

What is Global Health-2012- Kony 2012 Social Media And Agency Maya Cohen Bc10 And Nicole Dussa ult Cc14

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Hi, this is Wig. What is global health? The podcast from the Journal of Global Health

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at Columbia University that explores the philosophical underbelly of provocative issues in public

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health and science research. I'm Connie Chen and this is Episode #4. This week the spotlight

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is on the Coney 2012 controversy in youth social movements. Our guests are Maya Cohen,

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Executive Director of GLOBE-MED and Nicole Dussa of GLOBE-MED's Columbia University

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chapter. In case you're wondering, GlobeMed, with over 45 chapters nationwide, is one of

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the largest student-driven global health organizations in the United States. It's composed of networks

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of university students who work together with grassroots community organizations around the

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world to improve the health of the impoverished. And in fact, we had such a stimulating discussion

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with Maya and Nicole that we decided episode number four will be delivered in two parts.

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Part one is entitled "Because You're a Student.

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What is special about a social movement driven by students?"

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Maya and Nicole comment on how Globemath has empowered students to put their visions

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of the world into action.

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Part two is entitled "Cony 2012 - Social Media and Agency."

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As The New York Times puts it, "Do social media campaigns give young people a false

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sense of accomplishment?

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And what is the meaning of agency, anyway?"

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You're currently listening to episode number four, part two.

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Covent, too. It's really so impressive what's come out of all this work and

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it's I was just thinking for a moment both of you both of us but both of you

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were talking about social media on that experience of talking with Pamela and

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just how how memorable and how striking and how powerful it is and it made me it

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It reminded me of this recent Room for Debate question in the New York Times, and it's

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sort of a segue to Kony.

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And they're talking about social media and just how powerful it is and how it allows

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so much incredible stuff to be done ultimately.

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And the question was, do social media campaigns like Kony end up giving young people a false

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sense of accomplishment, detracting from real action.

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And that was just something that just came into my head while listening to you guys talk

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about your collaboration with Gulu.

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And so I would be pretty curious to hear what your take is on this.

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This is a really timely question I think for a few reasons.

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I think the first is that I don't think that there's necessarily a need to condemn social media.

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It's not an either/or. We should really think about this as an and.

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Social media, you know, we've seen has been a really, really powerful tool for mobilizing young people.

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So I think that oftentimes it's this thing where the revolution will not be tweeted.

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I would rather say the revolution will be tweeted and it will be all these other things.

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So I don't think we have to condemn it as one thing or the other.

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I think that there are two key things that need to be considered in this question.

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The first is that I was talking with Pamela this morning and we were talking about the

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the Coney 2012 video and what she said was,

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you know, about 100 people maybe in Gulu

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have seen this movie, Coney 2012,

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and most of them are ex-paths.

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And the thing is that the access to internet,

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even to electricity is so slim in Gulu

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that the people about whom the story is being told

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are not having access to the story

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and were largely not engaged in telling the story.

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So let's imagine for a second that you,

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you're having the story being told about you

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and your community, and you don't know that it's happening.

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You weren't engaged in the telling of this story,

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and people are mobilizing around the world

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to respond to the story in some way,

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and you were not involved.

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Like that seems like a strange parallel universe sci-fi film,

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right?

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just seems so bizarre that that would happen and that is in a sense what is happening right

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now. Pamela's point was that narratives are really powerful and if you're going to tell

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a story about a particular community, you better damn well involve them in the telling

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of that story. You better give them a voice, you better give them a place at the table,

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you better give them the microphone and let them explain what their experiences have been.

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The problem with the Coney 2012 video and social media right now is that the people

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and the communities about whom the story is being told are not plugged in.

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And that is an issue of power, it's an issue of voice, it's an issue of perspective, it's

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a huge, it's something that really, really needs to be considered.

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She said social media is just not something that's present in Gulu.

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So I think that in the coming years,

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the access to internet is going to skyrocket.

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This will change.

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But I think that we need to be incredibly critical of stories

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that are being told about communities who aren't being

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involved in the telling of their own narratives.

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That being said, I think that there

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are times in which social media can be very powerful.

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And I think it's about what your goal is.

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And I think that social media can be a part of the puzzle.

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But the question always needs to be,

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what are you trying to achieve?

