“The difficult task over the next twenty-five years is to ensure that they [750 million people already undernourished] and the millions of others who, on current projections, will be outside the market are well fed.” Gordon Conway, *The Doubly Green Revolution: Food for all in the 21st Century*

“Starvation is the characteristic of some people not having enough to eat. It is not the characteristic of there not being enough food to eat.” Amartya Sen, *Poverty and Famines*
Passionate and controversial statements designed to help us develop and follow through on approaches that truly improve the lives of the vast majority of the world’s population.
THE END OF POVERTY

ECONOMIC POSSIBILITIES FOR OUR TIME

JEFFREY D. SACHS

FOREWORD BY BONO
The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time

Jeffrey Sachs, The Earth Institute at Columbia University and Advisor to UN Secretariat

• National Security Strategy of the United States of America – 2004

• A world where some live in comfort and plenty, while half of the human race lives on less than $2 a day, is neither just or stable. Including all of the world’s poor in an expanding circle of development – and opportunity – is a moral imperative and one of the top priorities of US international policy.
The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time

- Provide resources to aid countries that have met the challenge of national reform
- Improve the effectiveness of the World Bank and other development banks in raising living standards
- Insist upon measurable results to ensure that development assistance is actually making a difference in the lives of the world’s poor
- Increase the amount of development assistance that is provided in the form of grants instead of loans
- Since trade and investment are the real engines of economic growth, open societies to commerce and investment
- Secure public health
- Emphasize education
- Continue to aid agricultural development
The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time

• Commit to ending poverty
• Adopt a plan of action
• Raise the voice of the poor
• Redeem the role of the United States in the world
• Rescue the IMF and World Bank
• Strengthen the United Nations
• Harness global science
• Promote sustainable development
• Make a personal commitment
If we spend more money on development around the world would that take the pressure off of our military and the requirements placed upon them?

The US spends more money in absolute terms on development than any other nation, and our military does a considerable amount of humanitarian work.
BUDGET OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Fiscal Year 2009
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*There is no doubt that DOD administers a considerable amount of DOD budget to humanitarian relief and international development. Major question: is this a good idea?
THE WHITE MAN’S BURDEN

WHY THE WEST’S EFFORTS TO AID THE REST HAVE DONE SO MUCH ILL AND SO LITTLE GOOD

WILLIAM EASTERLY
Planners versus Searchers

The tragedy of poverty exists, and after promises to eliminate poverty, poverty continues to exist

“A Planner believes outsiders know enough to impose solutions. A Searcher believes only insiders have enough knowledge to find solutions, and that most solutions must be homegrown.”

“Aid agencies cannot end world poverty, but they can do many useful things to meet the desperate needs of the poor and give them new opportunities.”
“Two key elements that make Searchers work, and whose absence is fatal to plans, are feedback and accountability. Searchers know something works only if the people at the bottom can give feedback. This is why successful Searchers have been close to the customers at the bottom, rather than surveying the world from the top.”

“Lack of feedback is one of the most critical flaws in existing aid.”
“We have to separate two questions that are usually lumped together.

What can Western aid do?

How can long-run prosperity be achieved in the Rest?

This book is only about question one, except to argue that Western aid is not the answer to question two.”
The White Man’s Burden: Why The West’s Efforts To Aid The Rest Have Done So Much Ill And So Little Good

Getting back to basics:

1. Hold aid agents individually accountable...
2. Let those agents search for what works, based on past experience...
3. Experiment, based on the results of the work...
4. Evaluate, based on feedback from intended beneficiaries and scientific testing...
5. Reward success and penalize failure...
6. Make sure incentives (when success is made) are strong enough to encourage more of what worked, and then repeat step 4. If action fails, make sure incentives in step 5 are strong enough to send the agent back to step 1. If failure continues, get a new agent.
Okay, so what is essential?

