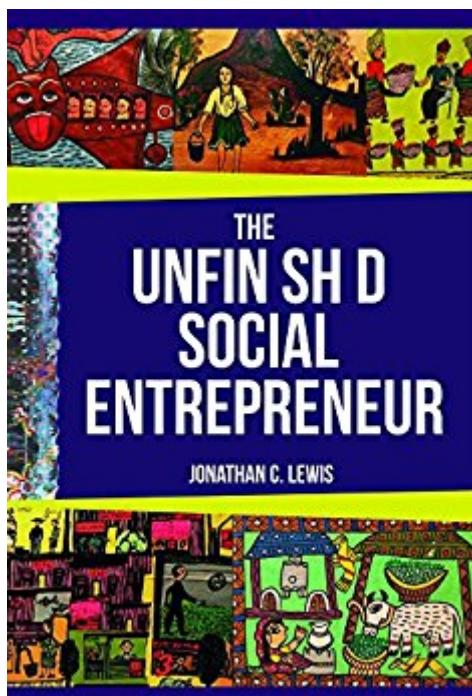


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The Unfinished Social Entrepreneur



Synopsis

The Unfinished Social Entrepreneur is about powering up your social justice career. The world feels so screwed up, so unfair, so unnecessarily mean, so Trumpian. More than ever, the world needs you. This book is a book of conviction about the unfinished work of social justice. According to Lewis: "The crusty work of social entrepreneurship is as much fun as I'm permitted to have in public. It's joyous, fulfilling and happy-making. Tackling big challenges is heady stuff. Fighting the good fight is utterly gratifying." The Unfinished Social Entrepreneur is a compendium of 21 original essays and insights - part memoir, part handbook - about the challenges and questions every social entrepreneur thinks about. For the novice changemaker, each chapter bristles with provocative tips and tools to transform your social justice career. Because social entrepreneurship is not called solo entrepreneurship, the book also contains 19 additional commentaries by other change-makers. Social entrepreneurs are a club of conscience. Sign up. Show up. Stand up. All book profits donated to social justice causes.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In this increasingly turbulent world where bad and good events can originate from more places and spread faster and farther The Law of Unintended Consequences is increasingly becoming the norm, not the exception. And, since neuroscience research shows that bad behavior is often more contagious than good it behooves us to learn how to initiate and support specific ways to foster the greater good. That's why Jonathan Lewis's book should be of interest to you, not just to social entrepreneurs but to all of us who see ways to live a positively productive and meaningful life of social justice, with and for others. Ready to discover proven ways to gain more clout and credibility for your beliefs in support of social justice? In his (part memoir, part handbook) book you can gain actionable tips in 21 categories including Power, Listenership, LifeBlood, Rescued, Pluralism, Prepared, and Passion. Having observed my friend Jonathan C. Lewis for over twenty years as he's accomplished seemingly impossible collaborations, innovations and other breakthroughs on behalf of social justice globally. I was heartened to read his book and see the world and mission, afresh, through his lens. Even the profits from this book are dedicated to furthering his social justice mission. I'm not alone in becoming an avid advocate for Lewis and his ideas. When KIVA co-founder, Saul Garlick; Director of Yale's Social Enterprise program, Tony Sheldon; Skoll Foundation CEO, Sally Osberg; Women Rising Managing Director, Chingwell Mutombu; Executive Director of Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs, Randall Kempner; CEO of Liberty & Justice, Chid Liberty; and Ashoka CEO, Bill Drayton all rave about a book then it must have some proven, examples about how to become more effective in creating and supporting causes and organizations that serve the greater good. Read this book to get actionable insights for optimizing your social justice impact from someone who has repeatedly demonstrated what's possible: my longtime hero, widely revered Jonathan C Lewis. In his inspiring, sometimes droll and always engrossing conversational style, he appeals to diverse people with a "you can do this" style that pulls in readers. I know that, first hand, as I have given this book as a celebratory gift to five very different clients and friends to show my respect for their purposeful action as social entrepreneurs and/or their support of those that are. I only wish Jonathan Lewis had written this earlier. If you're ready to have greater impact on the social justice causes that most matter to you then you, too, may want to read this book. The side benefit is having a more adventuresome, purposeful life with meaningful friends as allies.

Jonathan Lewis's fresh, honest take on the work of social entrepreneurship is an extraordinary

exploration of the field and the reasons we do what we do. It is a refreshingly blunt examination of a field that can at its worse can be full of self-satisfaction, misdirection and complacency, and at its best a world of human connection, joy, and creativity leading to real change and social impact. Read this to find, or rekindle, inspiration-- or just to learn about the road of one very smart, honest and funny social entrepreneur.

“Social entrepreneurship is like first-time sex. Fumbling, urgent, often messy. Sometimes a little messy. Practice makes it better. Listening makes it better. Giving, not taking, makes it better. And, sometimes when least expected, it produces a result.” (p.14). Jonathan Lewis’ book is solidly rooted in his own multi-faceted life long experience as a social justice activist. His passionate voice is gripping and entertaining - just as if he was talking with you in person. Be ready for a great ride of a read. You won’t be able help yourself from picking up the highlighter because there are so many great gems of insights you want to remember. This book is a keeper, a provocative thought piece and arms you for great and meaningful conversations in and out of the social entrepreneurial circles. It also makes a gift to anyone, young and much older, looking for their purpose.

This is a must read book for anyone aspiring to be a social entrepreneur or one who has been in the social entrepreneur trenches for decades. This is what struck me. You don’t need to be a perfect human being to be a social entrepreneur. Jonathan is refreshingly upfront about his paralyzing self-doubt and feeling of inadequacy yet he persisted. If you passionately want to do something and you look behind you and find no one else is doing it you are the chosen one. He also drums home the message of listening to find out how those you supposedly want to help view the problem and its solutions. It is easy to foist your half baked ideas onto the poor and vulnerable too often to their detriment which gets back to the importance of listening. Being a social entrepreneur is hard work, you need to write well, develop cogent and well conceived business plans, acquire the necessary technical skills, learn by doing and above all persist, persist, persist. Being a successful social entrepreneur is a long hard slog with many roadblocks but, as Jonathan shows through many engaging examples from his own social entrepreneurial history, it is ultimately the most engaging, thrilling and fulfilling and useful way to spend your life.

To open this book is to let it sear you, heal you, remake you and direct you as a citizen of the world. Not just for budding social entrepreneurs -- but for anyone with a conscience -- these essays on

"Justice," "Passion," "Listenership," "Failure," and so much more, are packed with startling insights into the soul and society. Read it like a daily devotional. It will both ground you and propel you to take a stand in these hurricane times.

As a globally-celebrated social entrepreneur, Jonathan Lewis dives head first into the most important (and often controversial) issues around economic development and social justice -- infusing his writing with a unique wit, style and perspective. An essential primer for Millennials exploring a career in social entrepreneurship - and a thought-provoking read for the rest of us.

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