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And are your actions gonna lead you there?

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And I think your point, Kevin, is that,

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does liking something on Facebook

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or buying a bracelet or an action kit

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or posting something, is that gonna logically get you

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to your point or to your end goal?

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And that question is really about putting your values

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into action and living and breathing them every day.

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And that's something that is a lifelong process

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and that I hope that GlobeMed is challenging students to do.

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Because liking something on Facebook

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or posting something or tweeting something,

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voice is an important part of it,

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but actions speak louder than words.

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And in order to actually make the change,

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you need to put your values into action

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and think about what is the result of what I'm doing

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and is it gonna bring me closer to the goal?

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And the truth is that social change is hard.

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It takes time, it's difficult, it takes collaboration

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compromise, it takes perseverance and the constant ability to adapt.

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And that is something that I'm not sure our society, with its short attention span, is

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so equipped to be doing.

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And so I think that as young people we need to challenge ourselves to think about what

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it really takes to make social change.

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And again, I think tweeting and Facebook and all of it can be part of it.

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about and, not or, but it's only going to be one piece of the equation.

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And we need to make sure that the people who were ostensibly trying to work with to realize

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their inherent rights are being not only brought to the table, but are being handed

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the microphone and being able to tell their own story and have their voice brought into

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the put at the forefront.

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So yeah, Nicole, what are your thoughts?

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We talked about this at our Gwomid E-Born meeting.

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And I have mixed opinions on this video because, like you

said, it's a video that focuses a

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lot on the organization of musical children.

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And I would much rather people hear about Gweji and hear about other Ugandan rock organizations

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that are trying to rebuild Uganda and are trying to work to heal a nation that's been through

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so much violence and so much conflict.

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And I think that those voices are the ones that should be heard.

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But on the other hand, I mean, our generation is very apathetic in some ways and very disconnected

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from anything real.

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We're very connected on Facebook and Twitter and Reddit and such, but we're kind of disconnected

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from real world issues.

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And I think that if this video and this campaign has done anything, it might have at least

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created a stepping stone to, or at least created a basis

where organizations like GlobeMed

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and working with Gweji and organizations that are interacting with the community, interacting

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with real citizens of the world who are engaged in these issues, can then take over and say,

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"Okay, you've heard this side of the story.

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Now here's ours.

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Now that you're interested, now that you know, now that you're aware, here's the other side

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of the view."

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I would never, I always support,

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I think it's always good to create dialogue.

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And I think that this Kony thing

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definitely has created dialogue.

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We've heard the Kony story from the Kony 2012.

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And then we've heard all of the backlash against Kony 2012.

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And just that, I mean, people are talking about,

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people are talking about, you know, talking about it.

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And I think it's so new to me to hear people

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who aren't in GlobeMed talking about Uganda and talking about Kony and the LRA and invisible

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children and I think that's, I don't really know, again this is one of the things I talked

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about I don't know where I quite stand on it yet because I mean it's a two double step

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love story is that the right phrase but it really is.

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I think what GlobeMed needs to do right now is take this initiative and take this wave

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passion and

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Insuration that so many people have got from the 2020 film video because it really has it really did

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Inspire a lot of people and I must give them credit for that because few organizations have managed to

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Spread their message so quickly so effectively and so broadly

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But that that energy needs to be directed somewhere. I think more

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productive and I think

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That organizations like wedgie could capitalize on that to bring attention to their cause and bring attention to the work that they're doing right now

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in a way that would, you know, sort of create more of a

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change that is tangible than just spreading a video via Facebook.

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And so that's what my hope is for this, that

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good can come out of it and that all of the hype and all of the, you know,

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all the energy that's being created right now will be funneled towards

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supporting organizations in Uganda that are currently working to rebuild the

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country. And so,

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Yeah, that's, I guess, I don't know necessarily, I guess I'm a little torn at how I feel about

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it, but that's what I hope for it.

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Yeah, I think a lot of people actually agree with Nicole that raising awareness is good,

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but it's just perhaps the oversimplification of the story of these people and the lack

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of perspective that's criticized a lot.

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But maybe more broadly for globe med, how do you sort of strike a balance between the

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need to raise awareness and to sort of emphasize action also?

