



## Recent additions update 12 October 2007

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### Books

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**The No-nonsense guide to human rights** / Ball, Olivia; Gready, Paul  
London: New Internationalist, 2006.

How do we define human rights, and how do we protect them? Using vivid case studies from around the world, the authors illustrate how the concept of rights changes according to geography and culture.

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**The Aid chain : coercion and commitment in development NGOs** / Wallace, Tina (ed); Bornstein, Lisa (ed); Chapman, Jennifer (ed)  
Warwickshire, UK: Practical Action, 2007.

Significant proportions of aid already flow through the non-governmental sector, but questions are increasingly being asked about the role of NGOs and whether they can deliver on their ambitious claims. This study examines conditionality and mutual commitment between international aid donors and recipient NGOs, North and South. Fieldwork and case study material from Uganda and South Africa are used to support the authors' contention that the fast changing aid sector has--in the context of a dynamic policy environment--encouraged the mainstreaming of a managerial approach that does not admit of any analysis of power relations or cultural diversity. This increasing--essentially technical-- definition of the roles of NGOs has worked to limit the extent of the very development that the organizations were initially established to promote.

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### **Vital signs 2007-2008**

Washington DC: Worldwatch Institute, 2007.

This report tracks and analyses 44 trends that are shaping our future, and includes graphs and charts to provide a visual comparison over time. Categories of trends include: Food, Agricultural Resources, Energy and Climate, Global Economy, Resource Economics, Environment, War and Conflict, Communications and Transportation, Population and Society, and Health and Disease.

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**The No-nonsense guide to tourism** / Nowicka, Pamela  
London: New Internationalist, 2007.

This guide demystifies the often invisible impacts of global tourism, one of the biggest industries in the world. From labour conditions to development by stealth; to the role of elites and the cultural impacts on both the visitor and the visited. It also takes in themes like the gap year, the role of travel and vacations in western cultures, and examines the 'happy smiling faces' syndrome and asks whether this is just a reworking of old colonial relationships.

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**Enslaved : true stories of modern day slavery** / Sage, Jesse (ed); Kasten, Liora (ed)  
New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007.

Twenty-seven million people are estimated to be held in slavery around the world today. This collection of first-hand accounts will raise awareness and show how slavery is thriving in the twenty-first century. From poverty-stricken countries to affluent American suburbs, slaves toil as sweatshop workers, sex slaves, migrant workers, domestic servants and chattel slaves. This groundbreaking collection includes accounts written by ten former slaves and slaveholders in Southeast Asia, Africa, the Middle East and the United States. From Micheline, a Haitian girl who wound up as a domestic worker in Connecticut, to Abdel, a Sudanese slave owner turned abolitionist, these are stories that will heighten awareness of a global human rights crisis that can no longer be ignored.

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**Inside Lebanon : journey to shattered land with Naom Chomsky** / Kfoury, Assaf (ed)  
New York, NY: Monthly Review Press, 2007.

In May 2006, Noam and Carol Chomsky visited Lebanon for the first time — just two months before Israel unleashed a new military campaign against both Lebanon and Palestine. During their eight-day trip, they toured refugee camps and a former Israeli prison and torture compound; met with political leaders — including the pro-government coalition; and Noam conducted interviews and gave public lectures on U.S. imperialism and the imminent crises facing the Middle East. *Inside Lebanon* documents Noam and Carol Chomsky's journey and situates it within the tragically altered context of Lebanon and Palestine before and after the war of 2006. Noam Chomsky's essays provide the background and framework for understanding the role of U.S. politics, power, and policies in these conflicts by examining how the United States wages war and imposes world domination while presenting itself as the righteous protector of democracy. Ironically, U.S. efforts at imperial control generate conflict and crises within the region while undermining the very democracy they claim to promote.

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**Invisible cure : Africa, the West and the fight against AIDS** / Epstein, Helen  
New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2007.

