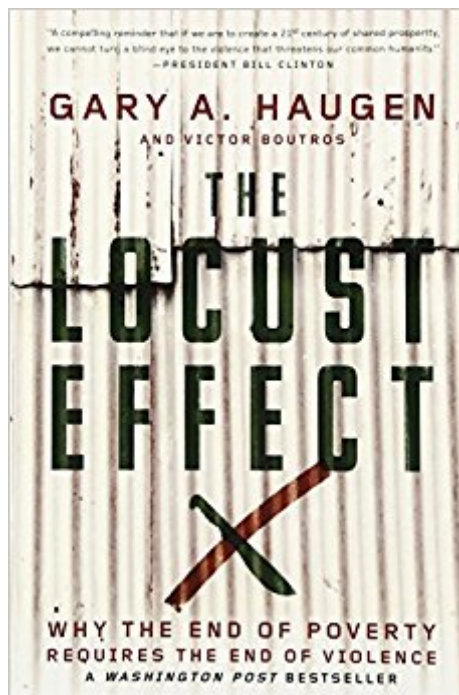




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The Locust Effect: Why The End Of Poverty Requires The End Of Violence



Synopsis

A Washington Post bestseller While the world has made encouraging strides in the fight against global poverty, the hidden plague of everyday violence silently undermines our best efforts to help the poor. Common violence like rape, forced labor, illegal detention, land theft, and police abuse has become routine and relentless. And like a horde of locusts devouring everything in its path, the unchecked plague of violence ruins lives, blocks the road out of poverty, and undercuts development. How has this plague of violence grown so ferocious? In one of the most remarkable social disasters of the last half century, basic public justice systems in the developing world have descended into a state of utter collapse, and there's nothing shielding the poor from violent people. Gary A. Haugen and Victor Boutros offer a searing account of how we got here and what it will take to end the plague. The Locust Effect is a gripping journey into the streets and slums where fear is a daily reality for billions of the world's poorest, where safety is secured only for those with money, and where much of our well-intended aid is lost in the daily chaos of violence. While their call to action is urgent, Haugen and Boutros provide hope, a real solution and an ambitious way forward. The Locust Effect will forever change the way we understand global poverty, and will help secure a safe path to prosperity for the global poor in the 21st century.

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Customer Reviews

A Look Inside: The Locust Effect [\[Click Images to Enlarge\]](#) --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

"Gripping and perspective-altering book." --David Brooks, The New York Times

"Throughout my life I've seen firsthand that while talent, ambition, and hard work are distributed equally among all people around the world, many face challenges each day simply surviving. The Locust Effect is a compelling reminder that if we are to create a 21st century of shared prosperity, we cannot turn a blind eye to the violence that threatens our common humanity." --President Bill Clinton

"The Locust Effect provides a much-needed argument for reducing violence against the poor and a demonstration -- through first hand stories that are both shocking and true -- of why that goal is so vital. By reminding us that basic legal protections are not a privilege, but a universal right, Gary Haugen has issued a moral call to arms that informs the brain and touches the heart." --Madeleine Albright, Former U.S. Secretary of State

"This extraordinary book offers surprising and valuable insights about the nature and the drivers of the plague of violence that haunts the global poor as well as smart ideas about how to tackle it. A must-read." --Moisés Nájera, Scholar, Carnegie Endowment, author of The End of Power, and former editor-in-chief of Foreign Policy

"You may 'know' that the world's poor suffer common everyday violence -- robbery, extortion, rape, murder, torture-a stream of humiliating assaults on their dignity. You may 'know' that this implies lost productivity and ultimately lost growth for low-income economies. Haugen asks why, if we know all that, we do so little? ...Read this book and you will be convinced the issue deserves more of your attention." --Nancy Birdsall, Founding President, Center for Global Development

"Some of the biggest ideas are right in front of us but still invisible. The Locust Effect brings home, in convincing and powerful detail, the simple but oh-so-important point that poverty results from violence as much as violence results from poverty. This book is a must-read for anyone interested in development, security, and the failure of billions of people to achieve their potential." --Anne-Marie Slaughter, President, New America Foundation, and Professor Emeritus of Politics and International Affairs, Princeton University

"The Locust Effect presents a compelling and shocking portrayal of the relationship between violence and poverty. The book convincingly argues that violence is the missing link in our understanding of global poverty and of our development interventions. Haugen has spent decades in extraordinary work to address violence, to free those subjected to it, and to apply the rule of law. His firsthand account brings needed moral and developmental urgency to the relentless and pervasive violence poor people experience, especially women and girls. This is a must-read book that will fundamentally expand our analysis of the nature of global poverty and our efforts to overcome it." --Maria Otero, Former U.S. Under Secretary of State for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights, and Former President and CEO of ACCION International

"In a world

of simplistic and knee-jerk responses to the world's problems, Gary Haugen arrives with insight, wisdom, and realism. The Locust Effect is a game-changer. He shows us how violence slices through all our good intentions, negating development, rights, and freedom. This is a book that is as smart as it is heartfelt, as grounded as it is creative. These are ideas of real power and grace."

