**Volunteer Tourism (Voluntourism) in Orphanages**

**What is Voluntourism?**
Voluntourism is volunteering in an organized way while undertaking holidays that might involve aiding or alleviating the material poverty of some group in society (Proyungoi, 2014).

**Who Participates?**
- Voluntourism has no age limit, everyone of all ages is welcome on the trips, however most research has noted that the main demographic for voluntourism trips are college age students, ages 18 - 25.
- Middle and upper classes, from western countries, who are typically well educated and globally conscious. These individuals travel with church groups, sports communities, youth groups, voluntary service organizations and peace corps.

**Where do they go?**

**Effects on Voluntourist**
- Voluntourist aren’t trained properly for the skills and jobs they are doing.
- The Voluntourists blame themselves when the their experiences don’t go as they thought they would.
- Most voluntourism trips have more of a change on a voluntourists’ facebook page (ie. Updating their profile pictures, statuses and photo albums) rather than their worldly views and personal opinions.

**Importance of the Study**
Most studies have been done in the United States, or European countries. Although North American culture is quite similar it is important to understand and recognize that Canadian’s my have different ideas, ethics and values. With those may come different motivations for voluntourism. If we understand the motivations it will be a better idea on how to educate people about what voluntourism is, how they should be helping, and how to make the niche of voluntourism more sustainable.

**Effects on the Orphanages**
- Orphans often have attachment issues, with the constant change of people in their lives.
- 2/3 orphans are taking from their families to fill orphanages (Next Generation Nepal, 2017).
- Children are often kept in poor conditions, or are malnourished, to appear as the orphanage needs continuing help, and more money.
- Can help the orphans learn new languages and experience new cultures.

**Purpose Statement**
The purpose of this study is to understand the motivations for Canadian volunteer tourists to voluntourists in orphanages in third world countries.

**$173 Billion in Revenue a Year**

![Project Abroad, n.d.](image-url)