

**KTSW COMMUNITY ISSUES 1/01/2024 – 3/31/2024 (Placed in file 4/09/2024)**

There follows a listing of some of the significant issues responded to by KTSW-FM 89.9, San Marcos, Texas, along with the most significant programming treatment of those issues for the period of January 1, 2024 and March 31, 2024. The listing is by no means exhaustive. The order in which they appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

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<b>Public Service Campaigns</b>	<b>1/01-3/31</b>	<b>Varies</b>	<b>50.7 hours</b>
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KTSW-FM 89.9 airs multiple public service announcements covering many topics at various times throughout the day, totaling approximately 3.9 hours per week for 13 weeks, 50.7 hours for this quarter.

Categories & topics include:

**San Marcos Community:** TX Foster Care System/Carrying Hope/Make A Hope Pack, Anti-Drunk Driving, Tornado Safety, Bicycling Safety, Water Conservation, San Marcos River Single Use Container Ordinance, Building an Emergency Kit, Media Literacy, Pedestrian Safety, SMTX Animal Shelter/Pet Adoption, Volunteer Opportunities, Alternative Modes of Transportation

**Texas State Student Services:** Sleep Deprivation Impacts College Students, Cybersecurity, First Gen, Low Income Student Organization, Bobcat Bounty Food Bank, TXST Mental Health Resources, The Counseling Center, the Student Learning Assistance Center (SLAC), Texas State Guardian App, Career Services, Flu Shots, Handshake Job Service, BookSmart Program, Attorney for Students Office

**Texas State University Interest:** Opioid Overdose/Narcan, The Witliff Collections, The Black Student Alliance, First Gen, Low Income (FLIP), Bobcat Bounty

**Environmental:** Recycling, Spring Lake Nature Area, Anti-Littering, Water Conservation, Glitter = Litter

**Health and Wellness:** Safe Sex, Mental Health/Smart Social Media Use, Cold/Flu Prevention, Spring Allergies, Positive Sleeping Habits, Get Outdoors/Some Sun

**Safety:** Phishing Awareness, Safe Partying, Media Literacy, Fentanyl Awareness

<b>Big Picture Science</b>	<b>January 24</b>	<b>7:00 a.m.</b>	<b>60 minutes</b>
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**Topic:** Tech in Check

Description: Worried that AI will replace you? It may not seem like the Hollywood writers’ strike has anything in common with the Luddite rebellion in England in 1811, but they are surprisingly similar. Today we use the term “Luddite” dismissively to describe a technophobe, but the original Luddites – cloth workers – organized and fought Industrial Revolution automation and the factory bosses who were replacing humans with cotton spinning machines and steam powered looms. Find out what our age of AI can learn from textile workers of 200 years ago about keeping humans in the loop.

<b>Alternative Radio</b>	<b>January 25</b>	<b>7:00 a.m.</b>	<b>60 minutes</b>
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**Topic:** Gaza: A Case of Genocide

Description: In the wake of the Holocaust in the 1940s and earlier in the century the genocidal attacks against the Armenians by Turkey and the German slaughter of the Herero and Namaqua peoples in SW Africa, the Polish jurist Raphael Lemkin coined the term genocide. In 1948 the UN adopted the Genocide Convention. On December 29, 2023, South Africa filed a case with the UN’s International Court of Justice in The Hague accusing Israel of the crime of genocide in its ongoing assault on Gaza. The Convention

defines genocide as “the intent to destroy in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group.” Israel has dismissed the South African charge calling it “meritless.”

**Counterspin** **January 26** **7:00 a.m.** **30 minutes**  
**Guests/Topics:** Sebastian Martinez Hickey on Minimum Wage, Saru Jayaraman on History of Tipping

Description: The journalists at Yahoo Finance tell us that a Connecticut McDonald’s charging \$18 for a combo meal has “sparked a nationwide debate” on escalating prices in the fast food industry. The outrage, readers are told, is “partly attributed” to a recent raise in the minimum wage—which has not yet gone into effect. Spoiler: We never hear about any other “parts” “attributed.” Businesses like McDonald’s, the story goes, “have already raised their prices in anticipation of the wage hike.”

**Conversations on Healthcare** **January 26** **7:00 a.m.** **30 minutes**  
**Topic:** Are You Up to Date on Health Care Policy & Innovation as 2024 Kicks Off? We Can Help.