In 1993, Helen Epstein, a scientist working with a biotechnology company searching for an AIDS vaccine, moved to Uganda, where she witnessed first-hand the suffering caused by the HIV virus. This book recounts the struggle of international health experts, governments and ordinary Africans to understand the devastating spread of HIV in Africa, and traces how their responses to the crisis have changed in light of new medical developments and political realities. The AIDS epidemic in Africa is uniquely severe. It is partly a consequence of the political, social, and economic upheavals of the past century, which have left millions of Africans adrift in an increasingly globalized world. Their poverty and social dislocation have generated an earthquake in gender relations that has had devastating consequences for the spread of the HIV virus. Epstein argues that there are ways to address this crisis that may be simpler than many people imagine.

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**The No-nonsense guide to conflict and peace** / Ware, Helen (ed)  
London: New Internationalist, 2006.

This invaluable guide is excellent for students, peace groups and activists. With tables, maps, case studies and quotes, it examines the changing types of war, including the 'War on Terror' and ethnic conflict such as in Rwanda; the role of diplomacy and the UN, and what steps ordinary people are taking to re-build communities. It offers ideas and inspiration for creating lasting peace.

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**The No-nonsense guide to climate change (3rd ed)** / Godrej, Dinyar  
London: New Internationalist, 2006..

This No Nonsense Guide, fully revised and updated, looks at the latest findings on climate change, explores the options and explains key issues like carbon emissions trading and the debate over nuclear power versus renewable energy. It calls for measures to clean up our act, cut energy use, and improve energy efficiency.

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**The No-nonsense guide to fair trade (new ed)** / Ransom, David  
London: New Internationalist, 2006..

This fully revised guide tells the human story behind the products we consume. David Ransom argues that the key question is not whether trade should be regulated or deregulated, but whether it is to be master or servant of the people.

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**AIDS and power : why there is no political crisis - yet** / De Waal, Alex  
London: Zed Books, 2006.

HIV/AIDS, Africa's greatest human tragedy for over a century, is an immense challenge to democrats and activists. Can governments survive an epidemic that has cut life expectancy in half, further burdened fragile economies, and created millions of orphans? Why, twenty years into the crisis, are democratic governments performing so poorly in tackling the disease? Argues that existing approaches to the epidemic are driven by interests and frameworks that fail to engage with African resilience and creativity. Already, African communities have confounded some of the worst predictions of disaster, and if adequately supported, can find ways of sustaining development and democracy in the midst of HIV/AIDS.

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**Freedom next time** / Pilger, John  
New York: Nation Books, 2006.

In this book, John Pilger looks at five countries where a long struggle for freedom has taken place, and in which the people - having shed blood and dreams - are still waiting. In Afghanistan, Iraq and South Africa there have been promises of hope and even of 'official' freedom, the the reality of these divided societies is that they are still waiting for real freedom. In Palestine the world's longest occupation continues with no resolution in sight. Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean has become the microcosm of the ruthlessness of great powers. Sold by the British to the United States military in the 1960s, the indigenous people of this island were forcibly removed and have continued to fight for return to their homeland. John Pilger gives voice to people living through these momentous times and illuminates the true enemies of freedom and salutes those who refuse to be victims.

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**The Essentials of human rights** / Smith, Rhona K.M.; van den Anker, Christien  
London: Hodder Arnold, 2005.

The Essentials of Human Rights is an easy-to-use, accessible introduction to the human rights debate. It covers the history of human rights, and uses examples of specific rights and freedoms to assess the current situation. The book surveys international legal systems and organisations like the UN as well as prospects for the future. Entries cover general categories of rights, including: civil, political, cultural, women's, children's and migrants' rights, as well as specific issues, such as slavery, genocide, free speech, capital punishment and asylum.

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**Guantanamo : America's war on human rights** / Rose, David  
London: Faber & Faber, 2004.

Camp Delta at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, is the most controversial prison in the world. The 600 detainees have been held in a legal black hole. Are they the 'hardest of the hard-core' Al Qaeda terrorists, ruthless men 'involved in a plot to kill thousands of ordinary Americans' as the Bush administration has maintained? And has their continued imprisonment really been a necessary weapon in the war against terror,

preventing further murders and providing a valuable trove of intelligence? David Rose has visited the camp and interviewed guards, officials and medical staff, as well as the prison commander. In a detailed investigation of the claims of the British detainees released early in 2004, he describes a suffocating atmosphere of isolation, harrassment, Kafkaesque accusation and physical brutality. These compelling and disturbing insights into the operations at Guantanamo - set in the context of centuries of civilised thought about the treatment of prisoners - we will come to understand that the first thing to go in the War on Terror will be human rights.

