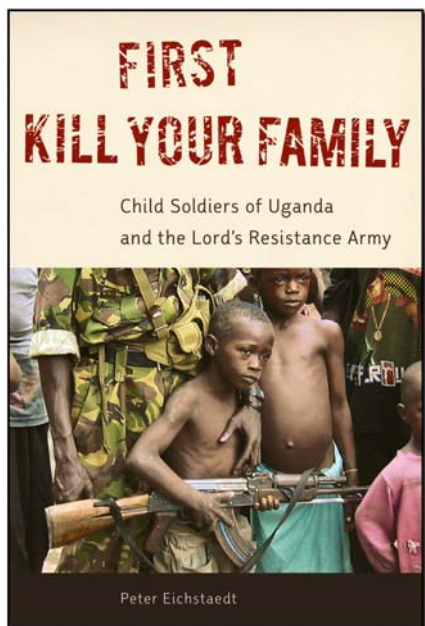


Former child soldiers, refugees, and other victims speak out about their war-torn homeland



“An emotional picture of the unthinkable conditions and brutalities that I know from my own experiences are still plaguing our children today. This book is a call to action to help our brothers and sisters in Africa that we can no longer ignore.”

—John Dau, former Lost Boy of Sudan, and coauthor of *God Grew Tired of Us: A Memoir*

“This fine firsthand account should be read by anyone seeking to grapple with the challenges of war and peace in coming decades.”

—Douglas Farah, author of *Merchant of Death* and *Blood From Stones*

For twenty years the Lord’s Resistance Army, led by Joseph Kony, ravaged northern Uganda with the mission of establishing a government based on his bizarre blend of spiritualism and Christianity. A former witch doctor, Kony claimed he not only could predict the future but could also control the minds of his fighters. And control them he did: the LRA consisted of children abducted from their homes. As initiation, boys were forced to commit atrocities—murdering relatives and friends—and girls were forced into sexual slavery and labor. Journalist Peter Eichstaedt visited the war-torn land, where he spoke to former child soldiers, child “brides,” and other victims, and chronicles in this book how one of Africa’s most promising nations has been torn apart by a bloody and senseless war.



Peter Eichstaedt is Africa Editor for the Institute of War and Peace Reporting in The Hague. A veteran journalist, he has worked in locations worldwide, including Eastern Europe, Afghanistan, and Uganda. He is the author of *If You Poison Us: Uranium and Native Americans*.

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