

# Global Giving

## *Travels With a Buffett*

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**A PICTURE MAY BE WORTH** more than a thousand words, especially if it was taken by Howard Buffett, the philanthropist and son of investing great Warren Buffett.

Buffett the younger is launching his new book, *Fragile: The Human Condition*, a humanitarian and philanthropist's version of *The Family of Man*, published by National Geographic. Buffett, an accomplished photographer and farmer, decided to create a catalogue of his travels around the world and his interviews with remarkable people, at the urging of his own son, Howard Jr.



William Waitzman for Barron's

The result is a beautiful coffee-table book, full of heartbreaking stories of mothers trying to convince Buffett to take their children to a better life, of mothers having to choose which child to feed, and young soldiers forced into service in Sierra Leone.

The book represents seven years of Buffett's work, as he scouted 64 countries to determine where and how to award some of his foundation's \$200 million endowment.

Although Buffett started out as a conservationist, he decided to switch to problems of world hunger and agriculture. "If you can't solve the needs of the human population first, it's going to be pretty hard to be successful in conservation," Buffett said in an interview.

The book touches on the issues closest to Buffett's heart -- food, security, agriculture, water, refugees and immigration. But to Buffett's way of thinking, the best part of the book is the personal stories, which he hopes will inspire others to take up the cause. And dad Warren thinks it is "fantastic." What better recommendation?