



Lightning-fast clips on MTV's magazine show "Buzz" include comments from ordinary people around the world.

'Buzz' will take frantic look at world through granny glasses

By **DIANE JOY MOCA**
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Racism, prejudice and economic war are just a few of the subjects tackled by the premiere edition of "Buzz," MTV's new global series composed of diverse images and sounds pieced together in a frenzied fashion.

"We want the show to be political only in the sense of eliciting a change from people in attitudes and opinions. If that means thrilling them or confusing them, then that's what needs to be done. (We plan to) dazzle them and, once they are there, communicate with them," said Mark Pellington, who created "Buzz" with co-director/producer Jon Klein.

"Buzz" makes its debut Sunday on MTV. During the '80s, MTV was criticized for feeding teenagers music videos filled with violence and sexual innuendo. This new program attempts to present positive perspectives on global issues.

The abstract and seemingly disjointed segments of the show are held together by average individuals expressing their opinions. Every week, new people of all races, ages and cultures provide emotional comments. The subjects they address are geared to universal themes. Pellington hopes

these man-on-the-street snippets will capture viewers' attention.

The 30-minute show also uses short written phrases, which appear periodically on a blank screen, to take the place of a live host. Although celebrities are not the focus, the first episode includes rockers John Cougar Mellencamp and Don Henley.

"Because we've chosen text as our method of communication, the show requires the sort of attention you give a book. Every show has a theme (that is described in the text) — like time and memory, happiness and manipulation. We're not interested in news items. We're interested in emotional topics," said Pellington.

"People should feel something — maybe anger, resentment — but not be anesthetized by the box in front of them," he concluded. "We want to make people think and question themselves and their surroundings and their place in the world. Our goals are more social than political. I'm sure we'll get a lot of people who'll hate the show. We'll anger some people. Good. The worst reaction is if nobody watches it."

BUZZ

■ **When:** 9 p.m. Sunday

■ **Network:** MTV
