

Excerpts from:

Being My Brother's Keeper: Towards a Theology of Reconciliation among the Lost Boys of Sudan (Part 1)

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Being My Brother's Keeper: Towards a Theology of Reconciliation among the Lost Boys of Sudan By Anderia Lual Arok, Kansas City, USA, May 20, 2016

February 11, 2017 (SSB) — I am a Priest in the Episcopal Church, originally from South Sudan and now living in Phoenix, Arizona. My experiences during the 58 years I lived in Sudan, including living through the long years of civil wars has heightened my desire to pursue a course of study for a Doctoral Degree in Global Health and Wellness. When I was in Kosti (Northern Sudan) many people were displaced from the South to North, and they came naked, without food, shelter and basic needs. They would come at all hours of the day, and we would take them to refugee camps where the non-governmental organizations (NGO's) could start helping them. The NGO's and churches registered the names of people, kept statistical data on the refugees as in some cases, people disappeared from the camps, spirited away by Islamic regime security forces who believed they were rebels. Refugees were provided with food, blankets, shelter, cooking utensils, and medical personnel were also sent to deliver health services; registrations for schools were arranged, clean water projects were set up, and environmental assessments for healthy living were also done.

Many of the people working for the NGO's and churches laid down their lives for the sake of others. My experiences reaffirmed my belief that indeed, we have a responsibility to care for our fellow human beings.

Caring for others was a central part of Jesus' ministry and it should be a central part of any ministry. The consequence of failing to adequately address the needs of all people is that there will continue to be the "haves" and the "have not's" in the world and this inequality will lead to more civil unrest and destruction of life and property.