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Where does globe med, what does globe med view as the importance of raising awareness?

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I think that the thing is that we actually challenged the fact that those two things

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could ever be separate.

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The whole, you know, the globe was born out of the question

of what is the best way for

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students to work with communities to achieve the vision of health and dignity for all.

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And the answer that we've gotten from that is that you have to think deeply and critically

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about what you're doing.

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You have to listen, you have to be patient, you have to know, you have to question in

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order to actually make any change.

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And I think that in taking that stance what we say is that awareness without awareness

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is an awareness.

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And what I mean by that is that, you know, you just knowing surface level about something

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isn't understanding it deeply.

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And if you don't understand it deeply, how are you going to push the levers of change

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to affect something at the deep and structural level that

you're going to need to in order

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to make that change?

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And so for us, I don't think we see it as one or the other.

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I think we say it takes time, it takes patience, it takes dedication, but in the long run,

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There's no other way to go about it because these issues are complex and we're dealing

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with human lives and what that means is that we have a responsibility to get it right and

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to work together to figure out what the real issues are and how to actually make that change.

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One thing that's really striking me right now that I'm kind of curious about, I'd love

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to hear your perspectives. At least in the past week or so, just going back to what we

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were saying about Koni, this just popped into my head. I remember reading yesterday, they

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said they say that it's become the most viral video in history.

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That makes me curious. Given all this traction that World
Madness

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gained in the enormous and just really inspiring progress
that's been going on, I have a question

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about context or about the time period that we're in at the
moment. Let's say if we go to a different time era,

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let's say maybe the 90s or sometime in the 80s, would
something like Kony or would GlobeMed gain the traction

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or the popularity that it's gained in 2012,

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would this type of movements thrive

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in a different time period?

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Is there something about our time at the moment

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that there's something fundamentally lacking?

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I was just wondering about right now.

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So I'd be curious about your take on that.

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- Yeah, I think that global med would not work in the 90s

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because of the fact that it's built on the power

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of human connection and the ability to actually talk

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and communicate often with people

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on the other side of the world.

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I mean, when you think about the relationships

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that you have in your life,

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the thing that keeps them going is communication.

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I mean, that's the basis of most of our relationships, I think.

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And so it's fascinating to think about the fact

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that I do think that this time and the technological advances

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that have been made are really the foundation on which
we've

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been able to build this global network of human connection.

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In terms of the Coney 2012 video, yeah,

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I mean, it's the same thing.

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And just in terms of having the whole term viral media

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built on the rapidity of the exchange of information.

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I mean, it's just like if you don't have the host

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that the virus is moving through, which I suppose is the interwebs,

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then, you know, it would never work.

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So I think this is a really unique time to be able to actually bridge this,

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bridge the, what was huge cast between different parts of the world

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that are rapidly closing today,

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and being able to share information much more rapidly than ever before.

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And like Maya was saying, part of the reason we're able to

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communicate such a strong relationship with our partner organizations is because things like

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Skype and the internet, email, video forums

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that allow us to connect with each other instantly and very

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fully. So I think without these modern technologies

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the model wouldn't be able to work quite as effectively as it does right now.

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I would go so far as to say, I think, I mean, I was an English major, I have no science

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background, so take this with a grain of salt.

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But I think that the act of seeing someone else's face, being able to turn on video Skype

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and see the face and connect that with the voice and the story of someone on the other

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side of the world is neurologically different than reading an email and getting on a phone

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call.

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And I think that the ability of people to connect deeply despite never having met, but

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being able to look face to face is actually an incredibly

important opportunity that was

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never available to people before.

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And if someone is studying neuroscience and has anything to say about that, I would love

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to hear it.

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This is a pop science theory that I've had for a while.

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I think that's...

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Should you study on it?

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pretty valid. I think I remember learning like in US history and high school

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during the Vietnam War for the first time they showed video footage and

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photography of dead bodies for the first time on television and through media.

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So it totally changes the way that we view the world I think.

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Kevin, did you have any other questions?

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Yeah, I have a couple more that I'm curious about.

00:18:34.560 --> 00:18:38.880

Let's just finish up with the last few questions.

00:18:38.880 --> 00:18:49.880

I was just wondering, what's your definition of agency?

