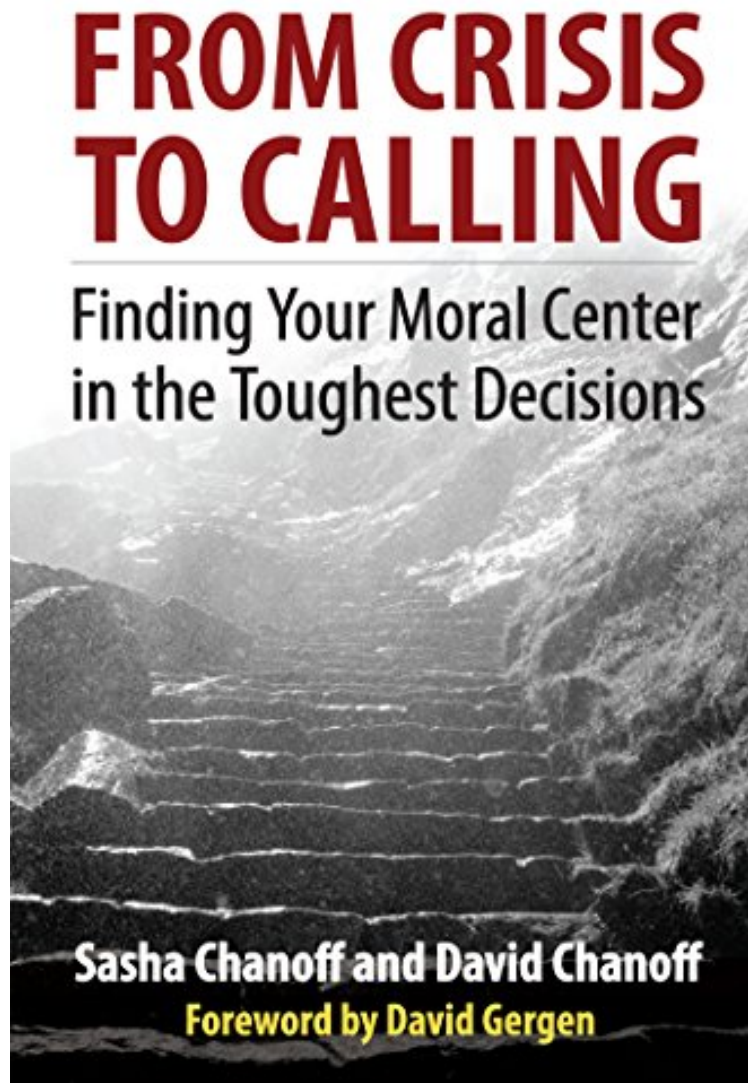


(Mobile pdf) From Crisis to Calling: Finding Your Moral Center in the Toughest Decisions

From Crisis to Calling: Finding Your Moral Center in the Toughest Decisions

Sasha Chanoff, David Chanoff

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Sasha Chanoff, David Chanoff : From Crisis to Calling: Finding Your Moral Center in the Toughest Decisions
before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised From Crisis to Calling:
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CustomerHow do we step up to our life greatest challenges and decisions? Can we face our choices and believe we did
the absolute best under the circumstances? The Chanoff's tackle and dissect these issues by highlighting specific real

life stories. Rarely have I read a book about such a difficult yet compelling subject, that is so readable (so accessible). This book is on my gift list - I'll be giving it to others because it's a worthy read that I want to share broadly. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Chanoff Leads with Compassion By saraSasha Chanoff is one of our most compelling voices for social justice. What distinguishes Chanoff is that he leads not with anger, but with enormous compassion and generosity. His deep human connectedness reminds us that we are, indeed, a global family. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Being prepared implores us to seek beyond what we know and desire knowledge outside boundaries of our comfort zone wherein lies By JaneAndersonAs I sat down to write this book review today, an online article in the Huff Post grabbed my attention proclaiming Afghan Refugee Crisis Worsens. It seems the news is dominated by more and more crises related to refugees who are suffering greatly in violence-torn regions. This book would have been much more uncomfortable to read had it not been for the author's presentation of the storyline through the moral compass of each person involved in the refugee evacuation. In the second half of the book, the five principles of moral decision making are conveyed through stories about corporate heroes of today. Let's get into the 5-step pathway to moral decision making right now, in the summation of the book, From Crisis to Calling: Finding your Moral Center in the Toughest Decisions. While the authors invite readers to learn the principles through real life stories of individuals whose lives took a different path through their crucible experiences, I've chosen to share my takeaways from the five principles. Yours will likely be different from mine, when you read the book for yourself. As the authors point out, "In our book, we address the potential of altruistic or empathetic decision making to spark personal transformations that can, at times, lead to lifetime callings." The Five Principles - building blocks to making moral decisions 1. Be prepared We have a tendency to gravitate toward what we already know, what our circles of influence tell us. We don't venture beyond what we learned from our parents or family. Being prepared implores us to seek beyond what we know and desire knowledge outside boundaries of our comfort zone wherein lies great potential. 2. Open your eyes Once you are prepared, open your eyes. Think of the potential resident in decisions you might now make instead of looking the other way. Start questioning, begin to dissect decisions with eyes wide open, without closing them to new possibilities. 3. Confront yourself Eyes wide open, now what? This is often the fork in the road. If there is clearly a right and wrong, the choice is much easier than when shrouded in complexity. What about Sasha and Sheikha? They had 112 evacuees on the list, the stage was set, the mission sealed - but what about the 32 in desperate need of rescue? Do they take them along and risk the lives of the other 112? Do they leave them back to die in the Congo? When the consequences have two prongs good and bad, what then? This is the time to have someone challenge you, argue with you, and force you to confront yourself so your eyes are opened even more. 4. Know yourself Many of us know our values and what our staunch beliefs are. Confronting ourselves moves us closer to better knowing ourselves. There is nothing like a moral crucible to reveal what we've hidden so far down into our souls that we are surprised when the gap between who we are, and who we thought we were, springs from a reactionary event. "Moral crucibles have great power to create change." Knowing your true self can help tap into underlying empathy, compassion, and feeling for others all to the advantage of living your life more fulfilled. Fulfilled lives make a difference. 5. Take courage Here is your opportunity to operate from your moral compass making decisions based on your true north. You will better understand the right course of action for you if you have tapped into your values through being prepared, opening your eyes, confronting yourself and knowing who you are. Many decisions will still be made in the face of fear and potential obstacles, and this is where courage is required. "Courage is the crucial quality, always magnified by the force of moral conviction." The subject of this book, From Crisis to Calling is about developing authentic leaders who make decisions based on deep personal values that positively affect their lives and the lives of their organizations. Leaders of this deep moral character will build cultures of trust, fairness, equitability, and ethical leadership. One final thought from the authors, "Empathy is the essential need of great leaders who are intentional about building their organizations and communities." Whether leaders or lay people, life's tough choices need to be infused with moral sense - empathy, compassion, altruism.

Making the Hardest Decisions As a young aid worker, Sasha Chanoff was sent to evacuate a group of refugees from the violence-torn Congo. But when he arrived he discovered a second group. Evacuating them too could endanger the entire mission. But leaving them behind would mean their certain death. All leaders face defining moments, when values are in conflict and decisions impact lives. Why is moral courage the essential factor at such times? How do we access our own rock-bottom values, and how can we take advantage of them to make the best decisions? Through Sasha's own extraordinary story and those of eight other brave leaders from business, government, nongovernment organizations, and the military, this book reveals five principles for confronting crucial decisions and inspires all of us to use our moral core as a lodestar for leadership.

"Powerful and deeply personal stories highlight the important role of moral courage in answering the type of call to action many of us face. We can all learn from these lessons." - Sandra Waddock, Galligan Chair of Strategy, Professor of Management, and Carroll School Scholar of Corporate Responsibility, Boston

