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0521652642 - A Generation at Risk: The Global Impact of HIV/AIDS on Orphans and Vulnerable Children

Edited by Geoff Foster, Carol Levine and John Williamson

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A Generation at Risk

A Generation at Risk brings up-to-date and insightful perspectives from experienced practitioners and researchers on how a better future can be secured for the millions of children who are being orphaned or made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS. The current situation of these children is grim, and while there has been significant action in the last few years by governments, international organizations, religious bodies, and nongovernmental organizations, the vast majority of children made vulnerable by AIDS have not benefited from any assistance beyond their own extended family and community. *A Generation at Risk* explains in straightforward terms what is required to fill this gap. The book addresses what needs to be done in the areas of education, community mobilization and capacity building, economic strengthening at household and community levels, psychosocial support, and the protection of children and the fulfillment of their rights.

Dr. Geoff Foster trained in medicine in London and took up an appointment in 1985 as a specialist pediatrician with the government of Zimbabwe. In 1987 he started seeing increasing numbers of children with AIDS, and founded Family AIDS Caring Trust (FACT), a faith-based nongovernmental organization and one of Africa's first AIDS service organizations. During the 1990s, FACT pioneered HIV/AIDS care, prevention, and training programs including a widely replicated community-based model supporting orphans and vulnerable children. He has conducted research around issues related to children affected by AIDS. He is a board member of the Firelight Foundation and FACT, and he is on the editorial board of *AIDS Care*.

Carol Levine is currently director of the Families and Health Care Project at the United Hospital Fund in New York City. She also directs The Orphan Project: Families and Children in the HIV Epidemic, which she founded in 1991. She was director of the Citizens Commission on AIDS in New York City from 1987 to 1991. In 1993, she was awarded a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship for her work in AIDS policy and ethics. She was co-convenor with Geoff Foster of the White Oak Conference on HIV/AIDS and orphans and vulnerable children in 1998. She has a master's degree in public law and government from Columbia University.

John Williamson is the senior technical advisor for the Displaced Children and Orphans Fund (DCOF) of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), supporting programming for children affected by armed conflict, street children, and children affected by AIDS. Since 1994, he has written or contributed to publications concerning children orphaned or otherwise made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS, including the *Children on the Brink* series. He is one of the organizers of the Global Network for Better Care, the Children and Youth Economic Strengthening Network, and the Washington Network for Children and Armed Conflict. He has worked as a consultant and been on the staff of the Christian Children's Fund and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. He has a master's degree in social welfare from the University of California at Berkeley.

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A Generation at Risk

*The Global Impact of HIV/AIDS on
Orphans and Vulnerable Children*

Edited by

GEOFF FOSTER

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Foreword

It has been said a day is coming when the progress of nations will not be judged by their economic power or military prowess, or by the splendor of their capital cities and public buildings. Instead, the measure of a nation's humanity, and the strength of its civilization, will be based upon the provision it made for its vulnerable and disadvantaged people and the protection that it afforded to the growing minds and bodies of its children.

Children are disproportionate casualties of all sorts of disasters. It is difficult to forget the heart-rending scenes of children swept away from their mothers by the tsunami of December 2004. But in respect to its impact on children, the HIV/AIDS disaster is different. The daily consequences of the global pandemic on millions of children that live with dying parents or have been orphaned lie under the radar of most governments and agencies. The unfolding tragedy is barely visible.

This is a story of painful loss and silent grief, and one that can only be inadequately told. No one who has not experienced the loss of their father and mother can understand its depths. And those that do know first hand are often unable to tell – because of their young age, premature death, their poverty and the insulating layers of discrimination that surround AIDS-related death and disease. *A Generation at Risk: The Global Impact of HIV/AIDS on Orphans and Vulnerable Children* helps to tell this story through chapters that deal with social, economic, and psychological impacts and responses by governments, agencies, faith-based organizations, communities, families, and the children themselves. It is a story of resilience, compassion, and innovation in the face of loss and destitution.

AIDS is not only taking away our children's present, it also has the potential to subtract from their future. Politicians, decision makers, religious and business leaders may neglect the fountain of youth at their peril and allow AIDS to wreak havoc on households and unravel whole societies. Alternatively, we can invest in the reconstruction of devastated families and strengthening of overburdened communities to ensure that adequate

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Foreword

provision is made for vulnerable children in our midst for both now and the future. In the battle against apartheid, the solidarity of people from around the world strengthened us in some of our darkest moments. Now, as we seek to counter the ravages of HIV/AIDS on all continents upon our sons and daughters, we need the same solidarity, the same passion, the same commitment and energy.

