you will hear ideas on KPFT that are diametrically opposed to what you hear on BUDDY JOHNSTON show or even my prison show. But we feel in our institution that the freedom of expression is so valuable that even ideas that are offensive to us are worthy of broadcast and must be protected.

And that's the kind of people gay men and lesbians are. It's very special, wonderful people. And that's why it's always a pleasure and a high honor to be able to serve their interests politically.

CALLER 3: That's great.

BUDDY Listen, I have some good news for you. I got the albums last week from [INAUDIBLE].

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 3: Oh.

BUDDY So I have your record.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 3: Good.

BUDDY You may have to go out with me though to get it. I'm being mean to him because last week when I was off running around, I walked into the store.

CALLER 3: At home in bed sick, huh?

BUDDY I walked into his store because I found out which one it was. And he was listening to the show. And I said-- I bought a soda or something. And he rang it up. And he said is that all? I said, I don't know. How much are you?

CALLER 3: No, you said, are you-- I rang it up. It was \$0.86. And he said is that a yes or no? And I went yes.

BUDDY And I tried to pick him up and get him on a date. He had to go. And then I said, well, what are you listening to on the radio?

And he said, oh, this gay program called *After Hours* on KPFT, da, da, da, da. I said, oh, really? I've never heard that. And I said--

CALLER 3: That's when I finally realized who it was walking out the door--

BUDDY He said, who does that?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 3: [INAUDIBLE] home in bed sick.

BUDDY He said, who does that? I said, I don't know. I said, well, what's your name? He said, well, my name is Curt
JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: See, that's not--

BUDDY And I said, well, my name is BUDDY JOHNSTON.
JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: That's not really a story, that home and sick business. That is what radio personalities have to hide behind sometimes.

BUDDY Yeah, every once in awhile, we have to take the day off. Listen, thanks for calling. I want to talk to you later.
JOHNSTON:

What time is it? 12 minutes before 3:00. News time coming up at 3:00.

And then hopefully, we'll be back to talk serious business about the parade and the caucus and find out what's in store for the caucus as they begin their push toward the 20th anniversary of Stonewall. You guys don't understand really who's in the studio with me this morning. When I was getting ready for a trip to Arkansas in 1977, maybe, I don't know. I think it's '77 or '76.

But anyway, I was making cassette tapes to listen to. And as I was turning the dial back and forth recording different things from different stations, I heard some guy on the radio yelling and screaming about the police and how the police had raided our bars and how we just weren't going to take it anymore and how that as gay people we should all band together. And I thought that was wonderful for two reasons. One, because I was gay and very proud of what I was.

I didn't really understand how enormous the movement was and what a part of it I should have been earlier in my life. But the second was working for the police department. I really felt close to this guy.

Well, I found out his name was Ray Hill. And after being involved at KPFT and digging through the archives of Pacifica, we couldn't even begin to tell you this morning all the things that Ray Hill's done for us. And he may not admit to that. And he's a lot more modest than I am. But we know--

RAY HILL: BUDDY, that's not fair. People accuse me of being modest.

BUDDY We owe you a great deal because at times when other people have sat by and kept their mouths shut for
JOHNSTON: whatever reason, you were always there one way or the other speaking out for us and on our behalf and that means a lot. And I know it hasn't been easy. I know it's been a struggle.

RAY HILL: Well, it's--

BUDDY Why the hell have you done it?
JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: It's certainly not because of the money.

BUDDY Why have you, Ray, stuck with it so much?
JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: Well, I think I operate on a certain amount of anger. And I am a kind of an empathic personality. I feel the pain that people experience. I mean, right now there's a young man down on the Ramsey unit of Texas Department of Corrections in a solitary cell.

He's been charged with aggravated, attempted aggravated capital murder of a guard for spitting at the guard while the inmate was infected with HIV. And I've been checking into that. And the young man has just literally been tortured for a long time.

And I don't really know whether Curtis Weeks would admit to being gay or even if he is gay. I just know that there is a human being who is being tortured, and maligned, and accused of attempting to do something that he couldn't possibly do. You don't spread AIDS by spitting at guards, especially those bending over you with a video camera while you are handcuffed with your hands behind you, and shackled, and laying on the floor after having been kicked.

BUDDY JOHNSTON: That's one of the reasons that I wasn't here last week because we don't get paid anything for being here. We're all volunteers. And we're down here every Sunday.

