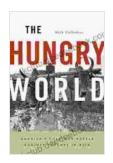
America's Cold War Battle Against Poverty in Asia: A Reprint of the First Harvard University Conference on International Affairs



The Hungry World: America's Cold War Battle against Poverty in Asia (Reprint / 1st Harvard University Press

Pbk. Ed) by Nick Cullather

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The Cold War, a global ideological conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union, had a profound impact on international affairs. In addition to military and political battles, the Cold War also played out in the realm of economic development. Both the United States and the Soviet Union sought to gain influence and support in developing countries, and one of the key battlegrounds was Asia.

In the wake of World War II, Asia was a region of great poverty and instability. The United States, determined to prevent the spread of communism, launched a massive campaign to promote economic development in Asia. This campaign was known as the "Cold War battle against poverty." America's efforts to combat poverty in Asia were

motivated by both humanitarian and strategic concerns. On the one hand, the United States wanted to help improve the lives of people around the world. On the other hand, the United States also saw fighting poverty as a way to contain the spread of communism.

The First Harvard University Conference on International Affairs, held in 1954, brought together scholars and policymakers to discuss America's Cold War battle against poverty in Asia. The conference explored the motivations, strategies, and outcomes of America's efforts to combat poverty in Asia. The conference proceedings were published in a book, which is reprinted here.

The Motivations for America's Cold War Battle Against Poverty in Asia

The United States had a number of motivations for launching its Cold War battle against poverty in Asia. First and foremost, the United States wanted to help improve the lives of people around the world. The United States believed that poverty was a breeding ground for communism, and that by fighting poverty, it could help to prevent the spread of communism.

In addition to humanitarian concerns, the United States also had strategic reasons for fighting poverty in Asia. The United States saw poverty as a threat to its own security interests. The United States believed that poor and unstable countries were more likely to fall prey to communist propaganda and influence. By fighting poverty, the United States could help to stabilize Asia and prevent the spread of communism.

The Strategies of America's Cold War Battle Against Poverty in Asia

The United States employed a variety of strategies in its Cold War battle against poverty in Asia. These strategies included:

- Economic aid: The United States provided billions of dollars in economic aid to Asian countries. This aid was used to fund a variety of projects, including infrastructure development, education, and health care.
- Technical assistance: The United States also provided technical assistance to Asian countries. This assistance included sending experts to Asia to help with development projects.
- Military assistance: The United States also provided military assistance to Asian countries. This assistance included providing weapons and training to Asian military forces.

The Outcomes of America's Cold War Battle Against Poverty in Asia

The outcomes of America's Cold War battle against poverty in Asia were mixed. On the one hand, the United States did make some progress in reducing poverty. For example, the United States helped to increase food production in Asia and to improve health care. However, on the other hand, the United States did not fully achieve its goal of eliminating poverty in Asia. Poverty remains a major problem in many Asian countries today.

There are a number of reasons why the United States did not fully achieve its goal of eliminating poverty in Asia. One reason is that the United States often focused on short-term solutions, such as providing food aid, rather than on long-term solutions, such as investing in education and infrastructure. Another reason is that the United States often ignored the political and social causes of poverty. For example, the United States often supported authoritarian regimes in Asia, which did not do much to help the poor.

America's Cold War battle against poverty in Asia was a complex and controversial undertaking. The United States had a number of motivations for launching this campaign, including humanitarian concerns and strategic interests. The United States employed a variety of strategies to combat poverty, including economic aid, technical assistance, and military assistance. However, the outcomes of America's efforts were mixed. The United States did make some progress in reducing poverty, but it did not fully achieve its goal of eliminating poverty in Asia.

The United States' Cold War battle against poverty in Asia offers a number of lessons for today. First, it is important to have a clear understanding of the causes of poverty. Second, it is important to develop long-term solutions to poverty that address the political and social causes of poverty. Third, it is important to work with local partners to ensure that development efforts are sustainable.

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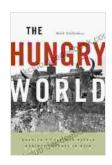
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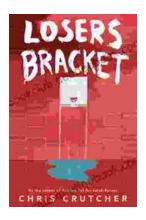


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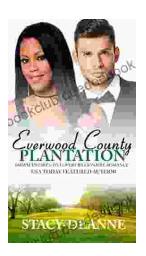
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