

Korrekturhinweise

Voluntourism

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Begründungen

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The speaker says: "There's a whole industry that's grown up around voluntourism with western volunteers, voluntourist operators charging people for package holidays that include volunteering opportunities in the developing world." In order to become voluntourists, people therefore have to pay money to a company.

1

The speaker says: "Pippa Biddle is an American and a former voluntourist herself. She volunteered to help build a library for an orphanage in Tanzania back in 2014, a year before she graduated from high school back in the United States. It was a transformative experience, but not in the way originally intended." For Pippa Biddle, being a voluntourist was therefore an adventure that changed her.

2

Pippa Biddle says: "I am an early riser. I was also running cross-country at the time and was trying to get myself to practice by waking up early and running laps alongside the inner side of the wall of the compound we were staying in and it was before anyone else in our group was awake and I was running and I saw that the men were already at the worksite and they had a habit – we believed – of always showing up late." Pippa was therefore surprised to see locals working early as the team thought locals generally arrived after the volunteers.

3

Pippa Biddle says: "And it was very sort of shocking to find out that the reason they were late was because they'd actually already been there for hours and then needed a break because they had to re-do what we'd done the day before in such a way that, one, we did not see them and, two, it was set in time that when we did show up to work, it would be ready for us to keep going." Local people were therefore already on site because they had to prepare the site for the voluntourists.

4

Pippa Biddle says: "I spoke about it with just a very small number of people who by and large encouraged me to keep it to myself because it was not something that would positively reflect on our experience." Pippa was therefore told to keep her discovery secret as it might shed a bad light on volunteering.

5

Pippa Biddle says: "So I did not want to see what I was seeing or to believe that that was representative. And so I really sort of housed it in my brain, said this is this one experience, this is not representative of voluntourism, let's move on. And what I realized over the years was that my experience was actually far more representative of voluntourism than I would have liked it to have been." As she grew older, Pippa therefore understood that what she had experienced was common.

6

Pippa Biddle says: "I did not have contact with the trip provider because the trip provider was liaising with my school. I did bring it up with my school, and I respect the school that I went to very much." Back home, Pippa therefore tried to tell the people in charge about the problem.

7

The speaker says: "This trip, in the end, was all about you and your classmates, the girls you traveled with. And that incident showed that it had very little to do with the community that you thought you were helping." Pippa Biddle says: "Absolutely. I think that's actually at the very core of the issues of voluntourism. It's that anytime we're measuring the benefit of something by how the most powerful people in an exchange benefit from it, that's not the right equation to be following." For Pippa, a major problem of voluntourism programs therefore is that they fail to focus on those who they should support.