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USA WEEKEND

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**Affordable
home tips**
from Oprah's
favorite
interior
designer

**Comedian
turned
movie star
Mo'Nique**

**10 things you never thought you'd hear from
GLENN BECK**

(TV's king of outrage shares his softer side)

Glenn Beck, continued

He believes in global warming

"You'd be an idiot not to notice the temperature change," he says. He also says there's a legit case that global warming has, at least in part, been caused by mankind. He has tried to do his part by buying a home with a "green" design and using energy-saving products. "I'm willing to do anything but use the CFLs," he says of compact fluorescent light bulbs. "I put them in once and couldn't stand the way they lit up the room."



Room with a view: Beck with Raphe, 5, and Cheyenne, 3, in his NYC office

He's ticked off at Republicans

He's not a registered member of that party, either. The Grand Old Party has made him angry in recent years because the deficit has soared under its watch. An influential cheerleader for the fiscally conservative Tea Party movement, he's even willing to take a shot at the GOP's patron saint of modern presidents, Ronald Reagan, who was no slouch in driving up a deficit.

"Republicans sold the American people out," Beck says. "I've always said I was a Reagan-style conservative. But I don't think Reagan was a real Republican. He just maintained some shared values."

He's a patron of the arts

The name of Beck's business, Mercury Radio Arts, is a tribute to one of his greatest influences, Orson Welles. ("A total out-of-the-box genius," he says.)

With an office view of the Chrysler and Empire State buildings, Beck retells, with admiration, the historical details of their architecture. He's a fiction writer; he penned *The Christmas Sweater*, about a boy and a magical sweater. "It's not that writing literature fills some kind of void," says Beck, sipping a Coke Zero. "It's just that I have attention-deficit disorder. It gives me something to do with my energy."

Surprise!
Glenn Beck's
house is
energy-
efficient.

He knows he can be a jerk

Beck often regrets what he says on air and dreads the resulting stink will make him look like a bad guy. One particular diatribe that appeared to mock the concept of volunteerism was met with horrified reactions. But Beck stresses that he wasn't dismissing volunteerism, but rather the notion that it should be forced upon citizens by government. "Because if the government is making you do it, it's not volunteering, is it?" says Beck, who volunteers by running New York regional addiction recovery programs for his church.

Another recent incident occurred when someone asked former vice-presidential candidate Sarah Palin about running for the White House in 2012 with Beck as her running mate. On his show, Beck scoffed at the notion, insisting that *he'd* be the presidential candidate, given that Palin is a woman. "Once I said it, I knew that wasn't going to go over well," Beck says. "We do comedy on the show, but I knew there would be an uproar. So I sent Sarah a quick e-mail to say, 'Hey, y'know I didn't mean anything by that.' She laughed it off." **TV**

LEGAL NOTICE

If you are age 40 or over and wrote or were interested in writing for television, a proposed settlement may affect your rights.

Seventeen television networks and studios and seven talent agencies have agreed, subject to Court approval, to settle age discrimination allegations in connection with the hiring and representation of television writers age 40 or over, in nineteen separate class action lawsuits, for a collective payment of \$70,000,000. (Insurance carriers are paying approximately two-thirds of the settlement amount.) If you qualify, you may send in a claim form to get benefits and may comment on or object to the settlement. If you do not want to be part of the settlement, you can exclude yourself.

WHO'S INCLUDED? The settlement defines two classes — (a) persons age 40 or over who have previously written for television, and (b) other persons age 40 or over who have been interested in writing for television. There are various qualifications and exclusions. If you believe that you may be a settlement class member, you can get more information, including a detailed notice, at the websites or telephone numbers below.

WHAT'S THIS ABOUT? The separate lawsuits all claim that the networks, studios and talent agencies discriminate on the basis of age in their employment and representation decisions. The defendants (including ABC, APA, Carsey-Werner, CBS, Columbia TriStar Television, Inc., DW SKG TV LLC, formerly known as DreamWorks SKG TV LLC, Fox, NBC Universal, Paradigm, Shapiro-Lichtman, Sony Pictures Television, Inc., Spelling Television, The Gersh Agency, The Endeavor Agency, The WB Television Network, Touchstone Television, TriStar Television, Inc., Twentieth Century Fox, UPN, UTA, Warner Bros. Television, William Morris Agency, and William Morris Endeavor Entertainment LLC) deny that they discriminate, but believe it makes sense to end the litigation, which has been pending since 2000. The Court did not decide which side was right.

WHAT DOES THE SETTLEMENT PROVIDE? Of the \$70 million settlement, the lawyers representing Plaintiffs and the Settlement Class ("Class Counsel") estimate that about \$43 million will be used to pay awards to Settlement Class Members, pay taxes on those awards, fund activities beneficial to the Settlement Class Members, and fund certain reserves required under the Settlement. One-third of the Settlement will be used to pay Class Counsel's court-approved contingent fee award. The remaining 6.7% will be used to pay and reimburse expenses related to litigation of the claims and notice and administration of this Settlement. Part of that expense portion will be contributed to fund programs for Settlement Class Members.

The share of the fund that each eligible claimant receives will be based on a formula that, once devised, will be submitted to the Court for approval. It will consider many factors, including your income from and qualifications for television writing.

HOW DO YOU ASK FOR A PAYMENT? To qualify for a payment, you must submit a claim form. Call or visit a website below to get one. **Claim forms must be postmarked by April 13, 2010.**

WHAT ARE YOUR OTHER OPTIONS? If you stay in the class, you may comment on the settlement by **April 14, 2010**. To preserve your right to sue any of the defendants yourself for past alleged age discrimination, you must exclude yourself by **April 8, 2010**. If you exclude yourself, you can't get money from the settlement. The detailed notice explains how to exclude yourself or comment. If you do nothing, you will not receive a payment, but you will still give up any right you may have to sue defendants or their affiliates and certain others about alleged age discrimination that occurred prior to January 22, 2010.

The Court will hold a hearing in these cases, which is currently scheduled for **May 5, 2010**, (but which may be rescheduled) to consider whether to finally approve the settlement and the request for attorneys' fees and costs. You may ask to speak at the hearing.

CAN I CONSULT WITH CLASS COUNSEL? Yes. To consult with Class Counsel (led by Paul Sprenger of Washington, DC) at no charge, contact them at the number or website below, or email them at questions@TVWritersCounsel.com. All communications with Class Counsel are confidential and privileged.

Claims Administrator: www.TVWritersSettlementAdmin.com 1-888-730-7198

Class Counsel: www.TVWritersCounsel.com 1-877-518-7090