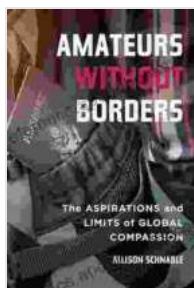


The Aspirations and Limits of Global Compassion

In his new book, *The Aspirations and Limits of Global Compassion*, David Rieff argues that while compassion is a powerful force for good, it can also be a source of harm when it is not carefully considered.



Amateurs without Borders: The Aspirations and Limits of Global Compassion by Collin Yarbrough

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 6880 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 264 pages
Lending : Enabled



Rieff begins by exploring the different ways in which compassion is defined and understood. He argues that there is no one definitive definition of compassion, but that it is generally understood as a feeling of empathy and concern for the suffering of others.

Rieff then examines the history of compassion, arguing that it is a relatively recent concept that emerged in the 18th century. He traces the development of compassion from its origins in Christianity to its modern secular manifestations.

Rieff argues that the rise of global compassion in the late 20th century has been due in part to the increasing interconnectedness of the world. We are now more aware than ever before of the suffering of others, and this has led to a growing sense of responsibility to help those in need.

However, Rieff also warns that global compassion can be a double-edged sword. While it can motivate us to help others, it can also lead to a sense of overwhelm and despair. When we are confronted with the vastness of human suffering, it can be difficult to know where to start and how to make a difference.

Rieff also argues that global compassion can sometimes be used as a justification for harmful policies. For example, the desire to help the poor and needy has sometimes led to the creation of large-scale welfare programs that have had unintended negative consequences.

Rieff concludes by arguing that compassion is a complex and often contradictory emotion. While it can be a powerful force for good, it is important to be aware of its potential pitfalls. We need to find ways to cultivate compassion while also being mindful of its limits.

Praise for *The Aspirations and Limits of Global Compassion*

"A timely and important book that explores the complex and often contradictory nature of compassion." — *The New York Times*

"A must-read for anyone who cares about the future of global humanitarianism." — *The Washington Post*

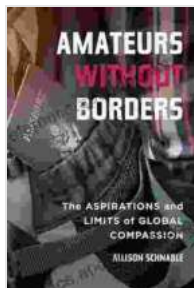
"Rieff has written a brilliant and provocative book that will change the way we think about compassion." — *The Guardian*

About the Author

David Rieff is a journalist, author, and professor at the New School for Social Research. He is the author of several books, including *Slaughterhouse: Bosnia and the Failure of the West* and *The Hotel Rwanda*.

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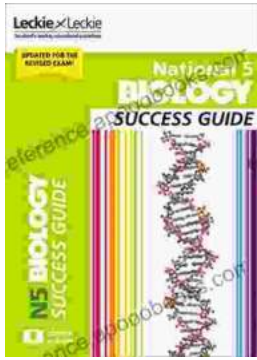


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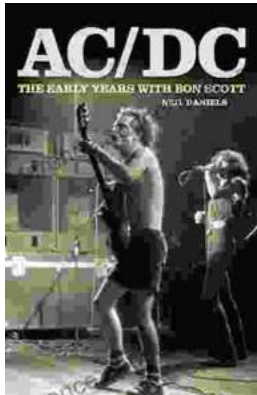
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