**What are the Ethics of Tourism?**

**Positive Impacts**

**Social**
- Individual and global awareness
- Understanding of global challenges of developing worlds

**Economic**
- Higher demand for local food and crafts
- Job creation for local people
- More income for local economy

**Environmental**
- Pressure to protect wildlife and habitats in tourist sites
- Promote eco-tourism - inform locals about harmful effects of cars, planes, and buses

**Political**
- Project development for women’s empowerment
- Education of women and establishment of more opportunities

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"A traveler without observation is a bird without wings."
- Moslih Eddin Saadi

**Negative Impacts**

**Social**
- Distortion of local language, tradition, and culture
- Luxury traveling and volunteering in air-conditioned vehicles creates a distinct boundary between rich and poor

**Economic**
- Creation of fake industries to attract tourist donations
- Hot Spots - cash disappears if another conflict distracts global attention
- More expensive local goods
- Jobs are primarily seasonal, low wages

**Environmental**
- Increased traffic congestion
- Pollution from air-travel

**Political**
- Slum tours manipulated by corrupt politicians for own economic benefit

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**Some Suggestions**

- Study local cultures, traditions, and languages
- Travel to less-traveled destinations and book locally owned accommodations
- Buy local products and food
- Promote eco-tourism – conserve water and utilize greener transportation

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*The inquiry upon which this is based is focused on issues of ethical tourism. Many of the issues are similar to those that arise when studying abroad, but there are significant differences.*

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*For the full inquiry researched and written by Rachel Gillette ’11, please visit: brandeis.edu/ethics/ethicalinquiry/2011/September.html*

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