Description: A new year brings hope for breakthroughs for our most complex health care issues. The leading thinkers have been sharing their perspectives with us. We’ve captured the highlights from our recent interviews covering vaccinations, abortion, mental health and all the top stories. Plus, we have important updates for 2024. Click below to join hosts Mark Masselli and Margaret Flinter for “Conversations on Health Care.”

**Grab-Bag Program** **January 27** **7:00 a.m.** **60 minutes**  
**Topic:** You 2.0: where the self-help industry succeeds, and where it misses the mark

Description: Self-help has existed in some form since the dawn of human civilization and has grown into a robust industrial complex. But does self-help really make us better people?

**Alternative Radio** **February 1** **7:00 a.m.** **60 minutes**  
**Topic:** Lapdogs with Laptops

Description: A vital and independent press is essential to the functioning of democracy. In recent years, media concentration has accelerated. This has resulted in the closing down of many domestic and foreign bureaus and a sharp reduction in the number of working reporters. In pursuit of a juicy tidbit, too many journalists today cozy up to power. They take pride in being called on by their first name at presidential news conferences. They play golf and tennis with high administration officials and are invited to all the important dinner parties. We need a press that will hold the feet of the mighty to the fire and not drink cabernet sauvignon with them. Citizens are ill-served by lapdogs with laptops.

**Counterspin** **February 2** **7:00 a.m.** **30 minutes**  
**Guest/Topic:** Gregory Shupak on Gaza and Genocide

Description: US corporate news media’s initial response to Israel’s terror campaign against Palestinians, unleashed in the wake of the October 7 attack by Hamas, was characterized, broadly speaking, by legitimization, a rhetorical blank check for whatever Israel might do. Israel, the New York Times editorial board said, “is determined to break the power of Hamas, and in that effort it deserves the support of the United States and the rest of the world.”

**Conversations on Healthcare**                      **February 2**                      **7:00 a.m.**                      **30 minutes**  
**Topic:** A Roadmap to Improve Health Outcomes By Investing In Green and Healthy Homes

Description: There are many ways to address the social determinants of health but do we need to pay more attention to the one right in front of us? The Green and Healthy Homes Initiative thinks so, and it's focused on addressing health inequities by making homes healthier, safer and more energy efficient.

**Big Picture Science**                      **February 7**                      **7:00 a.m.**                      **60 minutes**  
**Topic:** Skeptic Check: Hypnosis

Description: You are getting sleepy and open to suggestion. But is that how hypnotism works? And does it really open up a portal to the unconscious mind? Hypnotism can be an effective therapeutic tool, and some scientists suggest replacing opioids with hypnosis for pain relief. And yet, the performance aspect of hypnotism often seems at odds with the idea of it being an effective treatment.

In our regular look at critical thinking, Skeptic Check, we ask what part of hypnotism is real and what is an illusion. Plus, we discuss how the swinging watch became hypnotism's irksome trademark.

**Alternative Radio**                      **February 8**                      **7:00 a.m.**                      **60 minutes**  
**Topic:** Biden, Gaza Genocide & Israel

Description: In a landmark decision the International Court of Justice, the UN's highest judicial body, based in The Hague, by an overwhelming vote ruled that the accusation that Israel in its assault on Gaza is committing genocide is "plausible." The Israeli prime minister in response said, "Israel's commitment to international law is unwavering. The charge of genocide leveled against Israel is not only false, it's outrageous." Almost certainly the issue will move from the ICJ to the UN Security Council where it is likely to be vetoed by Washington. Meanwhile, in Gaza, where no place is safe, the bloodbath continues. The number of Palestinians killed, wounded and missing is soaring. Internationally, Washington is more and more isolated. Biden's "ironclad" backing of Israel is coming under increasing scrutiny and opposition. The U.S., critics say, is enabling genocide.

**Counterspin**                      **February 9**                      **7:00 a.m.**                      **30 minutes**  
**Guests/Topics:** Monifa Bandele on Reimagining Public Safety, Svante Myrick on Roadblocks to Voting

Description: Elite media can give the impression that problems wax and wane along with their attention to them. And, not to put too fine a point on it, they're done with police brutality.

