

[THEME MUSIC PLAYING]

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- Can I tell you what the gay movement's about? After I got elected, I got the phone call I knew I'd eventually get. Got quite a few of them.

[PHONE RINGING]

One was from a 17-year-old child in a small town in Minnesota.

[BACKGROUND CONVERSATION]

And the boy is handicapped. And the boy's parents found out he's gay. And they want to put him in an insane asylum. And that boy needs help.

And the gay movement is about the letter I got from southwest Africa, when he read about a gay person getting elected here. And that person has hope. And that 17-year-old kid in Minnesota has hope.

And we have gay leaders not understanding that and are more worried about their own personal power. They're not gay leaders. They're offensive.

- 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 and this state prepared me to hear the word 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.

[APPLAUSE]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Romanovsky & Phillips from the album, *Be Political Not Polite* and *Queers In The Closet*.

- Yeah, we don't play that too often.

- No, but we should.

- Yeah.

- This really chaps me, this thing right here, Houston Area Support Your Local Police Committee. It's because I happen to be a member of the Houston police department as a dispatcher. And I also happen to be a member of the gay and lesbian community here in Houston.

And recently, Chief Watson, along with the staff over there at HPD, decided that-- well, really after the Paul Broussard killing and the subsequent march by Queer Nation and all those things that happened, and they saw 2,000 gay and lesbian people screaming in the middle of Westheimer, they decided that they should address the issue of sensitivity toward the gay and lesbian community, which makes a lot of sense.

- Yeah, they saw 2,000. They still don't have it in their heads that there are 400,000.

- No, they don't realize that yet.

- In Houston.

- But anyway, the Houston Police Officers Association said that their union member, their association members, could not attend sensitivity training relating to gay and lesbian people because they were Christians.

- Yeah.

- They went against the teachings of the Bible.

- Well, I have issue with that.

- You got, like, good Christian people like--

- If you're going to be a--

- --Jimmy Swaggart [INAUDIBLE].

- If you're going to be a policeman, then isn't it your job to protect all of the people?

- But anyway.

- And if you can't, if you have a problem with that, then maybe you shouldn't be a police officer.

- This is the press release that we were just handed, The Houston Area Support Your Local Police Committee. And it says-- the headline is Jeffrey Dahmer Murders Linked to Gay Sensitivity Training, says police support group. This is a quote, "there is a definite connection between the fact that the Milwaukee Police Department had just completed gay sensitivity training and the fact that certain patrolmen ignored the pleas for help from a Laotian American teen."

They turned their back on-- to a grisly death at mass murderer Jeffrey Dahmer's hands. These patrolmen had been taught that a bleeding, naked male youth in the street was somehow normal, just evident of a homosexual lovers' quarrel. That's all.

And now mayor Cathy Whitmire and Police Chief Elizabeth Watson are attempting to foist such a program on the fine officers of the Houston Police Department, says HK Searle III, chairman of The Houston Area Support Your Local Police Committee. Searle III, a former Houston city patrolman and currently a commercial photographer salesman, further explained, quote, "I'm concerned for the future of this city and Houston and the families that live here. If this program is implemented, then our police department will become sitting ducks for every minority group with such a grievance.

Since homosexuals are lawbreakers by definition, it would just be as logical for murderers, rapists, and drug dealers to demand their own program to sensitize our police officers to their alternative lifestyles. Respect for law enforcement would then collapse and lawlessness would prevail. As you know, he continued, the federal government would step in to fix the problem by establishing a national police force, one of the main hallmarks of modern tyranny.

That's why I and other like minded individuals of the law enforcement and business communities have formed The Houston Area Support Your Local Police Committee. Our first order of business will be to combat the anti-police, pro-gay bias in the Mayor's office that has been the local instigator behind programs like this. Our committee is calling a press conference to announce its position, document its charges, and to lay out its actions, concluded Searle."

This is for Tuesday, October the 15th, at 2:00 PM at Stouffer's Hotel in Greenway Plaza. For more information, it says please call. Media kits available.

It just goes on. And it just really-- well, let's just read this, Mary.

- Oh, God.

- "Houston police support group opposes gay sensitivity training. For immediate release, news release. The Houston Area Support Your Local Police Committee believes that subjecting police officers to mandatory sensitivity training designed to force their acceptance of the homosexual lifestyle is a severe violation of their rights and a significant attack on their profession.

