The University of Iowa's Global Health Studies Program offers an interdisciplinary approach to the complex processes influencing health and disease both locally and around the world, an approach which places a priority on improving health and health equity for all people worldwide. On December 1 – 3, 2016, the UI Global Health Studies Program hosted a workshop entitled, “Doing Harm by Doing Good: Ethics of Students Studying, Volunteering, and Working in Global Communities.” Below are some suggested resources from the workshop presenters.

1. **Reject the “white savior” approach to international work**

   Radi-Aid Awards: If we say Global South, what do you think about? Hunger, poverty, corruption or AIDS? For decades we have seen the same stereotypical images of the Global South in the media. We need to educate ourselves on how stereotypes and simple solutions to complex problems are more damaging than helping.


2. **If you can’t do it here, you shouldn’t do it there!**

   University of Minnesota “Global Ambassadors for Patient Safety (GAPS) Online Workshop.”

   The workshop teaches students what they need to be aware of when gaining experience in another country, and offers advice for how to have experiences abroad without stepping beyond one’s qualifications and expertise.  [http://www.healthcareers.umn.edu/courses-and-events/online-workshops/global-ambassadors-patient-safety](http://www.healthcareers.umn.edu/courses-and-events/online-workshops/global-ambassadors-patient-safety)

   Noelle Sullivan, “Posing as a Doctor is Illegal...Unless You Go to the ‘Developing World.’”  [https://noellesullivan.wordpress.com/](https://noellesullivan.wordpress.com/)

   Noelle Sullivan, “We Need to Stop Sending Unskilled Volunteers to Countries That Need Care.”  [http://motherboard.vice.com/read/we-need-to-stop-sending-unskilled-volunteers-to-places-that-actually-need-care](http://motherboard.vice.com/read/we-need-to-stop-sending-unskilled-volunteers-to-places-that-actually-need-care)

3. **Guidelines for Doing Better**


   Grace Sato, [Review] Judith Lasker, *Hoping to Help: Promises and Pitfalls of Global Health Volunteering* (Cornell University Press, 2016). Lasker offers nine principles for short-term volunteer programs: foster mutuality between organizations and host communities; maintain continuity in programming; conduct needs assessments; evaluate processes and outcomes with host community input; focus on prevention; integrate diverse types of health services; focus on building local capacity; strengthen the preparation of volunteers; and extend the length of volunteers’ time in country. [http://pndblog.typepad.com/pndblog/2016/05/review-hoping-to-help-the-promises-and-pitfalls-of-global-health-volunteering.html](http://pndblog.typepad.com/pndblog/2016/05/review-hoping-to-help-the-promises-and-pitfalls-of-global-health-volunteering.html)