**Evaluating Web Data on NGOs**

**A Short, Preliminary, Team Analysis**

In this assignment, teams of four students are asked to evaluate the web sites of NGOs that are described on pp. 18-39 of the Hudson Institute report as exemplary. A list of teams and of the organizations the teams have chosen is given below.

Each team has 20 minutes to make its presentation and the expectation is that they will spend 10 minutes presenting on each of their two organizations. We will have a timekeeper. There is no specific written component to this assignment but the instructor will give both team and individual grades for the presentations. Grades will count towards your course participation grade.

While your presentation does not require you to submit written reports, there are discussion questions related to web assessment of NGOs that students should consider answering in the usual way—draft questions are due on class day, final questions are due the following Sunday evening.

**Goals of the Assignment**

1. Inform and educate students in the class about the NGOs you are covering.

**Students in the class for the most part are not familiar with the types of organizations that are included in the category of NGOs. By telling them about your specific NGOs, you will help everyone learn what kinds of enterprises count as NGOs. Most of the NGOs in the Hudson Institute list represent a “type” of organization (or maybe than one type). Think about what those types might be, try to explain the type to the class, talk about challenges, dilemmas, or concerns you recognize to be linked to your types of NGOs. (I talked to one group where one of their organizations is a U.S. based, large, grant making foundation and the other organization is a large, Christian, service providing NGOs that has the mission of spreading the word of Christ.)**

1. Do an assessment of the completeness and accuracy of the web site in terms of providing to potential donors or funders information they would want to have before making a donation or grant.

**Pay attention to two resources:**

* 1. **Read Chapter 12 of Karlan and Appel, “To Give: The Takeaway,” and orient your comments to the things they say.**
  2. **Apply The Charity Rater to your organizations:** [**http://goodintents.org/the-charity-rater**](http://goodintents.org/the-charity-rater)

**The Charity Rater covers all of the major points of an NGO evaluation and does it with a manageable level of detail.**

1. Are you convinced or troubled?

**Give a final, overall assessment of your organizations and how you would feel about making a contribution to them. You probably should have a gut-level response, but be mindful that we have read and talked about many principles and concerns related to NGO accountability. You need to bring those into your discussion. Consider also issues that may not show up on any of the NGO assessments like the level of community participation in program design and how organizational size and complexity affect your ability to get your mind around the programs of an organization.**

**Teams and NGOs:**

**Team #1: Patty Ehinger, Avery Faigen, Lindsey McLeod, Elizabeth Pullman, Heather Roberts**

**Organizations: Dikembe Mitumbo; Humanity United**

**Team #2: Emily Conners, Tory Cutting, Elle Fried, Margaret Hoerner**

**Organizations: McArthur Foundation; Hope International.**

**Team #3: Joanna Gavin, Anh Hoang, Emily Partridge, Amanda Puleo**

**Organizations: Merck; Building for Tomorrow.**

**Team #4: Orville Joseph, Zack Klush, Stephanie Pujadas, Alex Ventosa, Charlie Streep**