



When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . and Yourself

By Steve Corbett, Brian Fikkert

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With more than 300,000 copies in print, *When Helping Hurts* is a paradigm-forming contemporary classic on the subject of poverty alleviation.

Poverty is much more than simply a lack of material resources, and it takes much more than donations and handouts to solve it. *When Helping Hurts* shows how some alleviation efforts, failing to consider the complexities of poverty, have actually (and unintentionally) done more harm than good.

But it looks ahead. It encourages us to see the dignity in everyone, to empower the materially poor, and to know that we are all uniquely needy—and that God in the gospel is reconciling all things to himself.

Focusing on both North American and Majority World contexts, *When Helping Hurts* provides proven strategies for effective poverty alleviation, catalyzing the idea that sustainable change comes not from the outside in, but from the inside out.

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Editorial Review

Review

I can honestly report that When Helping Hurts is the single best book I've seen on this topic. Although this book will make many readers uncomfortable, it quickly offers hope in the form of understandable, feasible new strategies that better grasp the dignity and promise of the materially poor. It deserves a #1 spot on the reading list of every Christian who wants to follow Jesus in a genuine, mutually transforming love of neighbor.

-Amy L. Sherman, PhD, senior fellow and director, Sagamore Institute Center on Faith in Communities, author, *Restorers of Hope*

What an opportunity evangelicals have to make a difference in our world through the church. Corbett and Fikkert build on the growing momentum of holistic witness that's sweeping our country and globe and are eminently qualified and positioned to take motivated kingdom citizens on a Christ-centered and comprehensive journey that will pay huge dividends for impoverished people and for Christians in our broken world.

-Dr. Ronald J. Sider, president, Evangelicals for Social Action, author, *Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger*

How can a local church make a difference, and how do individual Christians meaningfully reflect Christ's grace, when the disparities of wealth and power in our world are so great? When Helping Hurts explores biblical principles in terms of real-life situations to offer real help and grace-filled answers for such questions.

-Bryan Chappell, president, Covenant Theological Seminary

When Helping Hurts wonderfully combines heavy-duty thinking with practical tools. I appreciate their zeal to root all strategies in the institution God has ordained to bring about His goals. No donor should invest another dollar in any kind of relief effort before digesting the last page of this important book.

-Joel Belz, founder and writer, *World Magazine*

Churches in North America will find this a helpful way to educate congregations and then motivate them to action, both globally and in their neighborhoods.

-Bryant Myers, PhD, professor of International Development, School of Intercultural Studies, Fuller Theological Seminary

A clarion call to rethink how we apply the gospel to a broken world. This book will transform our good intentions into genuine, lasting change.

-Stephen J. Baumann, senior vice president, World Relief

From the Back Cover

Good Intentions Are Not Enough

Unleashing and equipping people to effectively help the poor requires repentance and the realization of our

own brokenness. *When Helping Hurts* articulates a biblically based framework concerning the root causes of poverty and its alleviation.

A path forward is found, not through providing resources to the poor, but by walking *with* them in humble relationships.

Whether you're involved in short-term missions or the long-term empowerment of the poor, this book helps teach you three key areas:

- **Foundational Concepts** *Who are the poor?*
- **Principles** *Should we do relief, rehabilitation, or development?*
- **Strategies** *How can we help people effectively here and abroad?*

About the Author

Steve Corbett is the Community Development Specialist for the Chalmers Center at Covenant College and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics and Community Development at Covenant College.

Brian Fikkert is the Founder and Executive Director of the Chalmers Center at Covenant College, as well as a Professor of Economics and Community Development at Covenant College.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Deborah Hayes:

What do you regarding book? It is not important along with you? Or just adding material when you need something to explain what yours problem? How about your extra time? Or are you busy individual? If you don't have spare time to accomplish others business, it is make one feel bored faster. And you have free time? What did you do? Every person has many questions above. They have to answer that question mainly because just their can do in which. It said that about guide. Book is familiar on every person. Yes, it is suitable. Because start from on kindergarten until university need this particular *When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . and Yourself* to read.

Tonia Lee:

The reserve with title *When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . and Yourself* has lot of information that you can learn it. You can get a lot of gain after read this book. This particular book exist new expertise the information that exist in this guide represented the condition of the world today. That is important to you to find out how the improvement of the world. This book will bring you throughout new era of the the positive effect. You can read the e-book on the smart phone, so you can read that anywhere you want.

Jeanne Newman:

When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . and Yourself can be one of your beginning books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this e-book has good vocabulary that will increase your knowledge in vocab, easy to understand, bit entertaining but still delivering the information. The copy writer giving his/her effort to place every word into delight arrangement in writing When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . and Yourself although doesn't forget the main place, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource data that maybe you can be among it. This great information can easily drawn you into new stage of crucial considering.

Kimberly Foley:

In this period of time globalization it is important to someone to obtain information. The information will make anyone to understand the condition of the world. The condition of the world makes the information quicker to share. You can find a lot of referrals to get information example: internet, classifieds, book, and soon. You will see that now, a lot of publisher in which print many kinds of book. The particular book that recommended to you personally is When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . and Yourself this book consist a lot of the information in the condition of this world now. This kind of book was represented how do the world has grown up. The dialect styles that writer require to explain it is easy to understand. The particular writer made some study when he makes this book. Here is why this book acceptable all of you.

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