There's a whole cast of people running around here, handing me notes and answering the phones and doing all kinds of things. And nobody gets paid anything. And we knock ourselves out.

And as a human being, it's really discouraging sometimes. And I get really discouraged. But as I was sitting home last Sunday feeling sorry for myself and not wanting to come down and do the show, about 20 minutes until 2:00, I got a telephone call from a very young voice that said he was almost 17. And he lived in Brookshire, and he'd been listening to us for about a year. And he loved the show, and he wanted to tell me how important it was to him that we were here every week.

And as you listen now, we want you to understand that you are a part of this movement. You're a part of our lives. Although you may not have gotten involved yet, you will because you taste that freedom. You taste that urgency to be near the 20,000 gay and lesbian people that we spoke about in the parking lot.

RAY HILL: Understand that nobody is going to give you freedom. Freedom is not something that is passed out like a day old bread.

BUDDY It's true.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: Your independence, your freedom, your power is not going to be handed to you by another person. Those things must be declared. You declare your freedom.

You declare your power. And then you have to struggle for it. And you can win and lose those struggles. But it's yours. And when you achieve it, no one in the world-- I don't care what they do-- can take it away from you.

BUDDY Well, that's the truth.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: I have been sentenced to 160 years of hard prison time in Texas. And I haven't spent a moment not being free.

BUDDY Mark Timmers was in here a couple of weeks ago. And that poor guy has been through so much garbage over the
JOHNSTON: last couple of years with that damn harassment from--

RAY HILL: HPD.

BUDDY --internal affairs and HPD. And I worked down there. And 90% of those people are good people trying to do their
JOHNSTON: job. But that 10% causes hell for everybody, not just the gay people, but everybody. And Mark stuck it out and held his head up high and was cleared of everything.

RAY HILL: I mean, you don't get more innocent than not guilty. That's as innocent as you get.

BUDDY I asked him, I said, Mark, how do you feel? And he said I feel relieved. He said, but I really am glad that you were
JOHNSTON: there and this and that. I said, listen, I really wasn't. You were there for yourself. And you stood up for yourself. And that's what's important. And that's what we want to encourage you to do this morning.

RAY HILL: And we're not through with the Timmers case.

BUDDY Oh, God, no.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: Timmers is going to be a professional in law enforcement. And he's going to prosper well. It's going to take us a while to clear out the political and the prejudicial cobwebs. But I--

BUDDY It will happen.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: All of those on notice--

BUDDY It will happen.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: --that we are up for that fight. And we will win that fight as well.

BUDDY And while we're talking about Mark, I'll tell you, if you're a police officer and you're listening and you know
JOHNSTON: anybody in the public information office, you can tell them that I said this on the radio. Back last summer when we did the first show with Mark, we tried to get his photograph from public information office, Al Baker and Mosier-- what's his name? Jason Mosier?

RAY HILL: JC Mosier. Ran for sheriff.

BUDDY He was running for sheriff. But they wouldn't give it to us because they didn't want a photograph of an openly
JOHNSTON: gay police officer being published. But we did it anyway. It was in the *TWT* last week because Mark had his own pictures.

But we will get the picture from HPD somehow. I went down and talked to Vince Ryan. I'm going to go to city council not this week but the next week. And if it takes standing down in front of City Hall and walking around with placards that say we need Mark Timmers' picture and why is HPD so homophobic, that's what it's going to take.

But we're not going to give up. And as Ray said, the Timmers case is long but over. It's just begun.

RAY HILL: It's just begun.

BUDDY And this time it's all on his side.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: We're on a roll.

BUDDY Somebody-- is somebody waiting to get on the air?

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: Nothing succeeds like success.

BUDDY Timmy, is somebody waiting to get on? They've got this great cast they were just pointing.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: There's a bunch of people out there. And you never mentioned about earlier-- well, maybe you do mention. But earlier, there is a woman out there. And it's very important. She and I were fixing to caucus and start a stink because you said all of us guys.

BUDDY This one? Yeah, she does it to me. I say guys out of habit. And then she gives me a dirty look and goes girls.

JOHNSTON: KPFT, you're on the air.

RAY HILL: I remember him.

BUDDY That's my mom.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: I remember him. I made him out of the rest area.

BUDDY OK.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: We had such a good time.

WOMAN: [INAUDIBLE], Ray.

RAY HILL: Well, he just kept on giggling and giggling and giggling. And I've never been so flattered in my life.

