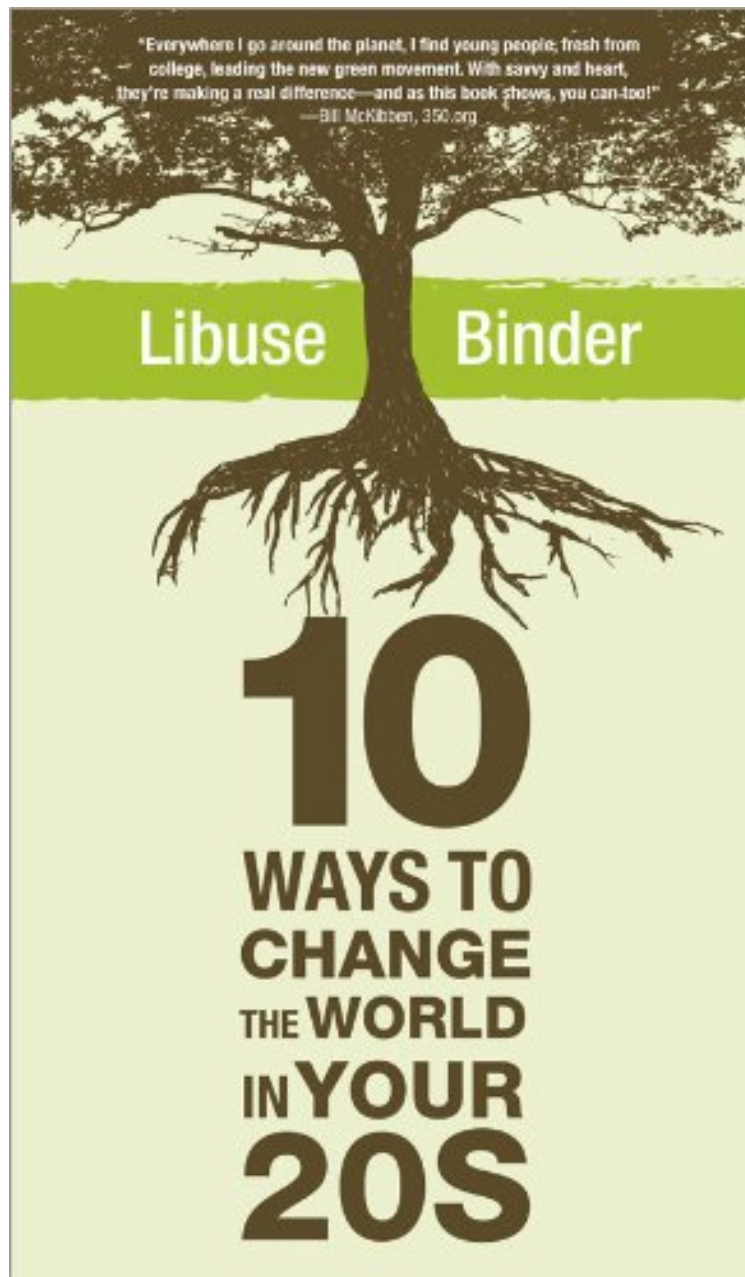


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## Ten Ways to Change the World in Your Twenties

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**Libuse Binder : Ten Ways to Change the World in Your Twenties** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ten Ways to Change the World in Your Twenties:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. What to expect from this bookBy Jonathan D. FolkertsMany people