Collegedquo;The array of dramatic stories in this book is nested in the context of neuroscience, primatology, and sociology in prose that is elegant and a pure pleasure to read.rdqquo;mdash;Louis Wade Sullivan, MD, former Secretary, US Department of Health and Human Services, and Founding Dean and President Emeritus, Morehouse School of Medicineldquo;From this extremely readable book, we see that there can be paths of action at times when the choices seem untenable and that more than courage, this sort of journey requires planning, rehearsal, and honest conversations, both with our colleagues and with ourselves.rdqquo;mdash;Mary C. Gentile, author of Giving Voice to Values"Sasha and David Chanoff have written a powerful argument for sorting through critical moral beliefs whenever a leader is faced with a difficult decision or crisis. Although the book begins with Sasha's experiences while in Congo, his path to reach the right decision is also compelling to me and my colleagues in Silicon Valley. Though delivered by a renowned nbsp;expert in refugee affairs, these lessons are useful in all walks of life. On top of everything else, the book is gripping to read and an exciting page turner."-Bill Draper, Venture Capitalist and co-founder of the Draper Richards Kaplan FoundationAbout the AuthorSasha Chanoff is founder and executive director of RefugePoint, a nongovernmental organization that finds lasting solutions for refugees. He is the winner of the Charles Bronfman Prize and the Gleitsman International Activist Award, given by the Harvard Center for Public Leadership. Sasha is a fellow and grantee of Ashoka, Echoing Green, the Draper Richards Kaplan Foundation, and other organizations sponsoring social justice and humanitarianism.David Chanoff, PhD, has written on literary history, foreign policy, refugee issues, education, religion, and other subjects for publications such as the New York Times Magazine, Washington Post, American Scholar, and Journal of American Education. He has authored or coauthored eighteen books, including several on the Vietnam War and the Holocaust.David Gergen is a CNN Senior Political Analyst and has worked as an adviser to four U.S. Presidents. He is also the co-director for Center for Public Leadership at the Harvard Kennedy School.Excerpt. copy; Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.FOREWORD Throughout history, leaders have experienced ldquo;crucible momentsrdquo;mdash; times when they are suddenly thrust into the middle of a crisis and must quickly gather their wits, sort out right from wrong, and act decisively. Those moments oft en shape them for the rest of their lives. In the case of the best leaders, those tests also become the making of their moral centers. Think of a young Gandhi early in the 20th century, beginning his life as a barrister in a foreign land, South Africa. The moment when a conductor threw him off a train because he was Indian was not only a humiliation, it was a crucible that propelled him to become a protest leader and eventually win independence for his native people. Think of the personal dilemma Eleanor Roosevelt had in 1918 as her husband Franklin returned home with pneumonia from a transAtlantic voyage. She had to help him with his luggage and in opening his trunk discovered a packet of love letters exchanged with Eleanor's social secretary. A mother of six and a strong believer that her husband would be a great American leader, Eleanor had to decide quickly whether to leave or stay in her marriage. She stayed and helped him become president. But more than that, she began to devote herself to service outside the home, and she became a towering figure in securing human rights in America and the world beyond. Or think of two very different men at mid-century: one a young Martin Luther King Jr., taking up his pastorate in Birmingham, being thrust into racial conflict when whites threw Rosa Parks off a public bus. King went to his pulpit to urge his parishioners to protest but soon saw. that despite his contrary inclinations, he must go to the streets, too. His protests brought a civil rights revolution. Not long thereafter, a man who was sometimes King's opponent, Bobby Kennedy, went to Mississippi and discovered hunger and discrimination that horrified him. He became an immensely important voice for social justice. Crucibles are moments that can change lives and change history. And so they have in the case of Sasha Chanoff and his dad, David. Early in the pages of this stirring book, they tell the story of Sasha's own crucible in the heart of Africa. There he faced, for the first time, life-and-death decisions about how to respond to a refugee crisis. And there, from that moment, Sasha discovered his own moral values and how they transformed him into the world-class leader he has become today. These crisis situations, the authors tell us, oft en go much further than simply putting people in touch with the values they need in order to become authentic leaders. ldquo;Dilemmas,rdquo; they write, ldquo;require decisions; decisions require actions. Sometimes the required actions reach deep. They generate a full investment of the selfmdash;that is to say, they constitute a calling. When that happens, it not only opens us up to who we are but to what we are.rdqquo; In other words, crises have the power to reveal qualities we harbor within ourselves that may have previously gone unrecognized. They can clarify our sense of ourselves and our capabilities. After his Congo experience, Sasha founded RefugePoint, an NGO that works throughout Africa to find solutions for individuals and communities in imminent danger. They acted not a moment too soon. The world is now experiencing its biggest refugee crisis in recorded history: more than 60 million people are now displaced by conflict across the globe. The migrant crisis could destabilize Western Europe, and it is causing enormous human suffering in other continents such as Africa. RefugePoint has become one of the most successful organizations in the world in addressing this catastrophe. Over the past decade, it has successfully helped more than 32,454 refugees gain access to resettlement. It has also become a role model for countless others. In 2013, on behalf of the Gleitsman Foundation, I was proud to present to Sasha the prestigious Gleitsman International Activist Award, bestowed every other year by a global selection committee representing the Center for Public Leadership at the Harvard Kennedy School. Students and faculty alike were enthralled by Sasha's story and by the lessons he brought to his leadership. Happily, Sasha and

his dad have now turned his experiences and lessons learned into this important book about moral leadership, *From Crisis to Calling*. It is a work that has application far beyond the refugee world: leaders of NGOs, corporate leaders, and leaders of public institutions face crucible moments, toomdash;times when they face dilemmas, must choose between right and wrong, and then act decisively. Unfortunately, the leaders who make the right moral choices can stay anonymous and unrecognized. But the dozens of scandals we see in business, politics, and even in the nonprofit world remind us that these dilemmas are constant, and indeed, the seductions that lead to moral failure are always present, always beckoning. Crucibles cannot be avoided. The question the Chanoff s address is: how can we best prepare for them before they arrive? The Chanoff s trace a five-step pathway that starts with being prepared and opening your eyes, then moves to confronting yourself, knowing yourself, and taking courage. Importantly, they teach these lessons through stories that are gripping in their drama and power. From two prominent CEOs, the emergency director of an international NGO, and a former US surgeon general to a distinguished business professor, a family physician, and a former Navy SEAL, Sasha and David bring together the journeys of individuals from all walks of life. *From Crisis to Calling* serves several purposes. It acquaints readers with stories about the meaningful role moral values play in decision making and leadership. It explains ways we can reveal the inner qualities that we all share yet not all of us find. And it prepares us to take the steps that may well help us fulfill our potential as leaders. *From Crisis to Calling* is also an antidote of sorts. While the public failings of leaders cover the front pages of newspapers and lead the nightly news, Sasha and David bring us the stories of unsung leaders who have faced tough decisions with morality and grace. They remind us that empathy and compassionmdash;altruismmdash;are deeply rooted in us. That they are there to be nurtured. Novelist Graham Greene once wrote of ldquo;those interior courts where our true decisions are made.rdquo; The Chanoffs, father and son, dive deep into our interior courts, looking for, and fi nding, the inner qualities that define the truly great and good leaders among us. David Gergen February 2016