Desmond Tutu, Archbishop Emeritus
Milnerton, Cape Town, South Africa
May 2005

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Preface

In July 1992 at the VIII International Conference on AIDS in Amsterdam, two of this book's editors, Geoff Foster and Carol Levine, were among the few participants with poster presentations devoted to children, either HIV-infected or orphaned. The ways that children were being affected by the emerging pandemic were neither widely recognized nor understood. Geoff, a pediatrician from Zimbabwe, had a presentation on the Family and AIDS Caring Trust (FACT), an organization he founded, and Carol, a health policy and medical ethics specialist from New York City, was presenting the Orphan Project's efforts to respond to the needs of children and families affected by the epidemic. There were no child-related plenary sessions at the conference, no workshops, no oral presentations. The sparse number of poster presentations was equaled by the meager number of people who stopped by to read them and talk to us and other presenters. Since the posters were placed at the outer edge of the vast conference hall ("on the Belgian border," we joked), some of those few visitors were people who were lost. This paucity of interest gave us time to share information about Africa and the United States.

We met again in 1996 at the XI International Conference in Vancouver, and this time we were somewhat closer to the center of the action, although there were still few opportunities at the conference for discussion of children affected by HIV/AIDS. At this conference Geoff suggested that we two join our particular areas of interest and develop a book that would bring together the perspectives of both resource-poor and resource-rich countries dealing with the epidemic. We both felt strongly that the world was not paying attention to the growing crisis of AIDS among women and children and that, in particular, the needs of orphaned children were not being addressed. He then approached the Cambridge University Press representative at the conference and a collaboration was conceived.

Conceived but not born until now. The details of the various delays are of interest only to the editors, the publisher, and the patient authors

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who had signed on early in the process. Suffice it to say that only when we invited John Williamson, a colleague with much experience and many contacts around the world through his work with the Displaced Children and Orphans Fund (a fund managed by the United States Agency for International Development), to join us as a co-editor did we begin in earnest to bring the book to life.

One intervening event was also critical. In October 1998, The Orphan Project brought together experts from many countries at the White Oak Conference Center in Yulee, Florida, to discuss ways to build international support for children affected by AIDS. That three-day retreat crystallized for us not only the urgency of the issue, but also the benefit of broad collaboration among practitioners, researchers, and funders. Several individual and group collaborations were formed at this meeting, and "The White Oak Report," published by The Orphan Project in 2000, remains a seminal document in the field.

Since then international AIDS conferences have given much more attention to children, although more is needed. Media attention has grown. In particular, since the advent of effective treatment for HIV infection, global concern has been raised about the urgency and the difficulties of providing appropriate care in poor countries. Although we generally no longer have to explain why AIDS is profoundly affecting children, we still have far to go before the appropriate local, national, and international responses are in place. The authors in this volume do not downplay the immensity of the problem and the barriers to action, but they share a commitment to families and children and to a future where children are nurtured, protected, and encouraged to develop to the fullest of their potential. Creating family- and community-centered, child-focused solutions is essential not just for humanitarian reasons but also for each country's future economic, political, and social development.

The examples provided in the book are not endorsements of particular programs but are intended to demonstrate the diversity and energy of local responses that are so often missed when seeing only the vast scope of the problem. Like every other aspect of AIDS, the issues involving children touch deeply held professional and personal beliefs. Each author, it should be clear, is responsible only for the views and examples in his or her own chapter.

We wish to acknowledge, with gratitude, the financial support of The Orphan Project by the Norman and Rosita Winston Foundation, and the administrative support of the Fund for the City of New York.

At various points in the development of the book Karyn Feiden and Debby Stuart Smith provided skillful editing services.

Finally, we also wish to acknowledge, though we cannot do so by name, the legions of unheralded community residents and agency workers

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throughout the world whose efforts on behalf of children and families have done so much to demonstrate how to create stability out of fragility and strength out of loss.

