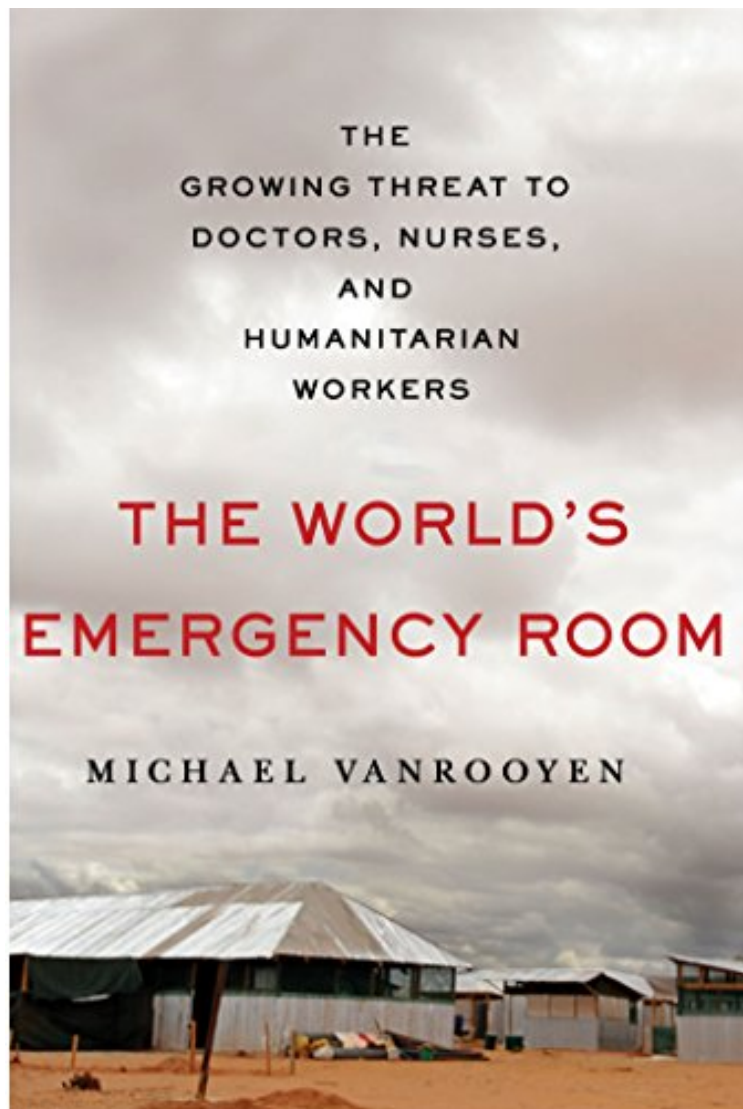


(Download pdf ebook) The World's Emergency Room: The Growing Threat to Doctors, Nurses, and Humanitarian Workers

The World's Emergency Room: The Growing Threat to Doctors, Nurses, and Humanitarian Workers

Michael VanRooyen

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Michael VanRooyen : The World's Emergency Room: The Growing Threat to Doctors, Nurses, and Humanitarian Workers before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The World's Emergency Room: The Growing Threat to Doctors, Nurses, and Humanitarian Workers:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Disaster Health Care--An EvolutionBy CustomerThis book is part memoir, part history of humanitarian efforts, and part political advocacy. Dr Van Rooyen weaves these themes together very well and this makes both an enjoyable read about his experiences in various disaster scenarios as well as about the political realities of delivering humanitarian assistance in a world characterized by good will but fragmented, uncoordinated and increasingly dangerous work. The days of heroic Western physicians and other caregivers coming to the rescue of desperate masses and then leaving a grateful population are long gone. Workers interested in helping needy populations affected by natural disaster or war have become both targets and the pawns of power brokers at many levels. Humanitarian workers face enormous challenges in this new world and he looks to a new generation of workers using political savvy as well as social media and other 21st century technologies to continue the work begun by national and international organizations to help with a completely different world order than that of the past century. The author's bias is as an emergency physician so he can be forgiven the omission of many other health providers--surgeons, gynecologists, anesthesiologists and others--who are also a formidable cadre providing global humanitarian assistance. This is a good, worthwhile read for anyone interested in international health, in public health of resource poor areas affected by tragedy, and for anyone who wonders, just what do they do over there anyway?1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating ReadingBy ShergieDr. VanRooyen began his career in the ER and simultaneously providing medical care at hot spots throughout the world. This book explains how the organization skills needed to run urban multi-bed trauma center were critical in developing systems for handling humanitarian crises. While I'm sure this book is a "must read" for humanitarians, I found it important to understand the problems faced by humanitarians in crisis situations throughout the world. Dr. VanRooyen's role in creating the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative and the Harvard Academy to train humanitarians is truly impressive.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Empathy, compassion and dignityBy Kindle CustomerI was not at all familiar with the level of complexities that NGOs and humanitarians face in the field. The author leans on his personal experiences throughout his storied career to pull the reader into the raw realities of the atrocities that humankind commit in the name of war. His compassion for his brothers and sisters in war torn regions of the world is illustrated as he urges all of us to defend the basic dignities that we all human beings deserve.I highly recommend this book for anyone whom wants to understand the great work that is being done across the world in the area of medical humanitarian relief and the dangers that are faced by those involved.

Twenty years ago, the most common cause of death for medical humanitarians and other aid workers was traffic accidents; today, it is violent attacks. And the death of each doctor, nurse, paramedic, midwife, and vaccinator is multiplied untold times in the vulnerable populations deprived of their care. In a 2005 report, the ICRC found that for every soldier killed in the war in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, more than 60 civilians died due to loss of immunizations and other basic health services.The World's Emergency Room: The Growing Threat to Doctors, Nurses, and Humanitarian Workers documents this dangerous trend, demonstrates the urgent need to reverse it, and explores how that can be accomplished. Drawing on VanRooyen's personal experiences and those of his colleagues in international humanitarian medicine, he takes readers into clinics, wards, and field hospitals around the world where medical personnel work with inadequate resources under dangerous conditions to care for civilians imperiled by conflict. VanRooyen undergirds these compelling stories with data and historical context, emphasizing how they imperil the key doctrine of medical neutrality, and what to do about it.

About the AuthorMICHAEL VANROOYEN is the co-founder and director of the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative, a professor at Harvard Medical School and the Harvard School of Public Health, and the vice chairman of emergency medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. Over the past 25 years, he has served as an emergency physician in conflict zones and disaster areas in more than thirty countries including Bosnia, Chad, Darfur-Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Haiti, Iraq, North Korea, Rwanda, and Somalia.