

Community Resilience in Natural Disasters

Anouk Ride and Diane Bretherton

Told through the voices of local community leaders, this book analyzes how communities respond to natural disasters and how outsiders contribute positively—or negatively—to their response, promoting debate on the role of aid and the media in times of crisis.

"This book needs to be read by everyone interested in post-disaster/post-conflict recovery. It highlights the ways in which, in almost all disasters, it is the poor who tend to be the most vulnerable. Interestingly though, it is the poor and others who are afflicted who know how to mobilize themselves in response to such threats.... This book is a clarion call for more reliance on the solidarity, altruism and effectiveness of ordinary individuals in the face of natural disaster- or for that matter any kind of collective tragedy."

—Kevin P. Clements, Director of the National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Otago, New Zealand

CONTENTS: Introduction * Indonesia—Dicky Pelupessy, Dr Diane Bretherton, and Anouk Ride * Pakistan—Asha Bedar, Diane Bretherton, and Anouk Ride * Solomon Islands—Anouk Ride and Diane Bretherton * Kenya—Sarah Knoll, Vera Roos, Dr Diane Bretherton, Anouk Ride * Myanmar—Wendy Poussard and Joanna Hayter * Community Resilience in Natural Disasters—Diane Bretherton and Anouk Ride

Diane Bretherton is a peace psychologist and Former Chair of the Committee for the Psychological Study of Peace for the International Association of Psychological Science. She is the author of many academic journal articles and books on conflict and development. She has worked in a range of conflict regions, including employment with the United Nations in Sri Lanka, for UNESCO in Vietnam, and for the World Bank in Sierra Leone, and is also the winner of three international awards for peace, including the Century of Women Peace Award (2003).

Anouk Ride is a journalist and PhD candidate in conflict resolution who has written and edited for newspapers and magazines in Australia, the UK, and the US. Her feature articles include reports from Russia, Indonesia, Bougainville, and Northern Ireland.

224 pp. / 0-230-11428-8 / \$85.00 cl.

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