Carol Levine, New York City
Geoff Foster, Mutare, Zimbabwe
John Williamson, Richmond, Virginia
May 2005

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Laurie J. Bauman received her PhD in sociology from Columbia University in 1984. She worked at the Bureau of Applied Social Research and the Center for Social Research at Columbia University and then moved to Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, where she worked on childhood bereavement and HIV/AIDS prevention in gay men. In 1987, she became co-director of the Preventive Intervention Research Center at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics. There she conducted multiple studies and randomized trials that applied sociological theory to the prevention of mental health problems secondary to physical conditions in children and their parents. She is currently principal investigator of four randomized trials. Project Care is a succession-planning and disclosure intervention for mothers with late-stage HIV/AIDS. Project Safe is a three-group randomized trial that aims to reduce unsafe sexual behavior among high-risk teenagers aged fourteen to seventeen. StaySafe, also a three-group randomized trial, targets lower-risk teenagers through programs addressing how gender norms increase risk for HIV and STDs. It Takes Two is a two-group randomized trial that addresses how being in a serious relationship can interfere with safe sex practices. She is also co-directing a study of child caregivers (children under age sixteen who are caring for their ill mothers with HIV/AIDS) in New York City and (with Geoff Foster) in Mutare, Zimbabwe.

Tim Brown is a senior Fellow in population and health studies at the East-West Center. He serves as a co-director of the East-West Center/Thai Red Cross Society Collaboration on HIV/AIDS Modeling, Analysis, and Policy in Bangkok. He is currently working with UNAIDS (the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS), Family Health International, and other regional partners to develop estimation and projection tools and methodologies for global and Asia-specific application, to implement more comprehensive integrated analysis of Asian HIV epidemics and responses,

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and to support the development of second-generation surveillance systems in Asia and the Pacific. His research interests include HIV and children, infectious disease epidemiology, HIV-related behaviors, modeling and projection of HIV and its impacts, and public policy for HIV/AIDS prevention and coping. He holds a PhD in physics (high-energy theory) from the University of Hawaii.

Jill Donahue is a microenterprise development specialist whose experience includes project design, management, and evaluation. She has expertise in analyzing household economics and the role of microenterprise services to improve the ability of families and communities to cope with the impact of HIV/AIDS, and she is skilled in mobilizing community concern about, and participation in, activities benefiting children affected by the epidemic. She was a Peace Corps volunteer in Burkina Faso from 1981 to 1983. After working in the United States as a supervisor for a market research firm, she joined the Peace Corps again, with her husband, this time in Sierra Leone from 1986 to 1988. She then served as associate Peace Corps director for small enterprise development in Mali from 1988 to 1991, and in Botswana from 1991 to 1993. She continued with the Peace Corps as an expert consultant for the Office of Training and Program Support based in Washington, DC, from 1994 to 1997. She also provided consulting services to a variety of organizations from 1994 to 2001, including USAID's Displaced Children and Orphan's Fund (DCOF) and Volunteers in Technical Assistance (VITA). In 2001, Donahue and two other consultants conducted a study on HIV/AIDS among microfinance clients in Kenya and Uganda, and then she joined Catholic Relief Services as a regional technical advisor for the Southern Africa regions. Currently she is a freelance consultant, based in Jeffreys Bay, South Africa.

Barbara Draimin is the founding director of The Family Center, which provides in-home legal and social services to families throughout New York City who are dealing with life-threatening illnesses. Before she created this agency in 1993, she was director of planning for six years at the Department of Social Services AIDS Division, and associate to the commissioner of the Department for the Aging for eight years. At The Family Center, she heads a team of more than forty-five who work with families affected by serious illness, primarily AIDS. The legal services provided to families include wills, power of attorney, court-appointed guardianship, custody, and adoption. Additional social services include mentoring and buddy programs for children, family camping, and mental health counseling. The Family Center also conducts research, evaluating services provided by the center and assessing the changing needs of families affected by illness. Draimin, who holds a doctorate in social work from Hunter College of the City University of New York, has written three books for children affected

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by AIDS, including *Coping When a Parent Has AIDS* (Rosen Publishing, 1994), and numerous articles for professional and academic publications.

Geoff Foster is a consultant in pediatrics and child health in Mutare, Zimbabwe. He holds MB, BS, and MRCP (Paeds.) degrees. He started treating children with AIDS in 1987. He was instrumental in the formation of the Family AIDS Caring Trust (FACT), one of the first HIV/AIDS service organizations in Africa. During the 1990s, FACT pioneered HIV/AIDS programming, including a widely replicated community-based model supporting orphans and vulnerable children. After helping FACT develop a regional role as a technical support organization, he resigned as director and now works as a consultant on international responses to the orphan crisis. He has written extensively and has conducted research around responses to children affected by AIDS, including a multicountry study documenting the role of faith-based organizations in response to orphans. In 2003, he received the Order of the British Empire from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II for his work with FACT.

