

## POWER LIST

NIKKI FINKE'S

Who better to gauge the most influential women in TV and film? The highly opinionated, deeply informed, fearless genius behind [Deadlinehollywooddaily.com](http://Deadlinehollywooddaily.com) picks the 63 *machers* to watch this year

Last year I was on ELLE's Women in Hollywood power list; this year I was asked to write it. That's ironic, because I *hate* power lists more than one-size-fits-all spa robes. These influential jobs are not necessarily comparable. Are the casting directors I included more important than the cinematographers and film editors I didn't? So what I have is a very subjective roster of women I deem essential to a town run by alpha males who don't play well with others. Women in general do.

In case you're wondering, 2009 was a lousy year for female producers because the Industry has contracted, so they're MIA here. But there are still some movie moguls standing, and, even better, TV execs are thriving. **My favorite category, however, is the "coaches."** The trick in Hollywood is not just getting power, it's keeping it, and if women need psychic intuition or telephone therapy or wise advice from showbiz legends for an edge, who am I to judge? Well, I *am* the judge. It's my list! —NIKKI FINKE

## THE COACHES



**A. LAURA DAY:** The author and psychic (her latest book is *How to Rule the World From Your Couch*) is Hollywood's extrasensory secret. Nicole Kidman, Demi Moore, and Jennifer Aniston have gone public about their personal and professional relationships with Day, who conducts private "intuition workshops."

**B. SHERRY LANSING:** This phenomenally successful retired producer and studio head (20th Century Fox, Paramount) now devotes her life to charity, specifically the Sherry Lansing Foundation. But much of her time is spent counseling current and would-be female moguls who seek her out for her experience and wisdom.

**C. SHERRI ZIFF LESTER:** A former *90210* and *Baywatch* writer, she's now the hot life coach, doling out advice on fame, fortune, and all-too-fleeting success in telephone sessions with Hollywood (whose VIPs sometimes find gift certificates for her services in swag bags).

**D. SUE MENEGERS:** The famous agent emeritus may be a recluse in her cozy Beverly Hills home, but that's only because Hollywood's power players beat a path to her door for her showbiz history lessons.

**ELLE**

32  
CELEB  
BEAUTY  
SECRETS  
THAT  
WORK ON  
EVERYONE  
GLOSSY HAIR,  
DEWY SKIN,  
SEXY MAKEUP

**KATIE HOLMES**  
*Her career-defining role, her fashion picks, and leading it work with Kim and Suri*

FASHION!  
WHAT TO  
WEAR NOW  
435+  
IDEAS:  
BAGS, BOOTS,  
JEANS, AND  
PARTY DRESSES  
THAT WILL  
CHANGE  
YOUR LIFE

THE  
WOMEN IN  
HOLLYWOOD  
ISSUE!  
RENÉE, JULIANNE, ROBIN,  
ZOE, EMILY, AND JULIE!  
PLUS:  
ELLE'S POWER LIST  
THE 63 MOST  
LOVED AND  
FEARED IN THE BIZ

EXCLUSIVE  
PHOTOS!  
BRAD, GWYNETH,  
SCARLETT, HALLE  
BEFORE THEY  
WERE FAMOUS

NOVEMBER 2009  
USA \$7.99  
CANADA \$4.99  
ELLE.COM