

# Harvey Levin at TMZ created Kim Kardashian. Does Kim Now Owe Harvey All Of Her Money?

## By Wikipedia

**As the new publication: BLAST; rolls out with the mission of putting TMZ into bankruptcy, the colorful life of Harvey Levin is making headlines. Harvey Robert Levin**<sup>[1][2]</sup> (born September 2, 1950) is an American television producer, lawyer, legal analyst, and celebrity reporter.<sup>[3]</sup> He is the founder of celebrity news website [TMZ](#).

Levin was born September 2, 1950, in [Los Angeles County, California](#) to a [Jewish](#) family.<sup>[1][4][5][6]</sup> He attended high school at [Grover Cleveland High School](#) in [Reseda, Los Angeles](#) and graduated in 1968.<sup>[7][8]</sup> Levin attended the [University of California, Santa Barbara](#), where he graduated with a B.A. in political science in 1972.<sup>[9]</sup> He later attended the [University of Chicago Law School](#) and graduated with a J.D. in 1975.<sup>[10]</sup>

Levin was an active attorney in the state of California from December 18, 1975, until January 1, 1996.<sup>[2]</sup> In the mid-70s, Levin taught law at the [University of Miami School of Law](#) under [Soia Mentschikoff](#).<sup>[10][11]</sup> He briefly practiced in [Los Angeles](#) before returning to teach at [Whittier College School of Law](#).<sup>[11][6][12]</sup>

The introduction and debate surrounding [California Proposition 13](#) in 1978 pushed Levin into the public's eye following his performances in a number of public debates.<sup>[11][6][12]</sup> With his new found fame, he started to contribute legal advice on a radio show where he was nicknamed "Doctor Law", as well as write columns for the [Los Angeles Times](#).<sup>[12][11][6]</sup> His columnist career with the *Times* spanned seven years.<sup>[12]</sup>

Levin's first television job was for Los Angeles-based [KNBC-TV](#) in 1982 where he covered legal issues.<sup>[12]</sup> He would later join [KCBS-TV](#) and spent a decade doing investigative reporting and legal analysis at the station.<sup>[12][11][6]</sup> His television career rose to prominence from his coverage of the [O. J. Simpson murder case](#) where he was regularly on-camera.<sup>[12][11][6]</sup>

He also worked on [The People's Court](#) after impressing a crew member with his legal analysis.<sup>[11]</sup> He has worked on *The People's Court* in some capacity for 25 years.<sup>[12]</sup> With his entertainment career thriving, Levin deactivated his bar registration in 1996.<sup>[2][11]</sup> He later created [Celebrity Justice](#), which ran from 2002 to 2005.<sup>[11][6]</sup>

In 2005, [AOL](#) and [Telepictures Productions](#) launched [TMZ](#) with Levin as the founder and managing editor.<sup>[12][13][14]</sup> The website quickly rose to prominence when it broke the story of [Mel Gibson's](#) DUI arrest and subsequent antisemitic rant.<sup>[12][11][6][13]</sup> It would later break the news regarding a number of high-profile celebrity stories including the abuse of [Rihanna](#) by [Chris Brown](#), the deaths of [Heath Ledger](#), [Brittany Murphy](#), and [Michael Jackson](#).<sup>[6]</sup> The *Los Angeles Times* named TMZ's coverage of the Jackson death as the biggest story the website had covered to date.<sup>[15]</sup>

Levin met with President [Donald Trump](#) on March 7 in the Oval Office and chatted for an hour [\[16\]](#). Levin "just really likes powerful people, and he really likes having friends who are powerful, and who better than the President of the United States? I think he's just blinded by the fact that the President calls him on the phone. I think he just thinks that's really cool," a former staffer told ThinkProgress. [\[17\]](#)

Harvey Levin Productions, the company that produces TMZ and Levin's other media projects, was created in 1983 after Levin joined *The People's Court*.[\[11\]](#) In addition to creating *Celebrity Justice*, Harvey Levin Productions produced *Beyond Twisted*, which aired in 2009 for one season before getting cancelled.[\[18\]](#)

Another creation, *Famous in 12*, was a 2014 experiment on [The CW](#) about exploiting a family for fame.[\[19\]](#) Like *Beyond Twisted*, *Famous in 12* was cancelled after one season with only five of the scheduled twelve episodes aired.[\[20\]](#)

Levin appeared as an event speaker for the [National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association](#) in April 2010 in which he publicly confirmed his self-identification as gay.[\[21\]](#) He discussed his fear of losing his career if someone were to find out, which led to Levin compartmentalizing his personal and professional lives.[\[21\]](#) [\[22\]](#)

Levin's longtime partner is Andy Mauer, a Southern California chiropractor.[\[23\]](#)[\[24\]](#)[\[25\]](#) The two own multiple properties together, sharing joint-deed listings since the late 1990s and early 2000s.[\[23\]](#)[\[24\]](#)

Levin has been named to [Out](#) magazine's "Power 50" list as one of the most influential voices in LGBT America since 2012 when he was named #15.[\[26\]](#) He has since been named #25 in 2013, #34 in 2014, #48 in 2015, and #40 in 2016. [\[27\]](#)[\[28\]](#)[\[29\]](#) [\[30\]](#)

For his broadcast work, Levin has won nine Emmys.[\[13\]](#)

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