Hold aid agents individually accountable...
Jeffery Sachs
Insist upon measurable results to ensure...
William Easterly

So, what happens if people as well as organizations aren’t held accountable?
view of Africa’s economic problems. The result is a book that manages to be, at one and the same time, hard-headed and big-hearted. This reader was left wanting a lot more Moyo, and a lot less Bono.
THE ROAD TO HELL

THE RAVAGING EFFECTS OF FOREIGN AID
AND INTERNATIONAL CHARITY

USA

MICHAEL MAREN
The Road to Hell: The Ravaging Effects of Foreign Aid and International Charity
Michael Maren, Foreign Aid Worker and Journalist

- “All domination involves invasion – at times physical and overt, at times camouflaged, with the invader assuming the role of helping friend.” *Paulo Freire*
- “There are men in this world who derive as stern an exaltation from proximity to disaster and ruin, as others from success.” *Winston Churchill*
- “Very few policy makers understand what famine is. They think it means there’s no food...Famine is a failure of the market. And you can’t fight an economic problem by giving away food.” *Fred Cuny*
- “If you are really looking for a way for people to lean on you and to be dependant upon you, in terms of cooperation with you, it seems to me that food dependence would be terrific.” *Hubert Humphrey*
The Road to Hell: The Ravaging Effects of Foreign Aid and International Charity

Michael Maren, Foreign Aid Worker and Journalist

- “War is the beast that eats children. With food aid, we think we are feeding children, but we may be feeding the beast.” *Lindsey Hilsum*
- “The first priority of any NGO, like any bureaucracy, is its own survival.” *Michael Maren*
- “Most American NGOs, just like the army and marines, had been instruments of U.S. foreign policy all along.” *Michael Maren*
- “From the military’s perspective, the NGO relationship gives them credibility as humanitarians and opens new vistas of intervention.” *Michael Maren*
- “The priority of any NGO should be to work themselves out of a job.” *Bob Patterson*
“Nothing less than a masterwork of contemporary journalism. . . . An angry, brilliant, fiercely useful, absolutely essential book.”
—The New Republic

“A PROBLEM FROM HELL”

AMERICA and the AGE of GENOCIDE

SAMANTHA POWER

WINNER of the PULITZER PRIZE

National Book Critics Circle Award Winner
A Problem From Hell: America And The Age Of Genocide

Samantha Power, Harvard University and Journalist

- **Knowledge** – Didn’t know or fully appreciate the magnitude of the situation
- **Influence** – Couldn’t have done much to stop the genocide
- **Will** – Decided not to act out of fear or indifference
- **Accountability** – None that can really hold one accountable
- **Future** – Many times the future merely reflects the past

*New News is Just Old News Happening to New People [GKC or MM]*
Knowledge – Will we take the time and effort to appreciate the magnitude of situations and circumstances around us, especially when they do not “seem” to directly affect us?

Influence – Will we refuse to underestimate the impact individuals and grassroots efforts can have. How persistent will we be?

Will – we decide to act, overcoming indifference and fear.

Accountability – Will we point out needs, injustices, and failures in a way that builds and doesn’t destroy? Are we willing to be self-critical and questioning, and will we refuse to be hypocritical?

Future – Will we make life better for ALL people.
Functional illiteracy in North America is epidemic. There are 7 million illiterate Americans. Another 27 million are unable to read well enough to complete a job application, and 30 million can’t read a simple sentence. There are some 50 million who read at a fourth- or fifth-grade level. Nearly a third of the nation’s population is illiterate or barely literate—a figure that is growing by more than 2 million a year. A third of high-school graduates never read another book for the rest of their lives, and neither do 42 percent of college graduates. In 2007, 80 percent of the families in the United States did not buy or read a book. And it is not much better beyond our borders. Canada has an illiterate and semiliterate population estimated at 42 percent of the whole, a proportion that mirrors that of the United States.

Television, a medium built around the skillful manipulation of images, ones that can overpower reality, is our primary form of mass communication. A television is turned on for six hours and forty-
Consider…

...recognizing the source of compassion and desire to assist others, foster that direction, and attempt to understand the many aspects of human nature and culture

...the ethics and morality of motives before they are put into action

...that each person has the potential to do great things, for themselves and others, no matter who they are or what their history is – don’t let others marginalize you, and don’t marginalize others

...trying not to get overwhelmed or discouraged by people’s attitudes and actions and depressing circumstances

...doing what you can, where you are, with what you have, along with the person beside you

...being willing to change when you need to
A Final Take Home

...Many people "fall into" what they are doing later in life, all along...even though they may have thought they had everything "figured out" years in advance...

...don’t get discouraged if you have to change or adjust...

...don’t feel like you are helpless to help...a time will come when you can help in more ways than you are helping now (including financially)...so try not to forget some of the things you have seen in 323...

...don’t assume the “older and more experienced” people who ought to be doing more are going to do more...

...Child Sponsorships are a good start...brings the “bigger world” closer to “your world”...