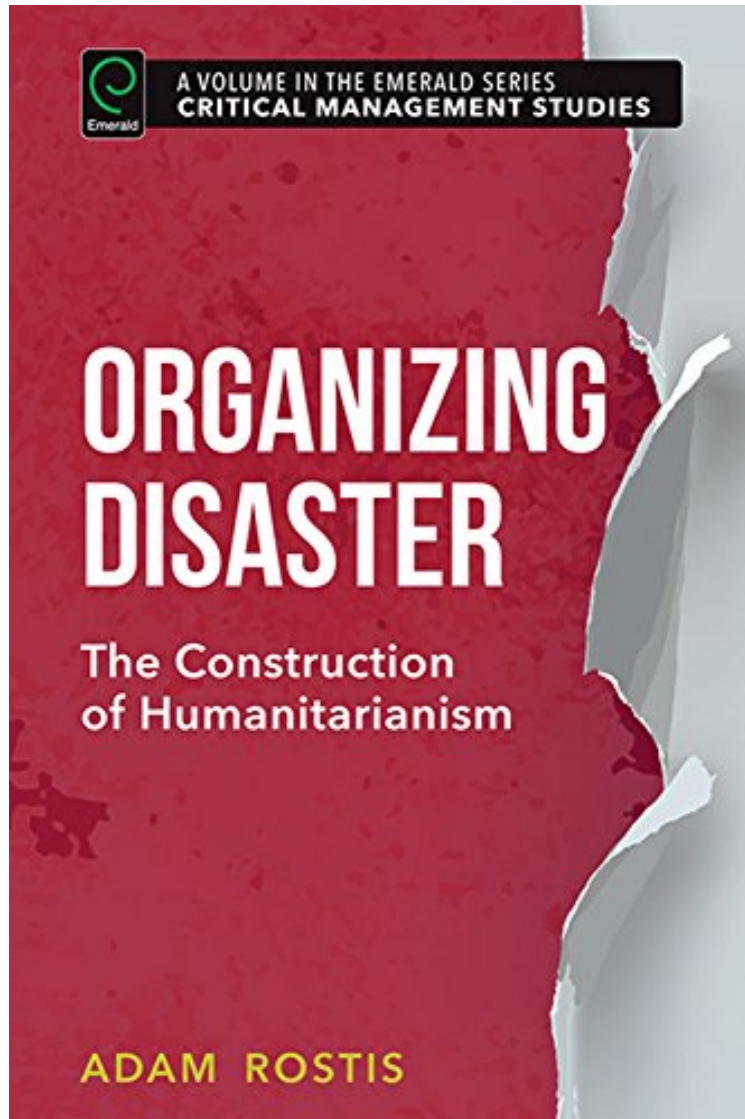


[Free pdf] Organizing Disaster: The Construction of Humanitarianism (Critical Management Studies)

Organizing Disaster: The Construction of Humanitarianism (Critical Management Studies)

Adam Rostis

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Adam Rostis : Organizing Disaster: The Construction of Humanitarianism (Critical Management Studies)
before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Organizing Disaster:
The Construction of Humanitarianism (Critical Management Studies):

This book challenges the taken-for-granted status of organizations such as the Red Cross and Medecins Sans

Frontieres by problematizing humanitarianism. In the experience of the Author working with such organizations, they are selective of the type of suffering that receives attention. Empirical studies of humanitarianism note that the suffering it purports to alleviate is increasing although aid is now highly organized, funded, and globalized. These observations inform the key question of the book: what purpose does the humanitarian organization serve? Rostis explores this question through a Foucauldian genealogy of humanitarianism focusing on the European colonial era and the Biafra War. The role of colonialism in the humanitarian organization is made apparent, and facilitates an interpretation of the results of his inquiry using postcolonial theory. This unique contribution to organization studies re-reads humanitarianism to show that humanitarian organizations essentially serve as global disciplinary institutions. It will be essential reading for scholars in political science, international sociology, organization studies and international affairs.

Rostis takes a postcolonial theoretical stance and includes a postcolonial analysis of the Red Cross and Medecins Sans Frontieres as case studies in the emergence of organized global humanitarianism. By incorporating the discourse of humanitarianism into stakeholder theory and 'business and society' research, he expands his investigation by problematizing what has been up to now an unproblematic conceptualization of the nonprofit organization as an unquestionable good. He elaborates on the discourse of humanitarianism demonstrating some counterintuitive behaviors of these two well-known humanitarianism organizations. He cites the impetus for his book as twofold: first, the need to understand the paradoxical behavior of humanitarian organizations that he observed while working for the International Red Cross in Africa; and, second, the lack of coverage by scholars of the humanitarian organization itself. He characterizes humanitarian responses as frequently late in coming and of being selective. While humanitarian aid is now more organized, funded, and globalized, he finds that the need to alleviate suffering can be trumped by the need to save political capital, economic resources and staff for areas of the world that are more central to national security interests. Distributed in North America by Turpin Distribution. Annotation copy;2016 Ringgold Inc. Portland, OR (protoview.com) 'An important and groundbreaking book. Challenging, provocative and a much needed scholarly critique of the colonial project that is humanitarianism.' --Professor Bobby Banerjee, Cass Business School, City University London, UK In a brilliant genealogical and postcolonial analysis, this work articulates modes of subjectivation produced by and being produced through the naturalization of humanitarianism as organizational discourse and practice. As such, the study beckons the reader in an unexpected way to gain a fuller understanding of contemporary global organizations by going beyond those specifically designated as 'humanitarian'. --Professor Marta B. Calaacute;s, Isenberg School of Management, University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA 'Humanitarianism and the so-called humanitarian organizations are usually treated as a taken for granted social construction, and their impact on saving lives and reducing suffering remains widely unquestioned. In this context, the main contribution of this book is to dare to discuss what seem to be universally accepted values and beliefs. The choice of Michel Foucault's genealogical approach to history proves to be a powerful resource to analyze the humanitarian discourse as a contemporary social force that naturalizes the structure that produces victims and helpers and avoids both the historical dimension and the resistance of those treated as passive subjects. The contribution of this book goes far beyond the analysis of the Red Cross and MSF. It constitutes a seminal contribution to the theme of humanitarianism.' --Professor Maria Ceci Misoczky, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil About the Author Adam Rostis, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada