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00:01

No, I didn't know that

00:02

it took place one week after Stonewall. And it wasn't so much of a commemoration of the riots as it was a commemoration of who we were. It wasn't until a year later that commemorating the Stonewall Riots became our gay pride parade.

00:24

And I think if I remember correctly, I think before that people used to meet at Philadelphia Independence Hall. And then it sort of the one year of commemorating Stonewall I think was about 10,000 people marching. And it's kind of interesting. Now, when you go to DC for the March on Washington, or the 25th anniversary of Stonewall, you've got a million people. No, you're

00:46

just incredible. Yeah.

00:48

And what I like is that now, the Stonewall is back in our hands for many, many years. It was a check. It was several, but to me, it's a very sacred place.

01:02

And I've heard that very recently. It's now been that now has historical Mark marker there,



01:11

right? So it can no longer be anything else. Did you see it? Yeah. We



01:14

went when I was in New York, David, I were up there and they still had the blacked out windows. Stonewall. No. Actually, you can actually see in the bar now.



01:23

They've got to do it originally. To make it.



01:26

The windows, it must be an everyday bar.



01:29

The windows have to be blacked out the door has to be solid wood frame or metal with a



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little peephole. Yeah, that's that's the way it was the way you



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were all speakeasies that were run by the by the mafia. By Cosa Nostra the criminal element, and you're not going to marry sent me. For many years, I didn't know you. I thought you were the one who said December because everybody would call you on the air. Oh, Mary. When you first started the show, nobody who was named



01:57

Mary Prince and Dorothy. That's right. The other thing that's kind of interesting, whenever I go to New York, I have to make a pilgrimage to the Wildenstein bookstore.



02:07

Now, I don't know if we found that one or not. I don't think it's moved. It's



02:11

not in its original location, which was a brown stone on Christopher Street.



02:15

Isn't that the one that Lobo Lobo



02:19

owns it? It's the oldest bookstore gay and lesbian bookstore in in the States? Yes. And Mr. Lobo owns it? Yes. And in fact, the sign that he has in Lobo that says, Well, this guy bookstore. That was the sign. Oh, that was in the old location. Oh, interesting. Yeah.



02:41

But no, we didn't go to Stonewall. We took a picture in front of historical marker and yeah, and they've got our dance floor upstairs. And it's an interesting little place.



02:51

I was never in the original book.



02:53

Never heard the original one. It wasn't so much dad's place it was. It was definitely used. That was we didn't have a back bar and Stonewall it was upstairs,



03:05

upstairs use for origins.



03:09

Quite honestly. But I think it's important that people understand the significance. And the important that the Hispanic community played in gay civil rights. You betcha. I you know, it's, it's something we should never ever forget and something. And I fought, you know, for years. And here in Houston, a lot of people wanted to eliminate the drag queens and the transgender keep them from participating in the gay pride parade. And I fought them with letters to the editor and I, you know, talked on air here on the show a number of times, and finally, the

message has sunk in. Now, I've got to make sure that people understand about the Hispanic people and their contribution. And while we are talking about the Cubans, and the Puerto Ricans and Dominicans, up during the Stonewall, I think it's very significant and important that we remember our Hispanic brothers and sisters in Mexico, and further south, that are fighting on the frontlines for gay rights. Down there in those very repressive Quebec political environments,

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it's not very healthy to be to be out to be out and to be head of gay organization and in many South American areas,

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and down there just like it was here. Those that are the frontline and to me, this, they are the true heroes of the community are the Nelly ones, and the transgendered the transsexual the drag queens, and the Nelly they were

04:54

all drag queens back then there wasn't any correct transgendered or anything like that. Sarah Dubois I'm a has an interview with Silvia Rodriguez who was who was who was there and survivor one of the, the, like you were one of the survivors of the riots.

05:12

And the Nelly guys and the drag queens Yeah, they are there to me they are the true heroes of our community because they're the ones that are on the frontline that are meeting the most in political and social violence.