00:18:49.880 --> 00:18:52.680

How did you sort of come up with this definition over time?

00:18:52.680 --> 00:18:54.560

Has it changed over time?

00:18:54.560 --> 00:18:56.500

What does agency mean to you?

00:18:56.500 --> 00:19:02.060

- Agency is something that I've been really thinking

00:19:02.060 --> 00:19:06.460

a lot about lately and through the readings I've done

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and the classes I'm taking and a work with GlobeMed.

00:19:08.900 --> 00:19:13.900

And I think agency is about allowing people the chance

00:19:13.900 --> 00:19:18.780

to, you know, I'm already a send puts it really well.

00:19:18.780 --> 00:19:21.060

He's written a book called, "The Belmont is Freedom."

00:19:21.060 --> 00:19:22.540

It's a very famous book.

00:19:22.540 --> 00:19:24.180

And it's about the idea of capabilities

00:19:24.180 --> 00:19:26.800

and what you're able, not just what you do do,

00:19:26.800 --> 00:19:30.740

but what you could do with the opportunities available to you.

00:19:30.740 --> 00:19:32.740

And I think that's so important.

00:19:32.740 --> 00:19:36.380

And one of his examples is that a man who is starving

00:19:36.380 --> 00:19:39.660

because he can't access food is very different

00:19:39.660 --> 00:19:42.460

than a man who is starving because he's at a hunger strike.

00:19:42.460 --> 00:19:45.020

The man who's on the hunger strike could eat.

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He has the capability to eat, but he doesn't

00:19:46.700 --> 00:19:47.540

because he chooses that.

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He has the agency to choose not to eat.

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That's his decision.

00:19:50.860 --> 00:19:52.740

But the man who's starving because of lack of access

00:19:52.740 --> 00:19:56.460

food or economic possibilities to gain food is starving because he's lacking

00:19:56.460 --> 00:20:01.320

with agency. And I think something that GlobeMed really does strive to do is to

00:20:01.320 --> 00:20:06.800

create agency for the people that in the partner communities and that's so

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important in enabling people to be able to thrive and live to their full

00:20:11.880 --> 00:20:18.720

potential and allowing people to take the actions that they take because that

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is the choice that they have decided would be best for them and not the

00:20:21.560 --> 00:20:26.800

choice that they are taking because their opportunities are constrained and limited by the circumstances

00:20:26.800 --> 00:20:27.800

to which they live.

00:20:27.800 --> 00:20:33.460

And I think it's just so important that people have agency because it allows them to have

00:20:33.460 --> 00:20:40.120

dignity and allows them to have opportunities to expand themselves and to grow and learn

00:20:40.120 --> 00:20:42.920

and to become the people that they want to be.

00:20:42.920 --> 00:20:50.080

And I think that's why I really have thought a lot about this

idea of agency and why it's

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so important to humanity.

00:20:53.320 --> 00:20:57.280

I really think that enabling people to have agency

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is one of the most important things you can do for them.

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And by restricting someone's agency,

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you're really limiting them and their ability

00:21:03.520 --> 00:21:05.640

to live to their full potential,

00:21:05.640 --> 00:21:07.160

live their life to its fullest.

00:21:07.160 --> 00:21:08.920

And so I think any sort of situation

00:21:08.920 --> 00:21:11.840

that limits someone's agency is just,

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it's something that, like economic conditions

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or lack of education or lack of proper sanitation

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housing, all those things work to limit our agency. And I think those are the

00:21:23.520 --> 00:21:26.360

sorts of things that we need to be fixing in the world right

now, like

00:21:26.360 --> 00:21:29.640

creating conditions where people are able to thrive and people are able to

00:21:29.640 --> 00:21:34.080

choose the path they want to take because they think that will enable them

00:21:34.080 --> 00:21:37.880

to, you know, create a better life for themselves. So I think that's what

00:21:37.880 --> 00:21:43.520

GLOMED does. We remove the barriers that hinder people's agency and I

00:21:43.520 --> 00:21:48.120

think that's what Guajie does in Gulu. And they're creating such positive

00:21:48.120 --> 00:21:51.480

social change because they're allowing the members of their community to take

00:21:51.480 --> 00:21:57.240

control of their own lives and to you know to really just seize their own

00:21:57.240 --> 00:22:00.960

power and empower themselves. I just I that that's one of the most powerful

00:22:00.960 --> 00:22:06.560

things that both Gweji and then Glomed from Mordu.