So if you think news media show you the world, you'll be surprised to hear that 2023 saw killings by law enforcement up from the previous year, which was up from the year before that. More than 1,200 people were killed, roughly three people every day, including not just those shot dead, but those fatally shocked by a stun gun, beaten or restrained to death. Thirty-six percent of those killed were fleeing, and, yes, they were disproportionately Black.

As far as corporate media are concerned, we've tried nothin', and we're all out of ideas. Communities, on the other hand, are hard at work reimagining public safety without punitive policing. There's new work on those possibilities, and we hear about it from Monifa Bandele from the Movement for Black Lives.

**Conversations on Healthcare**                      **February 9**                      **7:00 a.m.**                      **30 minutes**  
**Topic:** A Roadmap to Improve Health Outcomes By Investing In Green and Healthy Homes

Description: There are many ways to address the social determinants of health but do we need to pay more attention to the one right in front of us? The Green and Healthy Homes Initiative thinks so, and it's focused on addressing health inequities by making homes healthier, safer and more energy efficient.

**Alternative Radio**                                      **February 22**                                      **7:00 a.m.**                                      **60 minutes**  
**Topic:** Weaponizing Religious Freedom

Description: The separation of church and state has long been a cornerstone of American democracy. The Founders of the Republic, Jefferson, Madison, et al, insisted on a secular government unencumbered by religious dogma. However, in recent years decisions by a conservative-dominated Supreme Court have increasingly blurred that barrier. How has this happened? Enter Leonard Leo and a pile of money. Co-chair of the highly influential Federalist Society, he has been at the forefront of weaponizing religious freedom. According to Andrew Seidel, Leo "is universally recognized as the man who orchestrated the hostile takeover of the Supreme Court. He is responsible for the nomination and confirmation of John Roberts, Samuel Alito, Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh, and Amy Coney Barrett." Leo chose them, Seidel says, for their "crusader ideology." The erosion of secular values poses a threat to democracy.

**Counterspin**    **February 23**    **7:00 a.m.**    **30 minutes**  
**Guest/Topic:** Rakeen Mabud on Greedflation

Description: CNN host Dana Bash asked a question in the Republican presidential debate (1/10/24) in Des Moines, Iowa: The rate of inflation is down. Prices, though, are still high, and Americans are struggling to afford food, cars and housing. What is the single most important policy that you would implement as president to make the essentials in Americans' lives more [affordable]? Unfortunately, she asked the question of South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, who answered with word salad involving "wasteful spending on a Covid stimulus bill that expanded welfare, that's now left us with 80 million Americans on Medicaid, 42 million Americans on food stamps." Haley concluded with the admonition "quit borrowing. Cut up the credit cards." "Cut up the credit cards" is interesting advice for people who are having trouble affording diapers, but it's the sort of advice politicians and pundits dole out, and that corporate news media present as a respectable worldview, worthy of our attention. There is another view, that acknowledges that the same people who earn wages also buy groceries, and pretending that we're pitted against one another is not just mis- but disinformation. Rakeen Mabud is chief economist and managing director of policy and research at Groundwork Collaborative. They have new work on what's driving grocery prices, that doesn't involve getting mad at people using food stamps. We'll hear from her today on the show.

**Conversations on Healthcare**                      **February 23**                      **7:00 a.m.**                      **30 minutes**  
**Topic:** Damning Research Reveals Extent of Pediatrics Care Gap: Children of Color Receive Worse Treatment

Description: Across the board, children of color in America receive less treatment and fewer life-saving interventions than white children, according to a research review published in Lancet Child and Adolescent Health. The data find that strongest disparities between whites and children of color

involved pain management; kids of color are less likely than their white peers to get painkillers for a broken arm or leg, for appendicitis or for migraines

Dr. Nia Heard-Garris, pediatrician and researcher at the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University, helped lead the project. She explains that the research also shows white children are sometimes overtreated, which is also not good for their health. Join hosts Mark Masselli and Margaret Flinter as they examine the findings and look for policy solutions.

Conversations on Health Care features in-depth discussions on health policy and innovation with industry newsmakers from around the globe.