05:31

You know, and that's the thing that just just I didn't ever understand it and, and just a few years ago, when there's this big push to eliminate drag queens and weather people from the from the gay pride parade, hello, it because of these people that you have one,

05:49

and you know, it's I think it's kind of sad. I lived in southern Houston for a number of years before moving back here into the Montrose and I know for a fact that the to gay and lesbian population in southwest Houston, that is Hispanic is growing quicker and faster than the white gay lesbian population here in the Montrose. I'd say that Southwest is the Latin version of Montrose



06:24

70. Walking government.



06:25

That's right. I live at 5720 Grandma the other day, another week, you know, it is it is we've got two gay clubs. And yet Francisco there is not a gay there's not a Hispanic voice. or Hispanic triangle or Hispanic Eclipse or Hispanic twit. No,



06:43

no, but they're two gay clubs and there's a native tan and supposedly, but it's called



06:50

the escort service. Yes, yes, it



06:53

was kind of ironic that I tried to shut that down a few years ago and I worked for a state representative can you should be straight. And now just because we had a huge fight over them using the word tan because it really wasn't a tanning salon.



07:05

Not even close.



07:06

So now they put like dot after the A T A in the end so it's not actually spelling tan now it's an acronym for Lord knows why. I was flipping through a clip to found out now that the plays are trying to shut down and gay establishment it's sexually



07:26

you want to go to a piece of music that's got



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a piece of music. This is the remake actually from Madonna's American Pie. It's older from the

60s that Oh, nine or I



07:32

have heard so many good things about this piece of music



07:44

nice mellow version I like that I've ever heard the original bit. The original is a bit longer is it?
Yes. Oh, yeah. And it has. It gets kind of dramatic at one point. But this is very nice and mellow,
mellow just kind of flows.



08:02

It's really nice. It's a very pretty version. Yes, it



08:04

is. Yes, it is. And it means a lot of different things to different people. Actually.



08:11

Yeah, I've tried to interpret it earlier. Yeah. Meaning I keep coming up with different



08:17

I think I think that they're talking. I think originally, he meant it to be the end of kind of rock
and roll as we knew it. When the Beatles came. I mean, that changed the face of Music, Pop
music forever. When and I think that's kind of what he was talking about. But there's also other
influences there because along with the Beatles came the whole 60s thing of revolution, and
changing the way we looked at life. And that's certainly what we're talking about tonight. Right
here. Right? When we're talking about Stonewall.



08:56

Right, the brain was talking to you. We were sort of sharing our, I guess some ideas we sort of
have in common here. And we're talking about the Southwest community, the large Latino
community off to many rock engulfed in that area that's just sort of seems to be a community.
It's evolving on its own. And it's really, I mean, there's your grammatically, if you're mentioning
there's a lack of newspaper of a newspaper addressing their concerns, it's just really,



09:23

yeah, and I don't know how to stop it. But what I see happening here is the Latino community, just being by itself, like the black community, of gay community, and we have different different segments now instead of us all being together.



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And I think it's important that we end this artificial divisions that you know,



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everybody's got to work at this you know, that you know,



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this unity uniting together, is so incredibly important. Folks, if it wasn't for the fact that right there at that last Saturday in June, around one or two o'clock in the morning, but right now, when the Stonewall Inn riots happened and the entire community finally got together, I mean, and we had people from other gay clubs coming out in support. I mean, there was, before that first time was over, there were 1000s and 1000s and 1000s of people joining in the revolution. I mean, I get goosebumps, just remembering that first night of how all these people from everywhere just came out of the woodwork just right on down there to Christmas Street. And I believe St. John's street, I think that's the other street close across us.



10:57

And as a Gay Street, a few blocks.



11:02

named James. But these people from these other gay speakeasies came down to the Stonewall Inn support. And regardless whether they were what their political or religious or any other type of division there may have been, we were united into one big huge united front, Mayor Lindsay, who not not Harris County's John Lindsay, this is a different John Lindsay, who was mayor of New York at the time, he was terrified. And he immediately issued orders to the police department to back off the gay clubs. And within, within just a few short months, we started getting our first gay rights laws passed, you know, no longer were we getting harassed in the clubs we can, we could dance with our lover that we wanted to we you couldn't be for us. something as silly and as innocent as just dancing with the same set party, you couldn't do it. But after that, because we were so united and so strong, they were told to back off, so we finally could, and we could meet somebody in a club. I mean, it was small, incremental steps. But because we were united, we were able to do that, when they used to keep us divided. They were able to do with us as they would today. We've got to bring in all the different segments. So we could have a strong united political front, to fight the oppression from the Ultra, right.



