



ALLIANCE FOR VULNERABLE MISSION

www.vulnerablemission.org

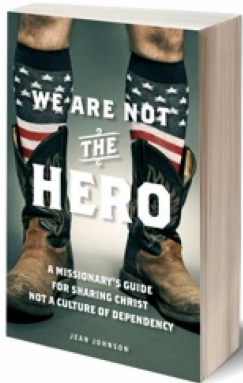
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Editor: Jim Harries, PhD, Chairman of the AVM.

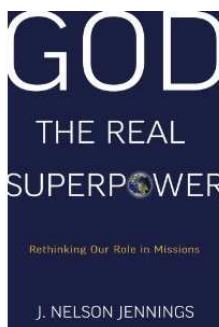
Executive board	Advisory board		
<i>Jim Harries</i>	<i>Alex Araujo</i>	<i>Stan Chu Ilo</i>	<i>Timothy Reeves</i>
<i>Stan Nussbaum</i>	<i>Jay Gary</i>	<i>Frank Paul</i>	<i>Gord Sawatzky</i>
<i>Chris Flanders</i>	<i>Tomas Dozier</i>	<i>Jean Johnson</i>	

Congratulations to advisory board member Jean Johnson for having her book published in October of this year! (Details below.)



- *We are not the Hero* is the title of **Jean Johnson's** book, hot off the press and available here <http://www.wearenotthehero.com/>. Jean is a member of the advisory board of the AVM. Here's a run down of what her book is about: "Jean Johnson has, out of her own hard-won experience and copious reading and research, distilled for the rest of us what we might struggle to gather, compile, and make sense of over several lifetimes—a way forward. In *we are not the hero*, the author presents, in an eminently readable style, church planting gold. She takes on tradition, institutionalism, dependency, and scores of the other

enemies of church multiplication in a manner that allows any believer to grasp and apply these crucial issues. This is no ivory tower book of pontification and pronouncement; this is a field manual smeared with mud from the front-line trenches. Get it. Read it. Use it. And see your people, neighborhood, region, even your world, transformed." (Price: \$25, but available for just \$10 on Amazon.com)



- Look here: www.amazon.com/God-Real-Superpower-Nelson-Jennings/dp/1596380233 for a book in which Jennings emphasises that *God is the Real Superpower*. Here are some comments on the book: "For North Americans to participate in God's mission for the twenty-first century, we must learn not only to see the world as Christ does but to see

ourselves as Christ and the world see us. Sharing Christ's sight requires that we share his heart -- a heart formed out of humility, compassion, and suffering. Nelson Jennings explores these themes with passion, with hope and, most of all, with a profound love for the gospel of the Lord Jesus. The themes are stretching, transforming, and ultimately empowering for the new work of God's mission." --Bryan Chapell, president, Covenant Theological Seminary." \$16.49 on Amazon.com.

- See <http://rendezvous.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/10/10/dont-give-that-child-a-dollar/?emc=eta1> for a New York Times article about giving to street children. Many of the sentiments expressed echo VM concerns.
- **‘Witchcraft, Envy, Development, and Christian Mission in Africa’** is the title of an article by Jim Harries published in *Missiology* in April of this year. The abstract is as follows: “This article elaborates on the relationship between witchcraft and envy. It points out how much of tradition in parts of Africa is oriented to avoiding envy and suggests that countering the fear of envy is vital to community development on the continent. Tackling envy, being a theological task, points to the central role of mission that has too often allowed such vital objectives to be clouded by secular thinking.” Full bibliographic information as follows: Harries, Jim. 2012. "Witchcraft, Envy, Development, and Christian Mission in Africa." *Missiology: An International Review* 40(2): 129–139.
- First presented at the EMS conference in Pasadena in 2009 by Fred Lewis, this article by Fred Lewis and Jim Harries is now published in the *Evangelical Review of Theology*. Here is an abstract of it: “Despite the diversity of western mission activities, the bottom line for Africa is that they bring money. Western missions rarely conceive of any pursuit that does not include financial transfer. One result is division, corruption, greed, envy, infighting, dependency, lies, competition for funds and the prosperity Gospel in the African church. This article advocates that some Western missionaries’ ministry be rooted not in money but in persuasion and the power of God.” Reference information: Harries, Jim and Lewis, Fred. 2012. **‘Is Mission Diverse, or is it all just Money? An Examination of Western Mission to Africa.’** *Evangelical Review of Theology*, 36/4, 347-355. See also here: <http://www.jim-mission.org.uk/articles/diversity.pdf>
- **Jim’s Journal** October 2012 (produced by Jim Harries), with various updates on Jim’s field ministry and experiences can be found here: <http://www.jim-mission.org.uk/journal/j201210.pdf>
- AVM executive board member Dr. Stan Nussbaum was recently very well received at **Asbury Seminary**. He shared two sessions, totalling 4 hours, with some leading Asbury students. Thanks for your efforts Stan. (Stan had to drive 6 hours each way!) (Others who share the message of vulnerable mission please keep us up to speed! Write to me at jim@vulnerablemission.org about your experiences of letting others know about vulnerable mission.)

- See this book for indigenous people’s responses in Nicaragua to a wide variety of Biblical passages. http://www.amazon.co.uk/GOSPEL-SOLENTINAME-CARDENAL/dp/1570759022/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1349258060&sr=1-1 Here’s an outline of what the book is about: “In Solentiname, a remote archipelago in Lake Nicaragua, the people gathered each Sunday to reflect together on the gospel reading. From recordings of their dialogue, this extraordinary document of faith in the midst of struggle was composed. First published in four volumes, *The Gospel in Salentiname* was immediately acclaimed as a classic of liberation theology—a radical reading of the Good News of Jesus from the perspective of the poor and oppressed. (It was also banned by the Somoza dictatorship.)”
- More information about how to join the *pearl* discussion on vulnerable mission here: <http://lists.vulnerablemission.org/listinfo.cgi/pearl-vulnerablemission.org/> This has been a very active and very challenging discussion. New members welcome.
- “The magnitude of their generosity combined with the unpredictability (from the African point of view) of knowing just when Westerners can assist can also make it difficult for Africans to trust them.” A short article that explains the importance of vulnerable mission, written by **Rev. Dr. Stephen Skuce** (one-time AVM advisory board member) and published in the Church of England Newspaper can be found here: <http://www.jim-mission.org.uk/discussion/skuce-article.pdf> Bibliographic information: Skuce, Stephen, 2012. ‘Vulnerable Mission; the way forward to the majority world?’ *Church of England Newspaper*, pp14 and 16, January 6th 2012.
- See here: <http://www.wmausa.org/98600.ihtml> for a long list of articles concerning ‘dependency’ issues in mission variously by Glenn Schwartz, Robert Reese and Chris Little that are posted by WMA (World Mission Associates). Just a few examples:

An article by Glenn Schwartz entitled: ‘How the Current Emphasis On Dependency And Self-Reliance Is Being Perceived and Received’ is found here: <http://www.wmausa.org/page.aspx?id=83833>

An article entitled ‘Indigeneity’ by Robert Reese is found here: <http://www.wmausa.org/page.aspx?id=101043>