Hip-hop and Homophobia

Guess who's responsible for the homophobia in hip-hop culture?

On last night's "Paula Zahn Now," author Tim Wise was asked how pervasive homophobia is in hip-hop culture.

Wise answered: "Well, I mean, it's pervasive because it's pervasive in the culture. We have a society where it's perfectly legal to discriminate against gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender people. So what is the bigger issue? The issue is not hip-hop, per se, putting out homophobic messages, though it does. It is a culture which is institutionally homophobic and heterosexist. We have a president who is affiliated with religious organizations and movements that believe that gay people are sick and need to be cured." (Our emphasis.)

Too bad he didn't name them, citing chapter and verse.