



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:

Esther Price:

This *When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . and Yourself* book is not really ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you will get by reading this book is actually information inside this book incredible fresh, you will get details which is getting deeper a person read a lot of information you will get. This kind of *When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . and Yourself* without we comprehend teach the one who examining it become critical in imagining and analyzing. Don't always be worry *When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . and Yourself* can bring if you are and not make your handbag space or bookshelves' come to be full because you can have it in the lovely laptop even telephone. This *When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . and Yourself* having excellent arrangement in word and layout, so you will not truly feel uninterested in reading.

Alejandro Jones:

This *When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . and Yourself* usually are reliable for you who want to certainly be a successful person, why. The reason of this *When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . and Yourself* can be one of the great books you must have will be giving you more than just simple looking at food but feed anyone with information that possibly will shock your prior knowledge. This book will be handy, you can bring it all over the place and whenever

your conditions throughout the e-book and printed versions. Beside that this When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . and Yourself forcing you to have an enormous of experience for instance rich vocabulary, giving you tryout of critical thinking that we all know it useful in your day action. So , let's have it and revel in reading.

Gilbert Phillips:

In this period globalization it is important to someone to obtain information. The information will make you to definitely understand the condition of the world. The fitness of the world makes the information easier to share. You can find a lot of sources to get information example: internet, newspaper, book, and soon. You will see that now, a lot of publisher that print many kinds of book. The book that recommended to you personally is When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . and Yourself this e-book consist a lot of the information in the condition of this world now. This book was represented how can the world has grown up. The vocabulary styles that writer require to explain it is easy to understand. Typically the writer made some investigation when he makes this book. This is why this book suited all of you.

Soledad Neeley:

On this era which is the greater particular person or who has ability in doing something more are more special than other. Do you want to become certainly one of it? It is just simple way to have that. What you must do is just spending your time not very much but quite enough to possess a look at some books. One of many books in the top checklist in your reading list will be When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . and Yourself. This book that is qualified as The Hungry Slopes can get you closer in turning out to be precious person. By looking upwards and review this publication you can get many advantages.

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