



## ASK DEANNA! Real People, Real Advice

Ask Deanna! Is an advice column known for its fearless approach to reality based subjects!

Dear Deanna!

I've cut my hair short and dyed it blonde. My friends tease me by saying I'm trying to be and act like the rapper Eminem. The truth is I don't know much about this rapper and I'm just enjoying myself and doing my own thing. Their rude comments are getting to me and now I can't seem to smile any more. Can you help?

Juanito

Online Column Reader

Dear Juanito:

I suggest you smile and tell your friends to stop hating on you. If they're your true friends, they should know who you are and that you're not trying to imitate Slim Shady. Let your friends know they're truly hurting your feelings and you wish they would stop. On the other hand, it could be worse. They could be calling you Sisqo while trying to put you in a thong.

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Dear Deanna!

I am a 25 year old single preacher. I simply want to know why I can't find a woman to love me for me instead of taking advantage of me.

Anonymous

Toledo, OH

Dear Anonymous:

You're very young and still growing into manhood which includes, love, sex and relationships and you're growing in faith at the same time. This is a heavy load from a spiritual standpoint and you need to decide which you want to strengthen first. I vote for your faith. As a young preacher you should build yourself into a fine man of God and not be distracted with the temptations and confusion of trying to find a woman. When God has you where you need to be, he'll complete you with a mate.

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Dear Deanna!

I'm embarrassed because like other women in my church, I have a crush on our single pastor. They see that he's saved and anointed and want him for their husband. He's out of my league and I embarrassed myself trying to talk to him. I won't sit in front of the church or go to the altar. This is wrong because of my desires. My faith is more important than a relationship but this is making me go off the deep end.

Confused

On-Line Column Reader

Dear Confused:

If you're in this turmoil, you shouldn't want your preacher or any other man that makes you trip like this. Look close and you'll realize that he hasn't selected the other women for a reason. Make it easy on yourself by being a real woman and step to him with an open mind, honesty and good intentions. If he's available and interested, he'll let you know. If not, continue to keep your faith a priority and keep it moving.

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Prince, recipient of the Vanguard Award at the 36th NAACP Image Awards, performs at the close of the show at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in Los Angeles on Saturday. Grammy-winning actor Jamie Foxx took home the outstanding actor trophy for the biopic "Ray," which won three awards. Actress/comedian Mo'Nique also won an Image Award.

## 'Ray' tallies four Image Awards

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The biopic "Ray" about the life of legendary singer Ray Charles won four NAACP Image Awards, including an outstanding-actor trophy that added to its star Jamie Foxx's armful of honors.

"Ray" was nominated for a leading seven awards, including outstanding motion picture and outstanding actor in a motion picture for Foxx, who received the best-actor Oscar at last month's Academy Awards.

Foxx exchanged long embraces Saturday night with presenters Sidney Poitier and Diahann Carroll as he accepted his NAACP trophy.

The 36th annual Image

Awards, which honor films, television, literature and music by and about people of color, were handed out at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion. The ceremony, hosted by actor Chris Tucker, was scheduled to air Friday on Fox.

"This has been an absolute wonderful ride," said Foxx, who also won a Golden Globe and Screen Actors Guild Award for his portrayal of the music legend.

It was the second year in a row that Ray Charles loomed large at the Image Awards, which honor works by and about people of color. He was inducted into the NAACP Hall of Fame in 2004, three months before his death at

73.

Singer-songwriter Alicia Keys also was a multiple winner, taking home a pair of trophies for outstanding song and music video for "If I Ain't Got You."

Winners were chosen by members of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization. Other honors for "Ray" included: Kerry Washington, outstanding actress in a motion picture, and Regina King, outstanding supporting actress in a motion picture.

In her acceptance speech, Washington said the country needs the NAACP's activ-

ism more than ever.

Speaking at a ceremony that, unlike most other awards shows, eagerly blends politics and entertainment, she warned that the rights of people of color, women and the poor are "in danger of being stripped" away.

Academy Award winner Morgan Freeman won the Image Award for supporting actor in his role in the film "Million Dollar Baby."

Freeman and Foxx made Oscar history earlier this year. For only the second time in the ceremony's 77 years, Blacks earned two of the four acting awards. Denzel Washington and Halle Berry won (See Image Awards, Page 9)

## TV Land salutes 'Soul Train' creator

NEW YORK (AP)—Don Cornelius figured there would be no surprises in store for him at TV Land's awards show, since he knew his landmark "Soul Train" series would be getting an honor.

But Cornelius walked away touched and awed after a dazzling tribute featuring performances from Stevie Wonder, Smokey Robinson, Little Richard, Mya and Ashanti.

"I thought I had kind of seen it all in these three decades, but it was a little more than I ever expected as a tribute," Cornelius said, a day after the show was taped.

"I'm almost used to seeing flashbacks of some of the more memorable things that we've presented on 'Soul Train.' ... I was prepared for that emotionally, I was not prepared for seeing live flashbacks of people that I love."

The third annual "TV Land Awards: A Celebration of Classic TV," honored

"Soul Train" with its pop culture award.

The trendsetting "Soul Train" is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year. It's the longest-running syndicated show on television, over the years featuring performances

from legends ranging from The Jackson Five to Marvin Gaye. It still draws top new acts.

The show has spawned two awards shows as well, including "The Soul Train Awards," and "The Lady of

Soul Awards."

And there is more to come. Cornelius told The Associated Press that he's trying to create a "Soul Train" cable channel: "Every day we get closer and closer to see that become a reality."

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