--Kevin Bales, Professor of Contemporary Slavery, University of Hull, and Co-Founder, Free the Slaves" This crucial study carefully documents the fundamental truth that the end of poverty demands the end of violence. Both fascinating and important, Gary Haugen's book is a moving demonstration that is at once fact-filled and highly readable -- a truly unusual combination."

--Laurence H. Tribe, Carl M. Loeb University Professor and Professor of Constitutional Law, Harvard Law School" The Locust Effect is a wake-up call to everyone who cares about global poverty. As International Justice Mission's Gary Haugen and co-author Victor Boutros report, with painstaking data and breathtaking cases from the field, unchecked violent crime against the poorest, especially girls and women, isn't just a human rights problem. It is a drag on development that no amount of foreign aid can fix if functioning public justice systems aren't part of the solution."

--Jacqueline Fuller, Director, Google Giving" The Locust Effect does a great service to masses of poor and vulnerable children and adults who are victims of everyday, ordinary violent crime but who are wholly unprotected by law enforcement institutions. International Justice Mission and authors Gary Haugen and Victor Boutros have put the life and death issue of poor people's access to the rule of law squarely on the agenda of governments, development institutions, and civil society."

--Elisa Massimino, President and CEO of Human Rights First" Gary Haugen reveals in painful detail the brokenness of our criminal justice systems. He also shows us that it's possible to fix them. The work of IJM that he narrates from Cebu City in the Philippines, for example, is an extraordinary story of how a committed team can come to understand justice system failures, support improvements at every step in the law enforcement process, strengthen the hand of internal reform champions, and achieve transformation. There are people in every corner of the world working to advance justice. I recommend this book to all of them."

--Vivek Maru, CEO and Founder of Namati, and Founder and Former Director for Timap for Justice" The Locust Effect makes a compelling case that a country that wants to grow and prosper needs a public justice system that protects its people, especially victims of crime, exploitation and oppression. Developing nations that must provide their citizens police who are honest, active and willing to protect victims of crime and exploitation -- especially the poorest and most vulnerable in society." --Major General Pol Phie They, Director of Cambodia's Anti-Human Trafficking and Juvenile Protection Department" An insightful, incisive analysis of violence as it impacts every level of the plight of the poor. A compelling wake-up call for all who care about justice

and human rights. It tells the truth and gives tools and guidelines that demand attention." --Tim Costello, Chief Executive, World Vision Australia"I have seen firsthand the ravages of violence against women and children all over the world. International Justice Mission continues to bring to light the impact of common crime not only on individual victims, but on whole countries. The Locust Effect is a must-read book for everybody who cares about the poorest of the poor." --Cindy Hensley McCain, Humanitarian and Business Owner"Gary Haugen and IJM are waking up the social consciences of the worldwide Church even as they have shown the international human rights community 'why the end of poverty requires the end of violence' caused by the widespread failure of justice systems in the developing world. In this important book, Haugen continues to do both." --Tim Keller, Redeemer Presbyterian Church of New York City"Gary Haugen's The Locust Effect is an exhaustive, devastatingly painful look at the very problem the 'civilized world' would rather not face: the systemic, unspeakable violence against the poorest of the world's poor. This book is hard to read. One wants to turn away. And yet the reader can only wonder what would happen without the profound work of Gary Haugen and International Justice Mission and their tireless efforts to end the madness." --Kathie Lee Gifford, Host on NBC's The TODAY Show"When the bell tolls for justice throughout the modern world, Gary Haugen is most often nearby, raising his voice (and ours) as a tireless sentinel for freedom for the poor and oppressed--those who live beyond the reach of the protections many in the western world take for granted day by day. In The Locust Effect, Gary unveils the deeper issues of poverty and uncovers what we often fail to see, or worse, do not want to acknowledge is real." --Louie Giglio, Pastor, Passion City Church"In a remarkably sensitive study, very aptly named The Locust Effect, the authors have provided many new valuable insights into the intimate relationship between poverty and violence plaguing the billions of global poor in many post-colonial societies across continents. This is also probably the first time that Western observers have come upon the unpleasant reality that it is, in fact, the native political establishments in South Asian countries themselves who stubbornly refuse to break away from the colonial ruler supportive police and criminal justice systems, concepts, laws, procedures, and mind sets imposed by the imperialist rulers, thus denying their peoples the benefits of a citizen friendly law enforcement system. An invaluable companion to all criminal justice studies." --Kirpal Dhillon, Former Director General of Police in the Indian states of Punjab and Madhya Pradesh; Vice Chancellor, Bhopal University, India