believe that they cannot make a difference in the world. Libuse Binder argues that people in their 20s today are inheriting the Earth at a historical critical point. People in their 20s are fully equipped for action to solve problems. They are at a proper age to care about issues, innovated to come up with solutions and, and have the energy needed to take action. When people are in their 20s, they are just beginning to find and develop their passions, and determine the course for the rest of their lives. First, Binder points out that a great way to make a difference is to volunteer. This makes an impact on what you love and it is a good way to find a person's passion. People should become politically involved with actions that agree with their values. Voting, getting support of the cause, and becoming informed and involved are all great ways to accomplish this. Libuse also describes small things that can be changed in a person's daily habits to be more conservative of resources and habitats and decrease an individual's impact on global warming. Libuse discusses the 3 R's and describes great ways to reduce what a person uses. A great way to make an impact on what an individual supports is wise use of buying power. This includes the supporting of "fairly traded, recycled and recyclable, low-impact, efficient, and responsibly manufactured products." Eating with the environment in mind is another way to make a difference. Eating locally grown food cuts down on emissions from transporting food. A great way to get people interested in an issue is to make a party for the cause. Also, blogging is a good way to spread the word on a problem. An individual can also find an organization they like and begin fundraising, being an active member, and getting in touch with other members, buy products from companies that support charities, and like what they do on Facebook. Part of being an informed advocate is to listen to opposing views. This can help people find common ground on an issue. People should also consider not only receiving a good paycheck, but should try to practice their beliefs and passions into what they do for their jobs. People usually don't care if a company is in line with their beliefs and it shouldn't be that way. Some things listed in the book to begin these concepts include watching a movie, signing the One Declaration (which aims to reduce poverty, tells how people can work within their own community), voting, finding something to reuse and recycle the reusable bags, replace bulbs with energy efficient bulbs, and trying to become carbon friendly while traveling just to name a few. Instead of giving generic tips on what to do, he gives examples of what readers can use to become an informed activist and make a difference. Binder also lists success stories of people in their 20s making a difference in issues.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Great Resource for Changing your World By kaitlyn As an undergraduate studying environmental conservation i'm constantly looking for ways that i can make a difference now. I feel like in my classes I am always learning about things that i can do on a larger scale, but this book really helps me figure out things that I can do right now. It's a necessary resource for any twentysomething who is trying to make a difference! The rating scales based on time, money, and lifestyle impact are really helpful for college students trying to be sustainable on a budget. I consider it my encyclopedia for changing the world. I LOVE this book and recommend it to anyone who wants to create a better world but has no idea where to start!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. 10 ways to be inspired! By SHRLibuse Binder's book is information-packed engaging to read. Her passion for contributing to her immediate world in a way that creates a more positive environment both long-term short-term is contagious. 10 Ways is inspirational regardless of your age offers many small but significant ways in which we can help take care of people and the environment on a daily basis. It is practical filled with information, but never preachy or pedantic. It is a great read, but an even more important book to own as a resource on topics ranging from volunteering to becoming more eco health-conscious within your own home.

WHAT KIND OF WORLD DO YOU WANT TO LIVE IN? Throwing a party. Preparing a meal. Sending an email. These are things you do all the time. How can they really make a difference? Ten Ways to Change the World in Your Twenties shows how to transform these everyday activities into world-changing events: Throw a party with a purpose. Prepare a sustainable meal. Send an email to your representative. An inspiring collection of ideas that can make the world a better place, this book taps into the potential of an energetic, influential generation and lights the path to shaping tomorrow by: Digging into what you love Volunteering in ways big and small Supporting political actions that reflect your values Leading an eco-active lifestyle Simplifying and reducing your footprint Using your buying power to encourage better business practices Eating well locally Hosting a party with a purpose Exploring the world through environmentally responsible travel Turning your passion into a vocation With a rating scale based on the time, money, and lifestyle impact required, and peppered with true tales of twentysomethings who've made an impact, Ten Ways to Change the World in Your Twenties provides resources and opportunities for you to use your talents to help create a history we can all be proud of. \*\*\* "Everywhere I go around the planet, I find young people, fresh from college, leading the new green movement. With savvy and heart, they're making a real difference and as this book shows, you can too!" Bill McKibben | 350.org

Although twentysomethings are faced with environmental and humanitarian issues on a scope never seen before, the timing is perfect to take action and make a difference! Environmental advocate Libuse Binder introduces Ten Ways to Change the World in Your Twenties (Nov. 2009; \$14.99 U.S), an inspiring collection of new ideas, resources and innovative twists on proven strategies that will help millennials tackle today's toughest issues. Aimed at