**Grab-Bag Program**

**February 24**

**7:00 a.m.**

**60 minutes**

**Topic:** House/Full of Black Women

Description: For some eight years now, 34 Black women from the Bay Area — artists, scholars, midwives, nurses, an architect, an ice cream maker, a donut maker, a theater director, a choreographer, musicians, educators, sex trafficking abolitionists and survivors have gathered monthly around a big dining room table in Oakland, California. Meeting, cooking, dancing, strategizing — grappling with the issues of eviction, gentrification, well-being and sex trafficking that are staring down their community, staring down Black women in America.

**Alternative Radio**

**February 29**

**7:00 a.m.**

**60 minutes**

**Topic:** Corporate Autocracy, Fascism, Trump & the Election

Description: Corporate power is more concentrated than ever before. The rich are significantly richer. And the poor? Well, they know their place. There's an odor of fascism in the air. FDR once warned, "The liberty of a democracy is not safe if the people tolerate the growth of private power to a point where it becomes stronger than the democratic state itself. That, in its essence, is fascism." You can hardly turn on the radio or TV or go online and not hear or read the sentence: This is the most important election in American history. In response to the current crises, note the plural, we can moan and groan or we can act. The task for concerned citizens is what it always has been: organize at the grassroots, resist oppression and put forth positive alternatives.

**Counterspin**

**March 1**

**7:00 a.m.**

**30 minutes**

**Guest/Topic:** Ariel Adelman on Disability Civil Rights

Description: There's an announcement on the New York City subway where a voice chirps: "Attention, everyone! There are 150 accessible subway stations!" One can imagine an alternate world where we'd hear, "Only 150 of New York City's 472 subway stations are accessible, and that's a problem!"

**Conversations on Healthcare**

**March 2**

**7:00 a.m.**

**30 minutes**

**Topic:** Better Primary Care: What Will It Take to Get the U.S. to Wake Up to the Need?

Description: U.S. spending on primary care fell again, to a mere 4.6% of total health care dollars spent. Primary Care Collaborative is the only national multi-stakeholder organization focused on whole-person primary care. Primary Care Collaborative President & CEO Ann Greiner joins hosts Mark Masselli and Margaret Flinter to discuss better compensation and reimbursement for primary care clinicians and efforts to increase training, expanding access to community health centers, and opportunities for primary care to help as the country faces a mental health crisis. What will it take to get the United States to wake up to the need for better primary care? Tune into this week's conversation to learn more.

**Counterspin****March 8****7:00 a.m.****30 minutes****Guests/Topic:** Gregory Shupak and Trita Parsi on Gaza Assault

Description: International human rights lawyer Craig Mokhiber told Electronic Intifada recently that the International Court of Justice hearings on the legality of Israel's 56-year occupation of Palestinian land are the largest case in history—more than 50 countries are taking part in this, and the US is virtually alone...in defending the legality of Israel's occupation. Most states are affirming its illegality and cataloging Israeli war crimes, crimes against humanity, and other gross violations of international law.

**Conversations on Healthcare****March 8****7:00 a.m.****30 minutes****Topic:** Nurses Ask: Where is the respect?

Description: Americans say nursing is the most respected profession, but nurses say their challenges tell a different story. They're sounding the alarm on staffing shortages, violence in the workplace and racism (63% of nurses say they have personally experienced an act of racism in the workplace). The American Nurses Association is also fighting an American Medical Association policy recommending advanced practice registered nurses be licensed and regulated by both state medical and nursing boards. Our guest to tackle these issues is the president of the American Nurses Association, Jennifer Mensik Kennedy, Ph.D., MBA, MBA, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN. Join hosts Mark Masselli and Margaret Flinter for this important conversation.

**Alternative Radio****March 21****7:00 a.m.****60 minutes****Topic:** From Birmingham to Bethlehem

Description: How can the Palestinian struggle for freedom and dignity take lessons from the Black Liberation Movement? Historical circumstances are clearly different yet there are similarities. Both are located in a colonial-like situation, where a powerful oppressor oppresses another less powerful group. Racism is a major factor. The Black Liberation Movement and Malcolm X's eloquent voice and militant politics resonate with Palestinians struggling for their freedom. Liberation struggles are not easy. Resistance to change is entrenched. Power does not readily give up its prerogatives.