00:22:06.560 --> 00:22:15.480

Well that was fantastic Nicole. That's beautiful. And I'll only

add just a few

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more things to back up everything that Nicole said. In terms of very specifically how I

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saw this in place with Queji when I was there in Northern Uganda, I think there are a few

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ways in which I saw this happen. Just the importance of linking agency and power with

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the fight for health.

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You know, when you think about the structures that cause people to suffer, you know, it's

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both positive and negative things in terms of both depravity and forces acting actively

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on them.

00:22:58.040 --> 00:23:04.600

So, what I mean by that is that, you know, you can say very directly that military oppression

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be beaten or thrown into jail is an act of oppression.

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A circumscribing agency, prison is such a powerful example of that.

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But how is that related to, for example, not having access to clean water?

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What is the relationship between that same kind of circumscription of someone's abilities

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between being civically or politically oppressed versus lacking the access to your basic, your

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basic needs in order to survive and live a healthy life.

00:23:38.080 --> 00:23:43.080

And that's a really fascinating question to explore

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and it requires a much longer conversation.

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But what Pamela helped me to understand

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is that if you take a community that,

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for example, doesn't have access to clean water,

00:23:56.080 --> 00:23:58.020

doesn't have a functioning health system,

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doesn't have access to nutrition or education,

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If you take that community, one of the things that they need

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is immediate resources, but the second and equally

00:24:09.080 --> 00:24:11.880

as important thing that they need is to have the power

00:24:11.880 --> 00:24:14.720

to put their voice in front of the people

00:24:14.720 --> 00:24:16.840

who make the decisions about that community.

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And what that means is democratic mobilization.

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For Pamela, the act of just getting a well into a community

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and getting clean water is only half of the equation.

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The other half is being able to empower that community

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to elect a leader who's going to give voice to their needs

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and fight for their rights.

00:24:34.320 --> 00:24:36.720

And by doing that, you know, she says,

00:24:36.720 --> 00:24:38.760

that's the only way you're gonna be able to change

00:24:38.760 --> 00:24:42.560

the structures that are really oppressing the communities

00:24:42.560 --> 00:24:46.480

that she's a part of and that she's living and working for.

00:24:46.480 --> 00:24:51.360

And so, you know, that act of challenging power

00:24:51.360 --> 00:24:54.080

of thinking about the relationship between health

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and power is something that really,

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I think ties together civil rights, political rights,

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you know, right to health, right to education,

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all of these different factors and shows us

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that they're actually part of one fabric

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and that we can't think of them independently.

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I think the second thing they'll add

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is that there's a very deeply personal experience to this

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that I saw when I was working in Northern Uganda with
Gweji.

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And what I saw was that Pamela starts out,

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she said to us when we got to Gulu, she said,

00:25:29.960 --> 00:25:32.320

"Listen, you're gonna have the chance to go

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"and meet the families who received goats

00:25:35.500 --> 00:25:37.520

"through the projects that you help funded.

00:25:37.520 --> 00:25:39.960

"And what I want you to know is that they're gonna be

00:25:39.960 --> 00:25:44.960

"so deeply grateful for what they're able to receive

00:25:44.960 --> 00:25:46.800

"through this project, but they're going to be

00:25:46.800 --> 00:25:48.940

"deeply grateful not because you swept in

00:25:48.940 --> 00:25:52.180

"and saved them in some way, but because you helped them

00:25:52.180 --> 00:25:56.780

realize the rights that they deserved in the first place.

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And that is such a powerful message to say, you know, you are helping them, you know,

00:26:02.180 --> 00:26:09.060

not lift them up, you know, with your helping hand, but you're helping them realize what

00:26:09.060 --> 00:26:12.540

they deserved, you know, just by being human.

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And that's the message that she brings to every community that she works in.