12:50

And sort of touching a little bit on how the cops would begin to back off and people getting got a better sense of a freedom to do what they please. There's sort of a philosophy or an idea that Stonewall sort of paved the way for, you know, at least in the gay community in New York for a little bit more sexual liberation. And I don't know how accurate that is. I mean, I've grown up in you know, I don't know, if there was more.



13:22

Yes, after the sexual



13:24

revolution



13:26

was our was, had started before it, it was like,



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it was kind of in a way it was it was the way we were leading the way and we're the the way where we were coming. The way the straight America would recognize us because we were leading the way in the sexual revolution, and paving the way for straight America for their sexual revolution.



13:56

You know, we paved the way for ourselves, but as far as paving the way for sexual revolution know that that it started before? Yeah, it really had started. In fact, that was one of the things everybody else can do it. Why can't we? That was one of the things that we you know, how we felt everybody else gets to do it. Why can't we? You know, what business was it of anybody?



14:23

There's always been sort of an interesting time. And I don't know if it was just a few years before stonewalling. I don't know how familiar you are. Royer. If you participated in the Manichean society, but think a few years before, I think it was 1965 that they started leading protests in New York based on what Cuba was doing in terms of persecuting homosexuals.



14:46

Yeah. Manichean Society was founded, founded by Henry hay, and before Stonewall Henry hay had left the magazine system it because they were to assimilationist.



15:02

Right? Right. But still, for most of America and for most of most of gay people, the fat mere fact that the magazine society existed, and that gay blood



15:14

a tremendous political statement, yeah, that gay people



15:17

were protesting was just a revolutionary thing.



15:21

It's kind of funny because to this very day to this very day, there's been a debate from from day one at Stonewall all the way to today. There's been a debate as to how important the Manichean society was,



15:38

we needed that that was step number one, because what they did was they they said, Oh, look at us, please accept us. But by the time Stonewall came, we said, except us, we're here get used to it.



15:52

Well see, there was a big debate in American Psychiatric circles back then. Oh, yes, that we weren't we were not supposed to be treated as criminals. We were mentally ill we were deficient, like Dr. Laura likes to say, and the magazine society would sit in no corners and rooms and wringing their hands and say, woe is us. We really need this American would be considered an American American with a disability because we're gay. And they would have marches in front of the White House, and other places,



16:27

as long as the guys were in suits and women wearing dresses, right.



16:32

And we're talking about an era I guess, an empty I was trying to find the publication in this book that I have one from Los Angeles, one where there was like, you're talking an area or an area where you've got like 10 copies of a newsletter being produced because as far as I can type out in a carbon that's right.



16:49

Yeah. Copy for for it was against the law to send this through the postal system



16:54

where there would be one magazine or just Yeah, does have the lightest. Yeah,



16:59

even if did anything that said homosexual on it was considered pornographic.



17:04

As a matter of fact, for the cost of pornographic that we had and believe it was a darling of mind back then. And I still love the old photos to this day, was the athletic model guild. That's right, they always used to keep those things way up on the top shelf.



17:25

So underground then, and a lot of the older people missed that. Because to be gay, which meant you had to had a secret language, we had our own slang. We could talk to each other, that I think that's one of the reasons for the female pronouns that we use a lot as gay men, because we could talk openly



17:51

which what he was married.



17:57

You're taught you could talk to another gay man about your date, just using the female pronoun.



18:03

You know, today, you know, you pick up a copy of a copy of advocate men are in touch. And you look inside the cover, and you know exactly where it was published. Which issue What month is for their email address their one 800 and on all the ever had that, I still have at home. Right now. code blocks away from here, I still have a gay porn magazine from 1964. Nowhere. No, I mean, it even has the guys in the Nehru jacket. But nowhere in there, who was there and even the name of the publisher?



18:39

Nothing, nothing, nothing. Nothing.



18:43

I mean, it's amazing how far we've come. And that magazine is still in good shape. Except for a couple of pages. I'm not gonna get into



18:53

the cost to pick up a magazine. You got people just perusing through the porn. Yeah. care in the world. It's part of the window as cars driving by.