BUDDY Listen, we were accused a couple of weeks ago of trying to solicit sex also. And we haven't done that yet. But

JOHNSTON: we're going to do that later. Rob Ditto who does the afterwards program, we've decided--

RAY HILL: Play this program backwards.

BUDDY Yeah, we've decided that we want to get husbands. And we're going to just--

JOHNSTON:

WOMAN: Wait a second.

BUDDY Wait a minute.

JOHNSTON:

WOMAN: What about a wife?

BUDDY Let me talk. We've decided that we want to get husbands. So since we're here, we're going to use our position--

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: Are there any left?

BUDDY No.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: That's like *Doonesbury*. I mean, all the good men are either gay or married. And some of them are both.

BUDDY We're not going to just take what comes along, though. We're going to have applications. We're going to accept applications for a couple of months.

And we got this idea from watching an old rerun of *Wayland Flowers and Madam* on USA the other day. She took-- Madam took applications and selected the best choice for husbands. But that's what we're going to do. We're going to do that after the news or something. Hello, you're on the air.

CALLER 4: Hi.

BUDDY Hi.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 4: Can you hear me?

BUDDY Uh-huh.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 4: I'm sorry I'm sounding so distorted. I'm outside watching the [INAUDIBLE] race their cars.

RAY HILL: In this kind of weather?

CALLER 4: No, I'm sitting in the car with the heater on.

RAY HILL: Oh, OK.

BUDDY All right.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 4: You wouldn't believe what these dope fiends are doing. Child, they're wearing me out.

BUDDY [LAUGHS]

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 4: And I'm no better. You know, I done smoked a few squares. I'm just coming in from an evening with the girls. You know how we do. And I just had to come down the street when HPD goes by.

RAY HILL: Doo, doo, doo, doo, doo.

BUDDY Well, listen--

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 4: They want to [INAUDIBLE]-- excuse me. They want to mess with me. But I don't know why they're messing with me. [INAUDIBLE]. But the [INAUDIBLE] over here, business is booming.

RAY HILL: Oh, well--

BUDDY Business is booming. [LAUGHS]

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: [INAUDIBLE] excited about that.

BUDDY Listen, thanks for calling, baby.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 4: Oh. Oh. By the way, before I go, I'd like to say I love the movie. Remember you met me there?

BUDDY Uh-huh.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 4: Me and my Buddy.

BUDDY: Yeah.

CALLER 4: I was wondering, did you still have any of the compact disk version to the soundtrack available?

BUDDY Yes, I do.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 4: Is there any way I can be bathe, clean, or polish your toenails and I can get a copy?

[LAUGHTER]

BUDDY We'll open the begging--

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 4: I just lost my own copy [INAUDIBLE].

BUDDY We'll open the begging and pleading lines here in just a little bit, OK.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 4: OK. So I'll back, and then you'll put me on hold.

BUDDY All right, well you call back when we open the lines. We'll do that in the last half hour.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 4: OK, love.

BUDDY All right, dear.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER 4: Bye-bye.

RAY HILL: You late night programmers have too much fun.

BUDDY You know it. You're talking about *Torch Song Trilogy*. I think it's playing like a couple more weeks at Cineplex
JOHNSTON: Odeon. Also, Sound Warehouse at Farnham-- is that right-- Farnham down by the Southwest Freeway, they have the soundtrack on sale.

It's like-- I don't know how much it is. But it's a bargain. And it's on sale down there now.

And it'll be on sale until Tuesday. So if you haven't got the *Torch Song* album. And Larry Lash, my dear friend in New York, will appreciate that since he produced that album. Larry is going to be here in three weeks. What? We got to do the news. What's this?

RAY HILL: Yeah, Ryan.

RYAN: That's you.

RAY HILL: OK, oh, that's--

BUDDY Somebody wants to say hi to you.

JOHNSTON:

RAY HILL: Oh, is Robert out there, this other one? Hi, Robert.

BUDDY Well, Kay-- where's Kay? Kay, are you in there?

JOHNSTON:

KAY: Hello.

BUDDY Kay, who is this we're going to listen to before the news?

JOHNSTON:

KAY: Her name is Tret Fure. And she's a Canadian singer, and she's wonderful. And it's a fun song.

BUDDY What's the name of the song?

JOHNSTON:

KAY: "Tight Black Jeans."

BUDDY OK, the news is coming up next and "Tight Black Jeans" coming at you. This is KPFT Houston 90.1 FM.

JOHNSTON:

[MUSIC PLAYING]