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**Pathologies of Power: Health, Human Rights, and the New War on the Poor /**

Farmer, Paul

Los Angeles, CA: University of California Press, 2003.

Pathologies of Power uses harrowing stories of life--and death--in extreme situations to interrogate our understanding of human rights. Paul Farmer, a physician and anthropologist with twenty years of experience working in Haiti, Peru, and Russia, argues that promoting the social and economic rights of the world's poor is the most important human rights struggle of our times. With passionate eyewitness accounts from the prisons of Russia and the beleaguered villages of Haiti and Chiapas, this book links the lived experiences of individual victims to a broader analysis of structural violence. Farmer challenges conventional thinking within human rights circles and exposes the relationships between political and economic injustice, on one hand, and the suffering and illness of the powerless, on the other.

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**Disability, equality and human rights : a training manual for development and human rights organisations /**

Harris, Alison; Enfield, Sue

London: Oxfam GB, 2003.

This book's basic premise is that disabled people themselves know best what their needs are and that they should be involved in the planning and delivery of relief and development initiatives. The most effective support that agencies can offer is to empower them to claim their basic human rights and their civil and legal rights. The text is based on the experience of Oxfam staff working before, during and after the crisis in Kosovo; but its principles and practical training materials can be applied far more widely. Case studies from Africa and Asia, arising from the work of Action and Disability and Development (ADD), show how the values of equality, empowerment, and autonomy that are promoted by the social model of disability are universal in their relevance. It suggests practical materials particularly useful to trainers working in geographically isolated areas without access to sophisticated equipment. Most activities and exercises can be adapted for use in groups of people with a wide range of impairments and educational levels.

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**Dying for growth : global inequality and the health of the poor** / Kim, Jim Yong (ed) / Millen, Joyce V. (ed) / Irwin, Alec (ed) / Gershwin, John (ed)  
Monroe, ME: Common Courage Press, 2000.

A comprehensive and scholarly study by 27 authors from the Institute for Health and Social Justice about the decline in health for the poor and the increase in the number of people living in poverty as a result of economic globalization. The book offers clear evidence of the decline in health and nutrition of the poor by privatization, deregulation, and the free global economic market. It focuses on five themes: poverty, inequality, development, growth, and globalization. It outlines the role of foreign aid agencies, NGOs, international financial institutions, and tells of the devastation caused by structural adjustment demand. Included are many life stories of people and their suffering.

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## **DVDs**

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**Refugees of the blue planet** / Croquette, Helene / Duval, Jean-Philippe  
Canada: Ventes internationales National Film Board of Canada, 2006.

Each year, millions of people the world over are driven to forced displacement. From the Maldives to Brazil, and even closer to home, here in Canada, the disturbing accounts of people who have been uprooted are amazingly similar. The enormous pressure placed on rural populations as a result of the degradation of their life-supporting environment is driving them increasingly further from their way of life. The Refugees of the Blue Planet sheds light on the little-known plight of a category of individuals who are suffering the repercussions of this reality: environmental refugees. They are constantly growing in number and often have no legal status, even though their right to a clean and sustainable environment has been violated.

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**S21 : the Khmer Rouge killing machine** / Pahn, Rithy (Director)  
New York, NY: First Run Features, 2003.

In 1975-79, almost two million Cambodians lost their lives to murder and famine when the Khmer Rouge forced the urban population into the countryside to fulfill their ideal of an agrarian utopia. The notorious detention center code-named 'S21' was the schoolhouse-turned prison where 17,000 men, women and children were tortured and killed, their "crimes" meticulously documented to justify their execution. In this award-winning documentary and astonishing historical document, survivor Vann Nath confronts his captors, some of whom were as young as 12 years old when they committed their atrocities.