19:03

And you know that that's so revolutionary. Compared to the way people lived in 1969.



19:13

Kind of funny because I remember talking with some friends of mine on New Year's Eve 1968 69. And I was saying as well, it's going to come 1969 I really got to live this year to the fullest. I says I like this year. They said all you will queer you definitely.



19:31

Yes, I remember when my sexual awakening came about in the mid 60s. But there wasn't any you couldn't. There wasn't a books, nothing. The first book I ever heard of was John Ritchie's city of night. That was one of the first novels ever written with the gay outlook. And it was it's certainly not very optimistic. I mean, it was a very depressing, we were



20:03

always very even in the movies. We were either the, the tragic figures or the button of jokes.
For instance, the first gay movie I saw, the movie I ever saw was called the note deceivers

FOR INSTANCE, THE FIRST GAY MOVIE I GAVE, THE MOVIE I EVER SAW WAS CALLED THE GATE DECEIVERS, WHICH IS ABOUT TWO GUYS TRYING TO AVOID THE DRAFT TO GO INTO VIETNAM BY PRETENDING TO BE GAY LOVERS. FIRST ONE I EVER SAW WAS BOYS IN THE BAND. AND THEN THAT WAS THE SECOND ONE. AND THEN BOYS AND VAN WAS NOTHING BUT A BUNCH OF PRETTY JADED OLD HAS BEEN QUEENS AND ONE REALLY HOT COWBOY HUSTLER.



20:42

THE THING OF IT IS, WHEN YOU WALK INTO CROSSROADS, OR WHEN YOU WALK INTO LOBO, LOOK AROUND AND THINK THAT IN 1969, NONE OF THAT EXISTED APPS, NONE OF IT



20:55

WOULD HAVE BEEN NO WAY THIS SHOW COULDN'T HAVE. NO, ABSOLUTELY NOT.



21:00

SO YOU HAD TO RECREATE YOURSELF. AND OR CREATE YOURSELF BECAUSE THEY'RE THERE. YOU DIDN'T HAVE A HISTORY?



21:13

NOT THAT WE KNEW NOW. BUT I KNOW AT HOME, I GOT THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF GAY AMERICA.



21:21

OH, YEAH. JONATHAN KATZ. AND



21:24

THEN I GOT THIS OTHER BOOK CALLED, IS FOR GAY TRAVELERS AND US, I THINK IT'S CALLED THE QUEERS PLACES. YEAH, IT HAS STORIES ABOUT JUST ABOUT EVERY STATE, WHERE TO GO AND EVERYTHING FOR AS GAY HISTORY. BUT NOW, THAT'S ALL WELL AND GOOD. I'D LIKE TO FIND OUT WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY, THE GAY HISPANIC OUTREACH WE HAVE GONE NOW,



21:50

UNFORTUNATELY, HERE LOCALLY, I GUESS THE ONLY OUTREACH IT'S REALLY GOING ON IS BASED AROUND HIV AND AIDS CRISIS. I MEAN, OBVIOUSLY, THE ONLY HISPANIC ORGANIZATION THAT'S AROUND AND, AND IT'S NOT REALLY AN ORGANIZATION AS MUCH AS IT IS AS AN AID SERVICE ORGANIZATION, BUT IT'S NOT REALLY AN ORGANIZATION THAT SORT OF HAS A MEMBERSHIP, AND THEN IT'S OUT THERE. AND IN DOING MORE THAN THAT, I MEAN, WE'VE, YOU KNOW, THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD, I CAN TELL YOU, WE'VE GOT OUR HANDS FULL AS IT IS JUST JUST MAKING, I CAN IMAGINE HANDS MADE AND MAKING WE YOU KNOW, WE'VE GOT A

new clinic, and we're expanding service and, and to rural areas, and, and we're doing a phenomenal job out there. But it's really a need for, there'll be some outreach, whether it's through whether it's through an organization that needs to come about to do these kinds of things that are either just create a sort of a social network. And, and, you know, I think that's probably the first step, you know, is to bring people together on some common ground that they, you know, don't feel threatened by and then sort of, you know, that's sort of the way communities grow is getting to know each other and