**Counterspin****March 22****7:00 a.m.****30 minutes****Guest/Topic:** Victor Pickard on the Crisis of Journalism

Description: Years ago when media critics called attention to ways corporate media's profit-driven nature negatively impacts the news, lots of people would say, "But what about the internet?" Nowadays, folks seem to see more clearly that constraints on a news outlet's content have little to do with whether it's on paper or online, but on who owns it, who resources it, to whom is it accountable. You'll see the phrase "crisis of journalism" newly circulating these days, but one thing hasn't changed: If we don't ask different questions about what we need from journalism, we will arrive at the same old unsatisfactory responses. Victor Pickard is a professor at the University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg School for Communication, and author, most recently, of *Democracy Without Journalism? Confronting the Misinformation Society*, from Oxford University Press. We talk to him about the crisis of journalism and its future.

**Conversations on Healthcare**                      **March 22**                      **7:00 a.m.**                      **30 minutes**  
**Topic:** Super Sperm Donors - America's Underground Surrogacy Movement: Author Explains Her Journey

Description: The family planning revolution has a new chapter and journalist Valerie Bauman is both documenting it and participating in it. She and others pursuing alternatives say they're frustrated with fertility clinics because of the cost, what they call the discriminatory nature of the system and the lack of insurance coverage. Bauman explains how she met her sperm donor and why others like her say it makes sense for them. Hosts Mark Masselli and Margaret Flinter interview Bauman about her upcoming book "Inconceivable: Super Sperm Donors, Off-the-Grid Insemination, and Unconventional Family Planning."

**Grab-Bag Program**                      **March 23**                      **7:00 a.m.**                      **60 minutes**  
**Topic:** Growth in Faith: Celebrating Ramadan

Description: In recognition of Women's History Month, we'll be joined all month by powerful and inspirational women. This week, that person is Sagal Ali. She joins us to talk about the Muslim holiday, Ramadan. Sagal shares her journey of rediscovering her faith and envisioning her path forward to work on issues that matter to her most.

**Alternative Radio**                      **March 28**                      **7:00 a.m.**                      **60 minutes**  
**Topic:** From Birmingham to Bethlehem (Pt 2)

Description: How can the Palestinian struggle for freedom and dignity take lessons from the Black Liberation Movement? Historical circumstances are clearly different yet there are similarities. Both are located in a colonial-like situation, where a powerful oppressor oppresses another less powerful group. Racism is a major factor. The Black Liberation Movement and Malcolm X's eloquent voice and militant politics resonate with Palestinians struggling for their freedom. Liberation struggles are not easy. Resistance to change is entrenched. Power does not readily give up its prerogatives.

**Counterspin**                      **March 29**                      **7:00 a.m.**                      **30 minutes**  
**Guests/Topics:** Ian Millhiser on Supreme Court Trump Protection, Alfredo Lopez on Radical Elders

Description: Among the multitude of harms that could rain on this country should Donald Trump become president again, he could order the Department of Justice to drop any charges against him stemming from his fomenting of an insurrection aimed at overturning by violence the results of the 2020 election. Not to put too fine a point on it, Trump could declare himself above the law—and that's just been enabled by the Supreme Court, which put off until April the legal case wherein Trump declares himself immune to criminal prosecution. The Court can move quickly; they hopped right to the decision that Trump can't be removed from presidential ballots in the states. But this, we're to understand, will take, huh, maybe until after the election, to mull. Vox Court-watcher Ian Millhiser says he tries to reserve his "this is an exceptionally alarming decision" voice, but this occasion calls for it. We hear from him this week.

**Conversations on Healthcare**

**March 29**

**7:00 a.m.**

**30 minutes**

**Topic:** Young Deaths from Colorectal Cancer Skyrocket as New Research Emerges

Description: The recent death of former college football player Craig Roh from colon cancer at age 33 has brought attention to the “alarming” increase of colorectal cancer in young people. The American Cancer Society reports colon cancer is now the most common cause of cancer deaths in men under 50 and second for women under 50. Dr. Alan Venook at the University of California-San Francisco is one of the nation’s leading colorectal cancer researchers. March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month and Dr. Venook explains to “Conversations on Health Care” hosts Mark Masselli and Margaret Flinter how to stem the rise in cases among young people. Dr. Venook also talks about his research that found there’s no compromise in colorectal cancer patient survival or the risk of recurrent cancer over time with less radiation—a finding that goes against conventional wisdom.