

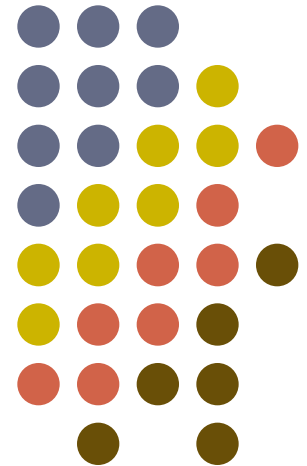
Voluntelling and Voluntourism

US Approaches to Engineering and Development

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Overview

- Narrative – my experiences and emerging questions
- My students' relation to engineering and global development
- 5 Questions/Lessons in my courses
- Reflection



Questions from my Experience



- Service Learning
 - Who is serving whom?
- Neoliberalism
 - Fortune at the bottom of the pyramid?
 - Ending poverty: the “business” of being an NGO
- Changing dynamics of power and privilege?





About my students

- Desire to help
 - unexamined assumptions
- Skills and preparation for working abroad
 - Consequences of operating without skills





5 Questions

- What is the colonial history and present-day context under neoliberalism?
- What are the presumptions about development? What are the alternatives?
- How are power and privilege operating here?
- Is the *process* just?
- Are the *outcomes* just?





Discussion

- Student responses
 - Step back, learn more
 - Uninvolvement to avoid injustice also has consequences, and entails privilege
- Is dismantling US privilege highest priority?
 - Important to address US NGO model or just another way of not getting involved?
- Alternative model – NGO in South runs programs for US students?
 - Not the NGO's responsibility