twentysomethings interested in making a difference, Ten Ways will tap into the potential of this energetic, influential generation of leaders by proving that every action, big and small, makes a difference. (Kelly McNair Got 2 Be Green Blog )If you don't already have a green book full of ideas, or you're looking for something with fresh ideas and practical steps to achieving them, then this book is a great resource. (Joel Life Goggles )10 Ways to Change the World in Your Twenties gives you ideas for all sorts of ways in which you can take a positive step towards making a difference. While the book focuses on those in their twenties, most of the suggestions could be acted upon by someone of any age. (MissMalaProp.com )"10 Ways to Change the World in Your 20s" is a brand-new guide that's about to rock your socks if you're hoping to make "green" your new game. (Earth911.com )About the AuthorLibuse Binder is a freelance writer, teacher, and blogger for Weekly Way and Earth 911. Formerly in film production, Binder is now focused on energizing the next generation of adults for a life of activism and engagement in the issues that matter most today. Her passions include the environment, volunteerism, public policy, and social networking technology.Excerpt. copy; Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.Excerpt from Chapter 1: Ways to get Excited and Involved Discover Your Unique Viewpoint by Exploring the Resources around You In the unlikely story that is America, there has never been anything false about hope. - Barack Obama In This Chapter: Jump-Start Your World-Changing efforts Be an Informed Activist How to Look for Third-Party Credibility Ideas for Investing in the Future Ways Guide to Getting Involved right Now Ready to Do More? JUMP-START YOUR WORLD-CHANGING EFFORTS As we stand at this crossroads, it is clear that the tide is swiftly turning toward hope, action, and a collective interest in a better world. With record youth-voter turnout in the 2008 election, we see that change as the result of our actions is possible, and we are energized and excited about this potential. So what are your goals, exactly? The answer for everyone will be different, but now is the time to embark on explorations about how to spend your valuable time on this planet. Seize this moment to choose your own adventure. As soon as people hear about this book, the most common (and heartening) question is, "What can I do?" My response is always, "What are you interested in?" Changing the world is deeply personal; at its core it is the quest to identify what matters most to you. What do you want for yourself, your community, and for the world? Do you want to help children learn to read? Do you want to save monkeys? Do you want to help fight malaria? Do you want to teach monkeys to read or fight malaria? Your options are limited only by your willingness to believe in your ability to make a difference. To be sure, many of you are grappling with circumstances that limit you in some practical sense, whether they are financial burdens, health restrictions, or time constraints that you do not fully control. I am not here to deny that such realities exist, but as you will see throughout this book, people of all stripes and backgrounds have been able to do remarkable things despite, and sometimes because of, these obstacles. So while I can't tell you exactly how to go about changing the world, I can offer many suggestions to help you answer these questions by finding interesting and creative ways to start exploring your most precious inheritance: the world. Get the Ball Rolling This business of "making a difference" often seems overwhelming, and the information superhighway can often lead to a feeling of overload. Every day I wade through the barrage of news from around the world and action updates from the charities that I support. Like many of you, I often find that the volume of statistics and anecdotes available in my inbox, mailbox, and living room is staggering. My stack of books and research is now so tall that my husband uses it for cover when he sneaks off to play video games. From global warming to poverty and disease, the list of challenges we face seems to grow faster than we can track. But within this confluence of good intentions, fluctuating priorities, and shortages of time, it is important to remember (and I will continue to remind you) that we have already taken the first step: we care. I wouldn't have started writing my Weekly Way blog and this book;and you wouldn't be reading this book;if that were not the case. One of the best aspects of being in your twenties is increased autonomy: what you do with your day (or at least part of it) is up to you, so start making proactive decisions about how you will spend it. Besides, doing what you love now could help prevent a midlife-crisis freak-out when you're fifty. In an effort to avoid overwhelming you, here goes: Just start. Go ahead and pull the trigger! Too many people spend too much time getting ready or aiming. Begin by using the rating system in this book to help you find the most convenient suggestions these chapters have to offer. Take a simple action or two every day or a few times a week, even if you don't think it matters much. Don't worry, I will spare you the corny talk about how a journey of a thousand miles starts with a single step, or how a waterfall begins with a single drop, or how, by working together, a school of tiny piranhas can skeletonize a cow. Still, even babies must crawl before they run, and they have to get up off their little bellies to do even that much. Once these actions become second nature and you develop some momentum, you will probably find yourself looking for more to do and learn. But consider this your fair warning: knowledge and activism, like power, Facebook, and Sour Patch Kids, are addictive, so be prepared for a life of personal growth and positive contributions to your local or global community. While the world has occasionally changed in enormous and rapid ways (ask the dinosaurs), most big changes are the product of millions of little changes. You are one of those millions, and the momentum of your efforts is what will keep the changes coming. Get started by trying a few or all of the ideas detailed later in this chapter, see what works best for you, and let me know how it goes. BE AN INFORMED ACTIVIST Not the pompous, condescending kind but the wise, gentle kind, like Yoda or Gandalf, who seem merely to be reminding people of what they already know to be true. After all, nobody likes to be told what to do, but if presented in the right way, a gentle

suggestion about recycling or purchasing socially responsible products is almost always welcome among friends. Before preaching to the choir or converting the heathens, you actually need to know what you are talking about. A crappy argument is an unconvincing one, and while personal insults and sarcasm might be a self-satisfying form of entertainment, neither will do much to move an issue forward. If you want to effectively influence people, advocate for a cause you care about, or enlighten someone about green consumption habits, volunteering opportunities, or energy-efficient practices, you'd better do your homework first. There are many ways to fire up those neurons, and there are endless issues to explore. Don't panic. Start slow and stay true to yourself. You will find the path and actions that are right for you. Listen At the core of any good dialogue is not the ability to talk louder than your colleagues in discourse; rather, it is the ability to listen calmly to diverse perspectives. Be curious, because the day you run out of curiosity is the day you start to become boring to the rest of us. Ask questions about the world around you, and pay attention to the answers. You can always learn more by listening to other points of view, especially those you disagree with. It is hard to find common ground without understanding where people are coming from. Spend as much time as possible listening to what other people have to say, even when you are sure of your stance. After all, if you are going to bring a message to people, understanding and appreciating their positions is the first step in persuading them to accept yours. The more you listen to differing points of view, the more clearly you will be able to articulate your own. Pay attention to yourself, your local community, and the world around you. Be open to change. The smartest people in the room are often the ones with the least to say. They aren't talking because they are listening, and when they do decide to speak, you can bet everyone else will be paying attention. (20091110)