Stefan Germann has been working for twelve years in the field of HIV/AIDS and development with the Salvation Army in Southern Africa, with a main focus on Southern Zimbabwe. For the past ten years he has focused on orphans and children affected by AIDS in rural and urban communities. In 1998, he started the Masiye Camp program that provides psychosocial support for children affected by AIDS, as well as household management camps for child-headed households. Since 2001 he has been part of the Salvation Army Africa Regional Facilitation team on HIV/AIDS, Health, and Development as focal person on children, youth, and AIDS. He is also on the World Council for Religion and Peace task force on orphans and vulnerable children. In 2002 he started as an adviser for the Regional Psychosocial Support Initiative (REPSSI) in Southern Africa, which aims to scale up psychosocial support to children affected by HIV/AIDS in the region. Germann has published several articles and reports on children and youth affected by HIV/AIDS. In September 2002 he was invited by Nelson Mandela to participate in the African Leaders Consultation on Children and AIDS.

Sofia Gruskin, who holds degrees in law and international affairs, is an associate professor of health and human rights in the Department of Population and International Health at the Harvard School of Public Health. She is the director of the Program on International Health and Human Rights at the Harvard-based François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights. She is editor of *Health and Human Rights* and an associate editor of the *American Journal of Public Health*. The emphasis of her work concerns the implications of linking health to human rights, with

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particular attention to women, children, gender issues, and vulnerable populations in the context of HIV/AIDS.

Michael J. Kelly is a Jesuit priest and formerly a professor of education at the University of Zambia, Lusaka. He currently works as a consultant in the field of HIV/AIDS and education. He is a member of the Mobile Task Team, a virtual organization of experts from Southern Africa who respond to requests from education ministries to provide technical assistance in the field of HIV/AIDS and education. He is also a member of the reference group that advises the Swedish-Norwegian AIDS Team for Africa. He has participated in numerous HIV/AIDS-related conferences and workshops in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Caribbean and has written many books and articles. His most recent book, *Education and HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean*, was published by the International Institute for Educational Planning, Paris, in October 2003.

Carol Levine is currently director of the Families and Health Care Project at the United Hospital Fund in New York City. This project focuses on developing partnerships between health care professionals and family caregivers who provide most of the long-term and chronic care to elderly, seriously ill, or disabled relatives. She also directs The Orphan Project: Families and Children in the HIV Epidemic, which she founded in 1991. She was director of the Citizens Commission on AIDS in New York City from 1987 to 1991. As a senior staff associate of The Hastings Center, she edited the *Hastings Center Report*. In 1993 she was awarded a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship for her work in AIDS policy and ethics. She was co-convenor with Geoff Foster of the White Oak Conference on HIV/AIDS and orphans and vulnerable children in 1998 and co-editor of the report from that conference. She has published extensively on HIV/AIDS, medical ethics, and family caregiving. Her most recent books are *The Cultures of Caregiving: Conflict and Common Ground among Families, Professionals, and Policy Makers* (co-edited with Thomas H. Murray, The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2004) and the second edition of *Always on Call: When Illness Turns Families into Caregivers* (Vanderbilt University Press, 2004). She is also editor of the 11th edition of *Taking Sides: Controversial Bioethical Issues* (McGraw-Hill Dushkin, 2005). She has a master's degree in public law and government from Columbia University.

Stanley Ngalazu Phiri is regional project officer for children orphaned and made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS in UNICEF's Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office. As a director of Malawi's Community-based Options for Protection and Empowerment (COPE) program, he facilitated the development of community coalitions to address the needs of children either orphaned or otherwise made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS, and he worked with government and other partners at district and national levels to

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capacitate the response and influence and inform the policies that address these issues. He was national coordinator of Malawi's Children at Risk Committee and coordinator of the Children and War program for Mozambican refugee children. He received a master's degree in international development policy from Duke University.