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When she enters the community, you know, what she says is, you are a human being, you have

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inherent rights, you are worthwhile. You have value as a person and because you have value

00:26:27.700 --> 00:26:31.860

as a person that's why you deserve water and that's why you deserve education and that's

00:26:31.860 --> 00:26:39.380

why you deserve food. And that is that empowering message. Like all of us have had the experience

00:26:39.380 --> 00:26:44.460

of having someone look at us and say you have value as a human being. You are important

00:26:44.460 --> 00:26:49.660

just because you are human and because you are special and you are you. And that is something

00:26:49.660 --> 00:26:55.220

that all of us can relate to and that is a deeply personal and empowering experience

00:26:55.220 --> 00:26:58.780

that I think often gets left behind in "development work."

00:26:58.780 --> 00:27:04.940

And that is a message that cannot be underestimated for its power because in order for a community

00:27:04.940 --> 00:27:09.820

to advocate for its rights, it has to first believe that it has value.

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And each individual person in that community, a woman who has been oppressed by her husband

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or kids who have experienced the violence of being child

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soldiers or any of that, they have

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to actually believe first and foremost that they had value

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and that their voices matter.

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And from that, that's when that change comes.

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And so I think that that was something

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that I learned so profoundly is to not discount

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the deeply human experience of empowerment, of human rights,

00:27:39.340 --> 00:27:42.620

and of feeling the value of yourself as a human being.

00:27:46.020 --> 00:27:49.020

Yeah, that's really profound. Wow.

00:27:49.020 --> 00:27:58.020

Yeah, I don't usually hear that at all when I read about or hear about development work.

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The human component.

00:28:00.020 --> 00:28:07.020

Kevin, unless you had any other questions to add?

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I've asked enough of this.

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Okay, we just have one last question that we ask everybody that we interview for wig and it's for both of you

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So we'd be interested in hearing your opinion on the question. What is global health?

00:28:22.980 --> 00:28:31.280

Nicole do you want to start? Oh, thank you, Maya

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You know I

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I think global health, which is, you should have asked this before we start talking about

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agency everything because it's basically said everything.

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It's on my line.

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I saw my own line.

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Global health is about, oh see, what is health really is so important and then it's global

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health is that for everyone, right?

00:28:59.340 --> 00:29:08.140

And health is just giving people the chance to thrive and to be in a state where they are

00:29:08.140 --> 00:29:12.060

are glad to be alive, or when they feel fulfilled,

00:29:12.060 --> 00:29:15.140

and when they feel that their lives are worth living.

00:29:15.140 --> 00:29:18.860

And then global health is that for everyone.

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Doesn't matter where you live.

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Doesn't matter who you are, what you have.

00:29:23.060 --> 00:29:25.340

It's just everyone should have that.

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Everyone should have the chance to lead a healthy life.

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And by that, I don't mean just a life free from illness,

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and a life free from--

00:29:33.940 --> 00:29:35.860

we all get sick.

00:29:35.860 --> 00:29:44.300

I just mean a life, a healthy life, a fulfilling, satisfying, and full life that isn't impeded

00:29:44.300 --> 00:29:52.340

by outside forces that restrict your agency as we've been

talking about.

00:29:52.340 --> 00:29:57.740

That's for me what why I care about global health and why I am dedicating my life to

00:29:57.740 --> 00:30:01.740

this field is just creating those conditions for everyone because I think everyone deserves

00:30:01.740 --> 00:30:02.740

them.

00:30:02.740 --> 00:30:06.940

That was beautiful, Nicole.

00:30:06.940 --> 00:30:09.940

Thank you.

00:30:09.940 --> 00:30:12.740

Yeah, I think this is such a fascinating question.

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I think that it's actually easier to answer when you're just diving into it and it gets

00:30:16.780 --> 00:30:20.300

harder and harder to answer the deeper you get in.

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And the reason for that is that the thing that I love about health and about global

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health is that to me health, you know, parts of health are determined by our genetics,

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by things that are just inherent in the way that we're set up as human beings. But in

00:30:38.420 --> 00:30:47.060

so many ways our health is determined by the experiences that we have, the places that

00:30:47.060 --> 00:30:55.060

we live, the way in which we are valued or devalued as people in our societies. And

00:30:55.060 --> 00:31:01.980

So the way that I see health is that it's the social, political, economic factors that

00:31:01.980 --> 00:31:05.340

act on you manifested in your body.

