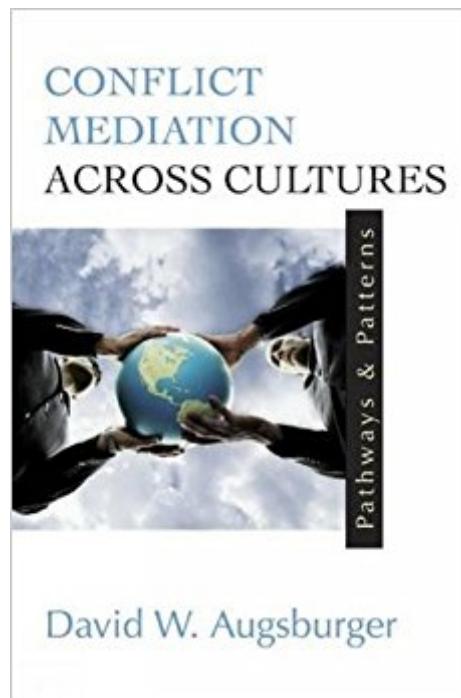


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Conflict Mediation Across Cultures: Pathways And Patterns



Synopsis

David Augsburger believes conflict is inevitable in human life, but that it is essential and can be quite constructive. He proposes a shift to an "international" approach in resolving conflict. He focuses on interpersonal and group conflicts and provides a comparison of conflict patterns within and among various cultures.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

David W. Augsburger is Professor of Pastoral Counseling at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California. He is the author of twenty books in pastoral counseling, marriage, and conflict and human relations, including *Pastoral Counseling across Cultures* and *Helping People Forgive*, both published by WJK.

For any missionary committing to work in an Asian context, please read this book!

Difficult to read. Great content.

Great book. fast shipping.

Well written.

Easy read with a lot of interesting folk stories. It provides a better understanding for how different cultures experience conflict.

I was expecting a study that would use the Scriptures as a resource, but was disappointed. The author uses little Scripture and lots of ideas from the world. I don;t recommend it.

Augsberger writes of the many different ways that cultures interact with each other, and how cultures approach conflict. There are many ways to approach conflict: different approaches to gender conflict, different beliefs on the nature of shame and "saving face", different ideas on what is effective resolution- and all are equally valid, with both good and evil in the different cultures, and the different methods. On one level Augsberger is highly readable. He begins each chapter with numerous stories and fables from different cultures on the various conflicts- myths which are highly illuminating, teaching about cultures and about the nature of conflict, as only parables can.

Interspersed in each chapter are many other stories and sharings from real life. However, Augsberger may be one of the most intelligent authors I have ever read. He brings in *so* much, from so many different disciplines, that one feels swamped with information, all integrated in web-like structure, much as most of us feel on reading Finnegans Wake. It's incredibly well-written, with multi-layers to a Biblical degree, but Augsberger's a lot smarter than I am (and I don't say that often), and this book is *thick*. You'll enjoy it, but read it slowly, and gain the depths and the heights of the change he has to offer. I'd highly recommend Augsberger's *Pastoral Counseling Across Cultures*, which explores many of these same themes. And B.J. Prashantham's *Indian Case Studies in Therapeutic Counseling* as well. B.J. uses his own experiences as an Indian therapist, relating to those within his culture or other cultures in India, providing a very emic perspective on these questions of the nature of conflict and resolution.

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