Warren A. Reich received a PhD in social psychology from Rutgers University in 1994. He joined The Family Center in 2003, where he serves as its research and evaluation manager. His current projects include an analysis of predictors of HIV-positive clients' progress through The Family Center's program of services and the design of a methodology for assessing the impact of Family Center psychoeducational programs on individual families. He has published studies on personal identity, conflict style, and methodology and has taught a variety of undergraduate and graduate psychology courses at Rutgers University and the University of Toledo, Ohio.

Werarit Sittitrai, a Thai national, is Director of the Department of Programme Development, Coordination and UN System Relations at the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), Geneva, Switzerland. He is responsible for mobilizing and strengthening the expanded UN response to AIDS through the United Nations' governance mechanisms, interagency Unified Budget and Workplan, and mainstreaming HIV/AIDS into the development agenda and programs of UN agencies. He started his career as an assistant professor at Chulalongkorn University in 1979, where he conducted pioneering research and published several articles on family planning, rural development, sexual behavior surveys, condoms, health issues, and support systems for the elderly. He then joined the Office of the Prime Minister in the early 1990s to coordinate the National AIDS program and the AIDS plans of all ministries. Before he joined UNAIDS in 1996, he was the deputy director of the Thai Red Cross Society Program on AIDS and co-founded the Thai Red Cross Anonymous Counselling and Testing Centre on HIV and STD. He provided technical support to several Asian countries including Cambodia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Laos and Singapore on HIV/AIDS prevention and care programs. From 1996 to 2001 he was Associate Director of Policy, Strategy and Research at UNAIDS, responsible for UNAIDS Best Practice publications and for overseeing the policy and technical strategy for prevention and care. From 2001 to 2003, he headed the Asia/Pacific Middle East and North Africa Division at UNAIDS. He is co-author of *Candles of Hope* (United Nations Development Program, 1994), co-editor of *Impact of HIV/AIDS on Children in Thailand* (Thai Red Cross Society, Save the Children Fund UK, and Program on Population, East-West Center, 1995), co-author of chapters in King Holmes et al., eds., *Sexually Transmitted Diseases*, 3rd edition, 1999,

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and in Philip Pizzo and Catherine Wilfert, *Pediatric AIDS*, 3rd edition, 1998 and the author of other articles and reports.

Daniel J. M. Tarantola received his medical degree from the Paris University Medical School. He pursued his clinical postdoctoral training in nephrology and, later, his public health training with a focus on childhood infectious diseases prevention and control and epidemiology. He had a long career with the World Health Organization devoted to large-scale international health programmes, including the eradication of smallpox, the launching of the Expanded Programme on Immunization, the development of diarrhoeal disease and acute respiratory infection control programmes, and the WHO Global programme on HIV/AIDS. In 1991, Dr. Tarantola joined the Harvard School of Public Health where he taught, conducted research and published over a period of eight years. In 1993, he took part in founding the François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights at the Harvard School of Public Health. In 1998, he rejoined the World Health Organization where, until 2004, he assumed the dual functions of Senior Policy Adviser to the Director General and Director, Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals. He is currently a New South Global Professor in Health and Human Rights at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia, and a Senior Associate of the Harvard-based François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights.

David Tolfree originally trained as a social worker and worked with children and families in fieldwork and residential and day-care settings in the United Kingdom and other countries. As a researcher he has been interested mainly in issues concerning separated and orphaned children and children in situations of armed conflict and forced migration. He has published several books, including *Roofs and Roots: The Care of Separated Children in the Developing World* (Ashgate, 1995), *Restoring Playfulness: Different Approaches to Assisting Children Who Are Psychologically Affected by War and Displacement* (Save the Children Sweden, 1996), and *Whose Children? Separated Children's Protection and Participation in Emergencies* (Save the Children Sweden, 2003), as well as numerous articles and reports. He is currently working for Save the Children UK to prepare the first two volumes in the "First Resort" series.

Desmond Mpilo Tutu, Archbishop Emeritus, received his Licentiate in Theology in 1960 from St. Peter's Theological College, Johannesburg, and was ordained to the Anglican priesthood in Johannesburg in 1961. Not long after his ordination, Tutu obtained his Bachelor of Divinity Honors and Master of Theology degrees from King's College, University of London, England.

From 1967 to 1978 he served in a number of increasingly prominent positions, including lecturer at the Federal Theological Seminary at Alice, South

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Africa, and chaplain at the University of Fort Hare; lecturer in the Department of Theology at the University of Botswana, Lesotho, and Swaziland; Associate Director of the Theological Education Fund of the World Council of Churches, in Kent, United Kingdom; Dean of St. Mary's Cathedral, Johannesburg; and finally Bishop of Lesotho.

