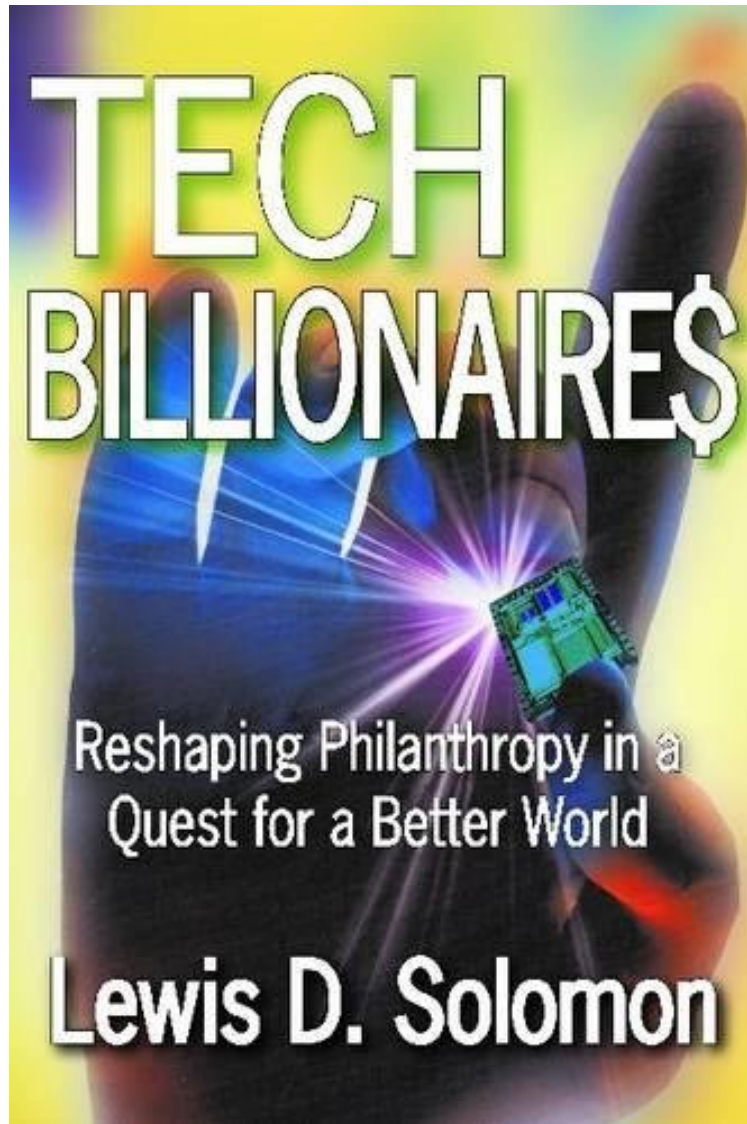


(Ebook pdf) Tech Billionaires: Reshaping Philanthropy in a Quest for a Better World

Tech Billionaires: Reshaping Philanthropy in a Quest for a Better World

Lewis D. Solomon

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Lewis D. Solomon : Tech Billionaires: Reshaping Philanthropy in a Quest for a Better World before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Tech Billionaires: Reshaping Philanthropy in a Quest for a Better World:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Creating A Better World...By Louise Lentoff A great reading to understand the top down philosophy of creating change and goodwill that inspires others. May we all rise to our

highest potential to be All that we are here to Be, in creating a world that works for everyone.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. From Carnegie to Brin: New Paths for Doing GoodBy David HanzlickProfessor Lewis D. Solomon provides useful insight into the transformation of philanthropic ventures among the super rich from the era of the robber barons of the Gilded Age to the high tech billionaires of today. The transition moves from the traditional foundation model to one that blends the altruistic motive of philanthropy with the impulse of capitalism, which is dubbed philanthrocapitalism. Solomon argues convincingly that the point of departure occurred after Bill and Melinda Gates made their massive investment in the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. A new hybrid model, which aims to "break down the traditional barriers dividing business, charity, and government," has been pioneered by people who made their fortunes in internet-based enterprises. The billionaires include Pierre Omidyar of eBay, Jeffrey Skoll of eBay, Stephen Case of AOL, and Sergey Brin and Larry Page of Google. While the slim volume provides more facts than analysis, it provides a useful and brief refresher on the too-often-neglected philanthropic philosophy and approach of Andrew Carnegie and the major philanthropists of the early industrial age that followed him. The book also provides important insight into how the philanthropic structure is being reinvented to meet the complex possibilities of the internet age.

In the first decade of the twenty-first century a new wave of thinking has emerged from tech billionaires that may shape the way private capital gets invested to tackle social problems. These entrepreneurs broke the business mold in the 1980s and 1990s and are now trying to break the traditional pattern of philanthropy pioneered by Andrew Carnegie and John D. Rockefeller, Sr. some one hundred years ago. Combining billions of dollars of their personal capital with new ideas, cutting-edge businesslike techniques, media and marketing savvy, the tech benefactors profiled in this book are attacking some of the globe's most intractable societal problems. In trying to make a difference in the world, these new philanthropists, dubbed "philanthrocapitalists" by the author seek to break down traditional barriers dividing business, charity, and government. As a result of the rapid wealth creation in recent years, the world now boasts 1,125 billionaires, many of whom are self-made, according to the Forbes' 2008 list, including Bill Gates, Pierre Omidyar, Jeffrey Skoll, Stepehn Case, Sergey Brin, Larry Page, and more. Their massive wealth has created new philanthropic challenges. Imaginative giving by the new billionaires is beginning to transform philanthropy in terms of timing, involvement, strategy, and tactics. How this development impacts society as a whole is the subject of Lewis Solomon's book. As the author notes, the traditional categories of business and philanthropy may no longer serve to meet the challenge of social problems. In the twenty-first century the tools and resources used to solve societal problems will be far more varied and mixed than previously. We now see interesting partnerships and new ways of thinking. The divide between profit and social good will narrow. If successful in using their money in innovative ways, government or for-profit business could scale up the catalytic efforts of the new philanthropists. This volume is a proactive, innovative guide to a new era, not just a new technique of monetary support.