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# “People Can't Drive You Crazy if You Don't Give Them the Keys”

## Book Report

“People Can't Drive You Crazy if You Don't Give Them the Keys” is a motivational book by author Mike Bechtle who hails from California. He is a frequent renowned speaker and was also a minister of worship. The book has a total of 208 pages and was published in the year 2012 by Revell who are a division of the Baker Publishing Group. The first thing that captures the attention of the reader is the cover illustration that is quite catchy and conveys the title of the book. The picture of the duck who is in a stylish jacket and a funny looking hat put on his green hair cannot escape the attention of a reader. Everybody has been driven crazy at times and that there is a key not to be driven crazy is interesting. The book is an ideal motivator, very informative, and a source of great inspiration to anyone that is looking to improve their relationships in an all-around fashion. The author can communicate with a great sense of humor and as such is a pleasurable and entertaining read. He is certainly hilarious and can teach at a very personal level by sharing his heartwarming stories about his friends and family, especially his

granddaughters. From this angle, Mike can deliver an excellent piece of work that excites the soul.

The book shares some great truths concerning our reactions and responses to various situations and Mike shares an interesting fact in the book when he states, "A reaction is how we feel; a response is what we do. Reactions are automatic, but we choose our responses". The expression highlights a very major theme that he highlights throughout his book, that of changing our attitudes. Mike also appeals to the emotion through his use of hilarious language when he is suggesting that though it may be ideal to leave a particular situation in many instances is inappropriate. He does elaborate this when he says, "... Your emotions got the best of you, and your crazy person has you dangling in her grip like a bungee jump gone bad...".

Unlike many of the self-help books that are widely available, this book can remain edged in your thoughts while you are in the middle of it. Mike ably gives one of those punchline quotes that reveal some facts of healthy living. One of those memorable quotes he shares states, "History brings us to where we are right now, but it doesn't have to dictate how we respond in the future". In the early stages of the book, he goes straight to the point by stating that people should never allow themselves to become victims of other people's shortcomings. The message is profoundly important especially in helping people realize that it is a difficult thing to change the situation or anyone for that matter. In a single cluster of words, he can impact our view of life, and he mentions people that we interact with often. They include those people who are rude when giving service, family members, inefficient workers, friends and even

negative people online. We can meet with this kind of individuals anywhere anytime and if we let them interfere with our peace and happiness, it makes us their slaves, and worse off we become their victims. Such is the profound wisdom that Mike shares throughout the book.

I would definitely recommend reading this book. Relationships are messy and definitely, by reading this book will spur that longed for peace with family members or crazy people as referred to in the book. However, when reading the book, it would help to put anyone or anything out of your mind and only concentrate on yourself. People can and will leave footprints on your psyche, and an inability to learn to deal with the crazy people will maim all corners of your life. Therefore, this book comes in handy when one needs to clean out such corners of life, and it will make you happier and everyone else around you.