By 1978, in the wake of the 1976 Soweto uprising Bishop Tutu was persuaded to take up the post of General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches (SACC). Justice and reconciliation and an end to apartheid were the SACC's priorities, and as General Secretary, Bishop Tutu pursued these goals with vigor and commitment. Under his guidance, the SACC became an important institution in South African spiritual and political life, challenging white society and the government and affording assistance to the victims of apartheid.

Inevitably, Bishop Tutu became heavily embroiled in controversy as he spoke out against the injustices of the apartheid system. For several years he was denied a passport to travel abroad. He became a prominent leader in the crusade for justice and racial conciliation in South Africa. In 1984 he received a Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of his extraordinary contributions to that cause. In 1985 he was elected Bishop of Johannesburg.

In 1986 Bishop Tutu was elevated to Archbishop of Cape Town, and in this capacity he did much to bridge the chasm between black and white Anglicans in South Africa. And as Archbishop, Tutu became a principal mediator and conciliator in the transition to democracy in South Africa.

In 1995 President Nelson Mandela appointed him Chairman of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, a body set up to probe gross human rights violations that occurred under apartheid. In 1996, shortly after his retirement from office as Archbishop of Cape Town, Tutu was granted the honorary title of Archbishop Emeritus.

Archbishop Tutu has held several distinguished academic and world leadership posts. In recent years Tutu has turned his attention to a different cause: the campaign against HIV/AIDS. The Archbishop has made appearances around the globe to help raise awareness of the disease and its tragic consequences in human lives and suffering.

Archbishop Tutu holds honorary degrees from well over one hundred universities, including Harvard, Oxford, Cambridge, Columbia, Yale, Emory, the Ruhr, Kent, Aberdeen, Sydney, Fribourg (Switzerland), Cape Town, Witwatersrand, and the University of South Africa.

He has received many prizes and awards in addition to the Nobel Peace Prize, most notably the Order of Meritorious Service Award (Gold) presented by President Mandela; the Archbishop of Canterbury's Award of Outstanding Service to the Anglican Communion; the Prix d'Athene (Onassis Foundation); the Family of Man Gold Medal Award; the Mexican Order of the Aztec Medal (Insignia Grade); the Martin Luther King Jr. Non-Violent Peace Prize; and the Sydney Peace Prize.

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Contributors

His writings include *No Future Without Forgiveness* (2000), and *God Has a Dream* (2004).

Douglas Webb is a social scientist currently based at the Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office of the UNICEF office in Nairobi, Kenya. He obtained his PhD in human geography from Royal Holloway, University of London, in 1995, where he examined the social responses to HIV/AIDS in South Africa and Namibia. He then spent three years with UNICEF Zambia, working on HIV/AIDS responses and researching the impacts of HIV/AIDS on children. From 1998 to 2004 he worked with Save the Children UK in London, most recently as the policy adviser on HIV/AIDS. He is the author of *HIV/AIDS in Africa* (New Africa Books, in association with University of Natal Press, 2002) and numerous other publications on HIV/AIDS, children, and young people.

John Williamson is the senior technical advisor for the Displaced Children and Orphans Fund (DCOF) of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), which supports programs for children affected by armed conflict, street children, and children affected by AIDS. He has been engaged with assessing and responding to the impacts of AIDS on children and families since 1991 and since 1994 has written or contributed to a number of publications in this area. These include: *Action for Children Affected by AIDS* (WHO and UNICEF, 1994), the *Children on the Brink* series (USAID, 1997 and 2000; USAID, UNICEF, and UNAIDS, 2002 and 2004), and *Conducting a Situation Analysis of Orphans and Vulnerable Children Affected by HIV/AIDS* (USAID, 2004). He is one of the organizers of the Global Network for Better Care, the Children and Youth Economic Strengthening Network, and the Washington Network for Children and Armed Conflict. He has worked as a consultant and been on the staff of the Christian Children's Fund and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). While with UNHCR, he wrote the *Handbook for Social Services* (1984), edited the *Guidelines of Refugee Children* (1988), and chaired the Working Group of Refugee Children. He has a masters degree in social welfare from the University of California at Berkeley.