22:52

then get politicized. Yeah. And so hopefully,



22:55

that'll happen. And that will come about we hosted or obviously, we haven't, I'm saying, I mean, I was hosted a couple of forums a couple of years ago, and there was a bit of an interest, but there really is a huge need for that. And I mean, is we're talking earlier about a large part of that, as a community being able to communicate with each other. And I think the lack of a publication or sort of an easily accessible forum, in the Latino community, really is a barrier. You know, I'm, I like the coverage of the voice and the triangle and the twit, but there's really a lot lacking in terms of them covering what's going on the Hispanic community. Unless it's obvious pushing it or me, you know, placing a call saying, you know, this is what's going on with Amin. I mean, there's no problem running it, but, you know, obviously, is an institutional organization that's got, you know, some history and some framework, and



23:54

they're more than happy to accept advertising dollars from energy, and club toys. Oh, definitely.



24:00

And native tech.



24:05

But, other than that, those are the, those are the two kids. For those of you who may not know, those are the two gay Hispanic clubs in southwest Houston. Truly rocking linman Right there. And we got two in the north side. You want to get close. We have just north of here.



24:21

Three honors, and oh, gosh, on Washington. Also, I



24:25

can't think of the name of the mailbox the mailbox.



24:28

And there used to be one in Easton called Guadalajara. I don't know if I remember hearing and I don't know if they're right behind the Dairy Queen of



24:37

the gate milkman. We went.



24:39

We went I heard that it was a real rough place.



24:41

It was we went there. I went there. When was it? Four or five years ago now? No more five years ago, like six years ago. Just to check it out. See what's going on. You know, we walked in we got patted down. No, we got patted down and you know, twice sexualise at the door and then after you pay, you patted down again, you got patted down. The second one was like actual metals detector sweep thing. I was there. And then, you know, me and my friend were there. And we tried to make conversation, we approached this guy and said, Hi, you know, what's your name, he said, I don't have a name. And okay, back to Drs. And blend it was tough. And I was like, you know,



25:33

Hispanic clubs, that was a kind of gangster types,



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or



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it was very, it was very rough, it was very rough. And it probably didn't help, you know, I'm, depending from my dad's sides, you know, second generation, my mother's side, fourth generation, and, you know, rather acculturated and my friend was was white, and we went, and, you know, and I was probably in khakis and a polo jeans and like work boots, or like

something and they're looking very rough, or, or, I would actually say a third of the clientele was with drag queens. Yeah, perform. And so it's just sort of, we look out of place, but he was even, you know, you know, I speak Spanish fluently. And I think, you know, I relate very well. And it was a rough crowd.



26:23

Do you think it's the, the area there, or the group that that, you know, it's either the rough guy and the drag queen get together. And



26:38

I could see that happening there. A lot of that kind of thing. Yeah. Energy. And toys, on the other hand, are entirely different. I've never been, to be honest, I've never been to like the mailbox. But



26:49

I've been to the mailbox, I've had fun times there. Yeah, they have really good shows



26:53

what kind of what kind of leeway or lead or



26:57

anything, anything. I went there to see the show.



27:01

Sort of the energy, for example, you've got the larger part of the club, which is they played the hand or mash rock or salsa. And that's probably a good 85% of the club. And you've got a small section of the club, it's actually a second club that's attached to it, where they've got music, it's an English for, I guess, folks, they don't like to have two or more club music, club music. That's an English and so it's interesting there, you tend to when, when the non Hispanic guys that are going to like energy to pick up Hispanic guys, for example, I've just noticed, you know, the one, delete that side, but they may not like the music. So I know, it's a big like a place for them to sort of like chill for a bit before they go. Some more but it's toys, on the other hand is a little bit more upbeat, they tell us to have it was more like Spanish rock and salsa, it just sort of, I'm just gonna continue to be amazed at like, by the whole general market trend towards Latino and you know, whether it's food or culture or music, it's just sort of becoming mainstream and suddenly, well,



28:10

it's gonna be mainstream, right? Not it. I forget what the, the estimate is. But here in Houston, it's not too long before 2010 Yeah, 2010 that, that the latin community is going to be the majority,



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right? Just as phenomenal growth. And I'll



28:31

say this, that



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if we don't pay attention and, and do something, then you know, we're gonna be left out in the cold as as white gay people.



