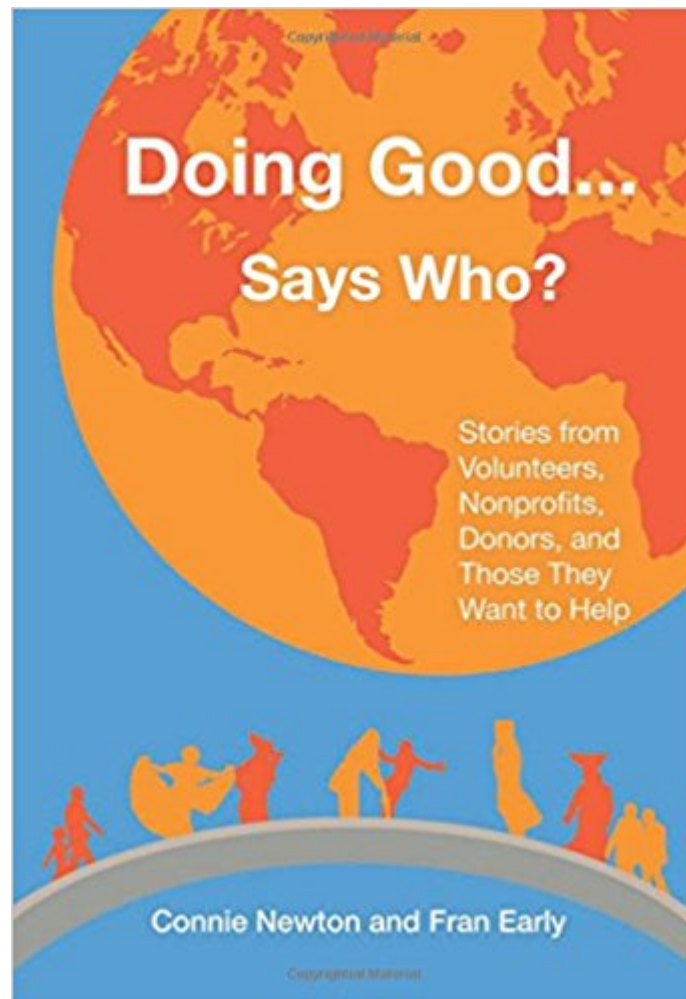


The book was found

Doing Good . . . Says Who?: Stories From Volunteers, Nonprofits, Donors, And Those They Want To Help



Synopsis

Doing Good. . . Says Who? explores the impact of good intentions from the inside. The authors conducted over 400 interviews and synthesized the lessons learned. The end result is that you are on the ground with volunteers, nonprofits, donors, and--most uniquely--the intended beneficiaries of good will. Through story telling, humor, analysis, practical advice and a discussion guide, five key concepts emerge: 1. Respect and value people 2. Build trust through relationships 3. Do 'with' rather than 'for' 4. Ensure feedback and accountability 5. Evaluate every step of the way These principles will help you evaluate your motivations, question assumptions, and turn good intentions into positive outcomes.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I wish this book had existed before my first mission trip experience. I'm doubtful that it would have pierced my fantasies of "rescuing the poor from despair" with one week of unskilled labor, but it might have settled my expectations down or at least given me a resource to fall back on once I fell from such a great height of naive arrogance. From the introduction: How do any of us go about recognizing what we don't understand in another culture? How can we know when our efforts are actually "doing good"? Does it matter? In the stories that follow, it matters. (ix) Fran Early and Connie Newton have assembled a collection of stories based on their years of experience living and working among the people of Guatemala and those good-hearted souls who want to improve their situation. These stories are collected from hundreds of interviews, woven together into five

themed chapters. Each chapter is a story in itself, compiled from the many interviews into a single narrative. The stories themselves are powerful juxtapositions and memorable misunderstandings, and they range from recovering a stolen toilet to a disastrous offer of a \$10,000 gift to a women's co-operative only made possible by cakes and tamales. You'll meet arrogant doctors and amazing ones; hardworking yet clueless funders; local women whose expertise is invaluable; and a cross-section of volunteers and local Guatemalans you will come to love. I was initially disappointed with the authors' decision to condense and co-mingle the stories into a single narrative. It felt a bit concocted or processed to me, and I wanted the raw experience that I thought I would glimpse in a direct interview. However, upon further reflection, I realized that's part of their point.

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