*****This is one of the most important books I've ever read. It is a ground-breaking book that exposes the untold story of violence to the global poor. It opened my eyes to a world I never see or

think about; now it is one I cannot forget. The most important thing we can do to help poor people anywhere is to stop the violence that is perpetrated on them and destroying their lives--things like rape, torture, slavery, and murder--and without this, no other form of assistance will be able to ultimately help them. Violence to women and children. Land seizure and throwing people out of their homes to take their property leaving them homeless and penniless on the street. In other parts of the world, this is common. And the unfortunate poor have no recourse. If you are not safe, nothing else matters. There are many solutions--many. The most important thing that can be done is to transform law enforcement systems--a solution that has been historically successful--and this book describes how. But there is so much more! It includes a fascinating discussion of colonialism and how inherited systems from that time are what is still in place now for law enforcement in many developing countries. The book explains difficult concepts so that any educated person (even one generally ignorant of global human rights issues--like me) can understand. You need have no background or previous interest. Reading this book is a difficult journey. It is hard to get through the first hundred or so pages as they are very raw and graphic. The next hundred pages I read eagerly, and the final hundred pages I devoured. I don't regret the pain at the beginning because honestly the reader has to see the horror of what is happening to understand the importance of finding a solution. You have to CARE first before you want to read about what can be done to help. This book is not just for people who care about global concerns and social justice issues. It is also for those who don't. It is for comfortable Americans (like me) who are normally pre-occupied with everyday concerns and find it hard to find bandwidth to look outside of my little sphere. It made me care. It made me get involved. And it was worth it. I know that if you make the time to read it it will do the same for you and change your life in a meaningful way--let you know about a problem that has a hopeful solution for which you can make a real difference. I think that one of the great successes of this book is that it shatters the personal comfort and insularity of the reader by giving them an awareness that motivates them to action to make a difference. In other words, your life will be different when you finish if you have a heart. One of the co-authors of this book is the founder of IJM--"...an international human rights agency that supports the world's largest corps of local, indigenous advocates providing direct service to impoverished victims of violent abuse and oppression in the developing world." The other co-author "is a federal prosecutor who investigates and tries nationally significant cases of police misconduct, hate crimes, and international human trafficking around the country on behalf of the US Dept of Justice." Note that ALL author royalties from sales of The Locust Effect will go to IJM to help fight violence against the poor. Buy more than one copy and give it to those you love. Help get this problem on the world's radar screen. Highly,

highly recommended.*****

This is an exceptional book that brings to light what the majority of society does not understand about the poverty cycle. The world strives to feed, educate, house, provide medical and social services to the poor in hopes of uplifting them and bring them out of poverty. Gary Haugen's very clearly points out that violence in many countries keeps the poor bound and locked into a world of darkness and pain. In so many places around the world law enforcement, the protectors, and servants of the people are the greatest aggressor and cause of pain towards the poor. Their lack of attention to the needs of every citizen, keeping violence, and fear, away and bringing justice to the people is a cause for action around the world. the Locust Effect clearly calls us all to become part of the solution in changing our world, to become involved in some way to break the cycle of poverty and stop the violence. People (young girls and children) around the world endure slavery, human trafficking, sexual assaults and sexual and physical abuse. They have no advocates! I would recommend this book to anyone looking for a way to make a difference, but especially to all law enforcement officers. As a retired deputy sheriff I gained a greater understanding of how important our role is in society. What it really means to "protect and serve", and how we in law enforcement and the criminal justice system are tasked with breaking the hold of poverty and violence in our neighborhoods, cities, states, our country and the world.

This book has opened my eyes to a whole new view of world politics and justice systems. I'll be honest and say I have only read half of it because it became boring to keep having the exact same message reiterated countless ways.....even though I understand it's an important message I grasped it well enough to not want it repeatedly hammered over my head.

Anyone who cares about the developing world at this time in history should have a clear understanding of the urgent need for functional law enforcement. This book is surprising because it points out something so obvious that it's a little embarrassing. All of the resources the developed world has spent on bringing relief to the poor is jeopardized by lawlessness and violent crime. We simply cannot continue to provide aid work without considering the role of justice systems. Clear, concise, and hopeful, my favourite strategy the book employs is a sober look at history. By putting the almost hopelessly corrupt and non functioning public systems of the developing world in a historical context, it becomes very easy to believe that, like judicial systems in the U.S., France, Japan, and Britain, it is possible to reform these systems to provide functional law enforcement for

the the poor. It is possible to stem the tide of violent injustice against the poor. A must read for anyone concerned with the poor in our historical period.

I realized that if you want to help the poor in the developing world, you have to know how violence affects them. I was familiar with International Justice Mission, Haugen's organization as focusing on slavery and human trafficking, but through this book I realized how important protecting the poor from violence is. Common criminal violence, including violence committed by police, can destroy a person's life and all efforts to improve it. The law enforcement and criminal justice systems in the developing world are stuck with the effects of colonialism that protect the elite and not the poor. Despite all the problems, he shows that there is proof that things can be improved.

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