

Good intentions. Unintended consequences.

(not about me)



GIV'ER MEDIA AND SHOT IN THE DARK PRODUCTIONS PRESENT "NOT ABOUT ME"

IN ASSOCIATION WITH MIDNIGHT LIGHT MEDIA

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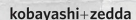
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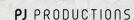
 Canada Media Fund

 Yukon

 MIDNIGHT LIGHT MEDIA

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 PJ PRODUCTIONS

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A Documentary Discussion Guide

For communities to explore ideas on
child rights, humanitarian aid
and social justice issues.



WATCH. TALK. TAKE ACTION...



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Ideas for Taking Action

- Pledge to End Orphanage Volunteering
- Social Awareness & Advocacy
- Champion Children's Rights



Audience Engagement Tools

These tools are designed to help community screening hosts bring context, interest and greater understanding about the film's key messages. Share as you see fit and as time permits.

Before You Watch: Pre-viewing Survey

This short survey is a great way to engage audiences from the get-go and you can share results after watching the film to stoke conversations.

- 1 minute, multiple choice questions
- Secure, anonymous survey platform
- Mobile-friendly
- SURVEY: notaboutmefilm.com/impact/surveys

Orphanage Myths & Facts

A reality check about orphanages and volunteering.

Volunteer Literacy

Know before you give and go... Questions to ask yourself and organizations for ethical volunteering.

Donor Literacy

#InformedGenerosity promotes giving with information and understanding — not just your heart.

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Understand and advocate for child rights that keep families together.

Backgrounder: Haiti 101

Put the film in context and frame broader social justice issues.

A Case to Improve International Aid

Remember the 2010 earthquake, consider what we have learned.

Engagement Tip

VISUALIZE: If you have a projector at your screening, project the slides from your digital PDF Screening Guide to give audiences a visual point of reference.

#InformedGenerosity. What does that mean?

Wanting to give is a great thing but how we give makes a big difference.

#InformedGenerosity promotes giving with information and understanding — not just your heart. A simple internet search and review of an organization's website should provide the information you need to make informed decisions. Here are some guidelines to help you help better...

REGISTERED: Is the charity registered?

Check that the charity is registered with the Canadian Revenue Agency and/or the United States Revenue Agency 501(c) (3). The Government of Canada offers a [searchable database](#).

TRANSPARENCY & EFFICIENCY: Can you review the organization's financial statements?

Charities with more than \$250K in donations are required to make their audited financial statements available. Even unregistered nonprofits should be transparent with their financial reporting. How much does the charity spend on overhead? Review their dollars-to-the-cause percentage. In general, it is reasonable to see overhead spending between five and 30 per cent.

MISSION + WORK: How does the organization define its goals and programs?

If a charity struggles to define its mission and initiatives, it will probably have a tough time achieving measurable results. Does its work align with your goals?

ACCOUNTABILITY: Does the organization share results of its impact?

It's one thing to spend \$X dollars, it's another to measure if those dollars are achieving results. Look for information such as how many people it served last year and if that trend changed year-over-year.

LOCAL, SUSTAINABILITY & SELF-SUFFICIENCY: Does the organization work with local staff, authorities and businesses?

Organizations that aim to contribute to sustainable change should involve and respect the people it's trying to help.

- Are locals anchoring the projects on the ground, or are foreigners or "white saviours" cast in the leading role?
- Will funds be spent on local staff and materials or does it parachute in products and services (and people) to "fix" a problem.
- Beyond providing immediate assistance, does the organization also address root causes that support sustainability (poverty, inequalities in healthcare and education)?



CHECKLISTS

Ask the organization...

- Charitable registration number
- Financial statements including its administration costs
- Mission statement and programs including how it works locally
- Impact reporting

Ask yourself...

- What is my motivation for making this donation? Is it mostly about making me feel good or empowering people with sustainable, respectful aid?
- What is my commitment to the cause? Will I revisit the website to gauge its impact? Would I consider making a monthly donation to sustain the organization's efforts?
- Do I know enough about the situation to know if the donation is appropriate for the local climate, culture, and religion?

***Bigger doesn't equal better...** Even "reputable" international NGOs should share their impact reports, especially with disaster relief efforts that are challenging to coordinate and account for. Donors often trust these organizations to be effective but they can become heavy on administrative costs and lose their ability to involve locals.



TOOLKIT | A Case to Improve International Aid

January 12, 2010 marks the deadliest earthquake in the history of the Western Hemisphere. The international response to this earthquake is the setting of the film and an example of how good intentions can have unintended consequences.

2010

Scale of Damage

- 7.0 magnitude quake strikes Haiti
- 250,000+ deaths
- 300,000+ injured
- 1.5 million left homeless
- 17% of the government workforce is killed
- 1 (of 28) government building is left standing
- \$7.9 billion in damages require reconstruction
- ½ of Haiti's schools are destroyed

Surge of Global Goodwill...

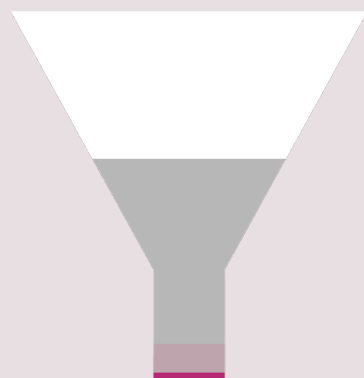
- 50% of Americans donate \$3.6 billion to non-profits
- \$10+ billion pledged by international governments agencies
- Thousands of foreign volunteers go to Haiti to help
- 150x more new orphanages open

2012

Flaws in Distributing Funds

Good intentions aside, by the end of 2012 getting funds to Haitians who needed help proved to be its own dysfunctional disaster.

\$10.5 billion promised (total)



\$4 billion never delivered

\$6.5 billion actually disbursed

- 90% went to non-Haitian agencies and businesses
- 9.5% went to the Haitian government
- 0.5% went to Haitian businesses and NGOs

2021

What Have We Learned?

On August 14, 2021, another earthquake rocked Haiti in the southwest near Les Cayes where Not About Me was filmed.

- 7.2 magnitude
- 2,000+ deaths
- 12,000+ injured
- 140,000+ buildings damaged or destroyed

An opportunity to do better...

As they did in 2010, many international organizations and individuals generously contributed to disaster relief efforts in 2021. This time, there was more support for Haitian organizations to manage the allocation of emergency funds. Has this approach continued through the rebuilding process? How can global powers support sustainable recovery and self-determination?