28:42

I'll say this, that we can thank Selena and Ricky Martin, for really not just opening but say, kicking down the doors for what really happened now. And we have to remember that those that are immigrants that are coming in from south of the border. They do come from very culturally repressive society, politically repressive, and so most of them are probably still going to be very closeted as to their sexual orientation. And well, I think it's imperative that we have something to offer and some hope and, and hopefully impart some sort of wisdom and guidance where they can finally be all they were meant to be.



29:37

Yeah, it takes a lot of nurturing of a community and hopefully, some things will start to happen in Hispanic communities. There's really we're really going to start doing to communities I mean, it just you really need to be out there and glenmont and Chimney Rock to see what you know, you haven't been there.



29:55

Right across the street from laka banja which is supposed to be such a hetero club but let me say If I had more sex gay sex with Hispanic people coming out of lack of Banja is back in the days when we cut energy was still there on hillcroft Shopping Plaza. You know, I had more sex than I ever had here. i These guys were all closeted.



30:16

Okay, well, Francisco, I know that this is a busy month for you.



30:22

This is this is and sort of leading into the primary just sort of, yeah, please do before we go there just wants to wrap up on we're talking a little bit with things that Stonewall sort of opened the doors for, particularly in New York and Jimmy, you've shared this with me and so I'm going to mention it I fortunately, I don't know this gentleman or, or, or, or, the church that he led. But last week was Salah 100 days, he was a pastor with Cristo Rey Metropolitan Community Church, I'm assuming it's in New York. Gibson's northeastern United States was a was a clergyman who really envisioned I guess, a church without barriers, like sexual orientation, keeping them from worship. And so he passed away last week. And we just wanted to acknowledge that he was the first openly gay, Puerto Rican minister, to lead a predominantly speaking Spanish speaking congregation in the northeastern United States.



31:16

And that's very important, that's important that we remember this guy. I mean, this is a



31:26

study he had to go through. Yeah.



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And let me tell you as Hispanic person first you've got to buck the fact that you could do that you're not going to be Catholic. And then yeah. And then you're actually going to actually be like a clergyman in another church, that you're gay. That's



31:41

just incredible. He had



31:42

a lifetime of his life was apparently a movement.



31:49

So I guess very quickly, how ours, the political arena going



31:54

going well, Tuesdays are our our primary election date here in Texas, of course, everything's dead and decided apparently, as of last week, so it seems so it seems so but I mean, it's still important that people get out and to vote and to participate, we've got some local races, and people need to go to their precinct conventions, whether they're democrat or republican at 715, when the polls close, go back to where you voted, and, and you need to elect delegates to go to the national and state conventions. And this is where you pass resolutions. And this is where you stop resolutions that aren't friendly to our community. And there, there's actually, I think we mentioned it earlier, but there have been some trainings in our community, some that I've helped to facilitate on, on how to participate in your precinct level in the party conventions, but if you weren't able to attend, one of those would be interested, you can email the following email address training at websites for democrats.org. That's training at websites for democrat.com. Sorry, and just send an email, whether it's blank or not. And you'll automatically get something returned that about six page document that tells you how to participate in your precinct convention.



33:04

Good, good, good. Francisco. I want to thank you for being here.



33:07

Thank you for having us. Uh, yeah, I want to thank boy for staying over. Glad. Yes. A lot of good insight from having been there.



33:14

Yeah. After this month, maybe you can relax and



33:18

I will be I can't wait till Wednesday morning. I've actually got unfortunately harris county doesn't have a whole lot of democratic contested races in the primary and then we'll have less in the fall. But I may be up in Dallas helping a Democrat try to get some strong hold up there. That's very good to our community.



33:34

Okay, in the background, we're listening to take out a loan with an AED. And what is he doing?



33:40

This is? I'm not sure what song this is. Number nine. Yes. At let's see, it wouldn't be a good little translation it would be sort of in the heavens, I guess.



33:57

Even listening to after hours career radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station. Big, Big Daddy j is here ready to bring you the red eyes special. And he's going to be doing that in just about three minutes. Thank you for listening. Thank you, Francisco. Thank you, Roy. And we'll see you next week.