00:31:05.340 --> 00:31:13.900

If you take anyone in anywhere around the world and you look at why they die, you can

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uncover so much about that person and understand so much about their life and the society that

00:31:19.740 --> 00:31:21.900

they lived in by looking at that question.

00:31:21.900 --> 00:31:26.740

Why does a 30 year old mother in Zambia die of HIV?

00:31:26.740 --> 00:31:31.460

By asking that question, that is the life or death question, the basic, the fundamental

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question that you start with, but backing out from that, you interact with so many different

00:31:38.140 --> 00:31:45.700

historical, political, economic, social, environmental factors

that what it does is it really shows

00:31:45.700 --> 00:31:53.260

the ways in which all of those factors play out on life and death circumstances in each

00:31:53.260 --> 00:31:54.260

of our lives.

00:31:54.260 --> 00:32:02.460

And to me what's so beautiful or challenging about that is that it really makes it clear

00:32:02.460 --> 00:32:08.260

that all of those factors come down to the moral question of whether or not people have

00:32:08.260 --> 00:32:14.580

the opportunity to live to their greatest potential and brings into light the fact that

00:32:14.580 --> 00:32:22.500

everything from an economic policy to an environmental decision, you know, deeply impacts whether

00:32:22.500 --> 00:32:28.940

how people live and why they die, which is, you know, it becomes in so many ways a really

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powerful lens to understand what is right and wrong about the choices that we're making

00:32:33.540 --> 00:32:36.820

and how we're seeing each other as human beings.

00:32:36.820 --> 00:32:39.780

So you know, I think that that's the health piece.

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In terms of the global piece, global health versus international health, something that

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you learn all your basic global health classes, the idea of global is an assumption of being

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interconnected.

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International health draws the line between national and out there.

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Global health implies that you send a ripple through one end of the world and it will hit

00:33:02.940 --> 00:33:07.460

someone else's body, physical body, and another.

00:33:07.460 --> 00:33:11.860

And I think that we're seeing that this is true, everything from migrating patterns of

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pollution to the movement of infectious agents to food prices and how that affects whether

00:33:21.220 --> 00:33:25.460

or not something can afford bread in Uganda.

00:33:25.460 --> 00:33:32.340

And so many different levels, it really asks us to question how our actions affect the

00:33:32.340 --> 00:33:35.260

people around us.

00:33:35.260 --> 00:33:37.620

That to me is such a fascinating intellectual question.

00:33:37.620 --> 00:33:39.980

I think it's the issue of our day.

00:33:39.980 --> 00:33:41.940

I think global health is one piece of this.

00:33:41.940 --> 00:33:43.860

There are many different ways to answer that question.

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But again, the reason that I love it

00:33:45.140 --> 00:33:47.500

is because it's looking at the ways in which those factors

00:33:47.500 --> 00:33:51.300

play themselves out on human bodies, on human lives.

00:33:51.300 --> 00:33:54.580

And to me, there's no more important question

00:33:54.580 --> 00:33:56.540

than that.

00:33:56.540 --> 00:34:00.220

That's about our fundamental humanity.

00:34:00.220 --> 00:34:04.260

So that was in no way to perform a concrete answer.

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Nicole's I think was beautiful.

00:34:06.420 --> 00:34:08.500

But those are the things that I carry around with me

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on a day-to-day basis and why I wake up every morning

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excited to be involved in this field.

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This has been Wig, What is Global Health?

00:34:18.340 --> 00:34:20.380

The podcast from the Journal of Global Health

00:34:20.380 --> 00:34:22.380

at Columbia University.

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You just listened to episode number four, part two,

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Coney 2012, Social Media and Agency.

00:34:28.540 --> 00:34:30.660

Thank you so much to Maya Cohen,

00:34:30.660 --> 00:34:32.460

Executive Director of GlobeMed

00:34:32.460 --> 00:34:36.420

and Nicole Dousseau of GlobeMed at Columbia for joining
us.

00:34:36.420 --> 00:34:40.100

Thanks also to Karina Yu for contributing to this episode

00:34:40.100 --> 00:34:42.060

and to Kevin Chu for co-hosting.

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You can find previous episodes of WIG online

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at www.ghjournal.org/wig.

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That's www.ghjournal.org/wig, W-I-G-H question mark.

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We're excited to announce that WIG is also available now

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