H. Kyle Searle III, the chairman of the local committee, insists that sensitivity training is a powerful technique that has been unfortunately used to confuse, demoralize, and even destroy stable individuals. In the hands of professionals, sensitivity training uses group pressure to break down the strongly held views of the individual. If an individual is unstable and needs help, the technique can be employed to assist him or her. But it should not be used on healthy and stable individuals.

But in this instance, he added, completely stable police officers, whose religious convictions are what make them extremely competent and valuable police officers, might be subjected to a program designed to break them of the kind of stability that should make the Houston police department proud to have them on the force. Using sensitivity training on the members of the police force is the same as saying that they are psychological misfits and in need of therapy. What an insult. Is this what city officials really mean to convey?

The Support Your Local Police Committee insists that the job of police officers to protect the lives and property of the citizens who pay their salaries. Forcing them to sit through group therapy sessions conducted by homosexuals at taxpayers' expense is an incredible affront to the officers and a serious misuse of public funds. The Support Your Local Police Committee chairman added, so-called training for the purpose of creating acceptance of what many officers and a large percentage of taxpaying public strongly believe to be a biblically condemned practice should not be required of any member of the force.

Being a police officer is a tough job, he said. Subjecting any member of the force to psychological manipulation, which is what sensitivity is when being forced on stable individuals, will surely not make better police officers. If the Houston Police Department bows to the pressure of the homosexual lobby in this instance, it's open season on police officers in the future. The committee believes that one certain result of the adoption of this kind of compulsory program will be that persons who have strongly held traditional religious views, the very individuals that citizens should hope to find on their police force, will seek careers elsewhere.

In this committee's view, that would be a tragedy for Houston. The Houston Area Support Your Local Police Committee is part of a national network of local committees initiated by the John Birch Society."

- Oh, boy. That says it right there.

- "Whenever pressure groups arise to harass and demoralize police officers and the performance of their important work, the committee makes it their business to speak up for the men and women who form the thin blue line." This is from H. Kyle Searle III, chairman of The Houston Area Support Your Local Police Committee. Marion, I have problems with this. Because he says--

- I have problems with every line of that.

- --gay sensitivity training-- patrolmen have been taught to believe that a bleeding, naked male youth in the street was somehow normal, just evidence of a homosexual lovers' quarrel?

[LAUGHS]

Is he serious?

- No, he cannot be serious.

- Are they taking this serious, that a police officer is taught that if he finds a bleeding, naked male youth in the street that's evidence of a homosexual lovers' quarrel?

- Hardly.

- And then he says, since homosexuals are lawbreakers by definition, it would be just as logical for murderers, rapists, and drug dealers to demand their own program to sensitize our policemen to their alternative lifestyles? When did murder, rape, and drug dealing become a lifestyle? Is that a lifestyle? Am I missing--

- Not in my neighborhood.

- --am I missing something here?

- Yes, you must be.

- See, at first this made me really crazy, angry. Because it just really hacks me that--

- Anybody with two brain cells to rub together can read this and know it's a bunch of hooey.

- Well, John Birch Society. Anyway, this is going to happen on Tuesday, October the 15th. And it really bothers me that they keep saying that because they are Christians they can't be sensitive to gay and lesbian people.

- Yeah, Matt called and wanted to know if Juan Palomo has addressed the subject yet. And no, because this really hasn't--

- This release is dated for October the 15th. So no, nobody knows about it yet but you. And you only know about it because you're listening to KPFT and *After Hours*.

And we only have one little message to the good Christians out there. It goes something like this.

[music playing]

If there's something to be learned--

- Well, so much for that. I just don't understand these people who are going to come on. Well, yeah, I do. It's called bigotry and ignorance and hatred. And unfortunately, gay people are the ones that get bashed.

Now this queen is not going to be bashed by these idiots. Just not going to happen, no, no, no, no, no.

- Good.

- It is not. The revolution will not be televised. Who said that? Anyway, this is *After Hours* on KPFT Houston, 90.1 FM. *The Blues Broad* will be here in about 20 minutes or so with blues for you. It'll be a hot show.

- The little blue corner coming your way.

- Yep. And Rob Bridges, if you're listening, you need to call us and tell us what went on in that election-- court hearing today, down in Federal court. Anyway, this is also--

- Yeah, I hate to report on it. Because I don't understand what has happened.

- That's why I don't say anything, contrary to what a lot of hateful queens say. I don't just get on here and babble out a lot of lies. We try to tell you the truth and the facts. And if we don't have the facts, we don't talk about it.

And sometimes we have part of the facts and blow up about it. But that's not our fault. It's because some of these bozo groups out here aren't, like, giving us the information.

