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Whispers Of Honduras: A Peace Corps Experience



Synopsis

Whispers of Honduras: A Peace Corps Experience is a Peace Corps Volunteer (PCV) account of living in Olancho, Honduras from September 1997-December 1999. Manto was a quiet, little mountain town surrounded by pine-forested hills then. As a PCV, I was treated well, laughed a lot, learned to slow down, and developed a deeper understanding of international relations, environmental protection, poverty, and friendship, among countless other words that could be listed here. The pages of the book depict small parts of me that serve as experiences not only of my life in Olancho, but also other areas of Honduras during my time as a PCV. The sections before "Return to Hondo" were written while as a PCV and the chapters after it were written during a return trip in December 2007/January 2008. With that, I give you words and photos that may illuminate my understanding of Honduras.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

James Murren is an independent writer, with numerous publications in print and online media. His experience includes more than fifteen years of international development and environmental work. He holds degrees from Penn State University and the University of Pennsylvania, and teaches at San Diego State University.

A great read that provides snapshots into everyday life around Honduras. Well written, and it brings back memories of my own trip down there.

Great read!

A great read.

Having shared many of the same experiences as Jim, I can attest that he give a very realistic idea of life in rural Honduras. His way of writing brings out the innocence of a country struggling to become self-sustaining while in the grips of mass corruption and poverty. There is a lawlessness in the land of Olancho that reminds me of a time in our country's history. People were moving west and the wild times of robbers and thieves taking advantage of the less fortunate, farmers trying to eke out a life when nature isn't always favorable, and no laws or people available to enforce the law. Honduras is a beautiful country and the people we got to know during our two years of Peace Corps service are beautiful as well. *Whispers of Honduras: A Peace Corps Perspective* is a display of how humanity has touched others and how those others have touched humanity.

I've been to Honduras and the places that Murren writes about are places that most people who go to Honduras will never experience. This is not your Costa Rica travel guide for tourists from the States going down for a week to 'experience Central America'. It's a real account of someone who spent a couple of years living and working with the campesinos in one of the most tragically beautiful and poor countries in our hemisphere. I highly recommend this for any prospective Peace Corps Volunteer or anyone else who is curious about life outside of the United States.

Mr. Murren paints a captivating picture of his time in Honduras. In a classroom setting, this book would be an excellent supplement to any social science curriculum especially when opening students eyes to opportunities for service that are open to them around the world. I would recommend this book for middle school and high school teachers looking for engaging, real world content.

As a middle-school teacher, I found this book to be an excellent asset to our world culture study. The students were able to read this book as a supplement to our unit on world social issues and global differences. We all enjoyed the readability and genuine approach Mr. Murren takes on in his writing. We look forward to reading more in the coming weeks.

What a great book, tells a story that not many of us will ever get to experience. I felt like I was right beside him the entire time.

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