- Mhm.

- But we're very political, and we're not very polite.

- Not at all.

- And here's Ron and Paul.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Ah, I like that. I like that. Are you going to talk to me? Or is this a monologue here?

Because I was thinking about our guests from Gay Fathers, Fathers First. And they were talking about how wonderful it is to free themselves from all the constraints of being gay and enjoying their children and how wonderful it is. And Buddy was talking about that was one of the things he didn't like about being gay, is because he didn't have children.

But I was thinking I'm, like, a gay uncle to so many people. Because I have friends who have children. And I can get to enjoy their children through them. Sort of like this next weekend, I'm going to Renaissance festival. It's kind of a traditional yearly thing that I do with Lois and her daughter, Sandra.

And if it's anything like last year, you know, last year was Dyke Day when we went. It was wonderful. It was just lesbians everywhere.

But I've watched Sandra grow up from, like, age two. And now she's just turning 14. And she was the one, you may remember, about oh, six months or a year ago, we did a little essay. It was kind of, like, a history of the gay and lesbian world.

And it was written by Sandra. Then she was 13 in the eighth grade. And it was the best thing I had ever heard.

So I've watched her grow up. And I've been her uncle. And I get to enjoy children that way. And I think that's probably the way a lot of gay and lesbian people get to enjoy children. When you don't have your own, you enjoy your friends' and watch them grow up.

And it's wonderful. Because you can be in a unique position that way. Because these kids, if you're close to them at all, they're going to come to you with problems that they may be afraid to go to their parents with. I know that's happened already with Sandra's brother. I've had long chats with him just about-- not anything, just about growing up, about what it means to grow older, and life, in general.

And I guess with this next song, being a teacher, seeing students growing up, you can kind of pick out, you can kind of look and see those faces and think, yeah, this one's gay, this one's lesbian. And you know what's going on and some of the trials and tribulations that go on with that. And Romanowsky & Phillips, I think, say it best.

- We must destroy the myths once and for all. Shatter them. We must continue to speak out. And most importantly, most importantly, every gay person must come out. [CHEERING]

As difficult as it is, you must tell your immediate family. You must tell your relatives. You must tell your friends if, indeed, they are your friends. You must tell your neighbors. You must tell the people you work with. You must tell the people in the stores you shop in. [CHEERING]

And once they realize that we are indeed their children, and we are indeed everywhere, every myth, every lie, every innuendo will be destroyed once and for all. And once you do, you will feel so much better. [CHEERING]

And I ask people all over this country to do one thing. Come out! Come out, America. Come out! [CHEERING]

- That's right.

- Oh, well. It bothers me that this idiot's trying to start this support your local police thing. And actually, it's just homophobia.

- Oh, to the utmost.

- Blatant, blatant, blatant homophobia.

- And this is the worst ever, the Committee For-- or Citizens For Decency, or whatever that was. The last election--

- I got news for you. The chief of police is not going to support anything like that. I know that for a fact. Because she sent me to channel 13 as an openly gay member of the Houston Police Department to represent that department in uniform as a gay person.

- Ta da!

- So she will not stand for anything like that. Anyway, our strength is in ourselves, Mary. Screw these people.

- Yes.

- I mean, I'm serious.

- It was so badly worded. Like I said, anybody with two brain cells to rub together--

- That's why I'm not--

- --can just read through it.

- --screaming and yelling, because we don't have to. Because there's just something inside a lot stronger than that.

- Oh, yeah.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- And the ignorance continues.

- Yeah, but you know?

- And we'll be here to fight it.

- It's songs like that that really, when I'm down, it's right. There is something inside so strong. That's why we're here.

- See we just found out that Terri, her family wouldn't let her go to her grandfather's funeral.

- I saw her last night.

- So she just went to say goodbye to her grandfather on her own.

- And I didn't understand.

- Because they didn't want her to embarrass them.

- I know. I didn't understand at the time. Because she was with the dignity group. And she was saying that she was going out of town to visit her grandfather's grave and another grave. And--

- We got to go, Mary.

- Oh, do we?

- So next week, Chris Bacon and the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus will be here?

- Yes, he will.

- OK. Hang on and-- that's right. And until then, remember I love you, baby.

- Yep. And stay tuned for *The Blues Broad*. Kathleen will be here with some great music.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- A little blue corner.

- And just don't worry. Hang in there, kids. Remember what Harvey Milk said. Rights are not won on paper. They are won only by those who make their voices heard. Have a great week.

- Yeah.

- Bye.

- Bye.