



Our Services

- Organizational Development
- Executive Search
- Project & Program Support
- Communications
- Community Engagement
- Economic Development
- Strategic Planning

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Meet Our Core Team

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MITCH FOSTER



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AMANDA OPALEWSKI



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13 Ways to Kill Your Relationships

A Conversation with Peers

PRESENTED BY:

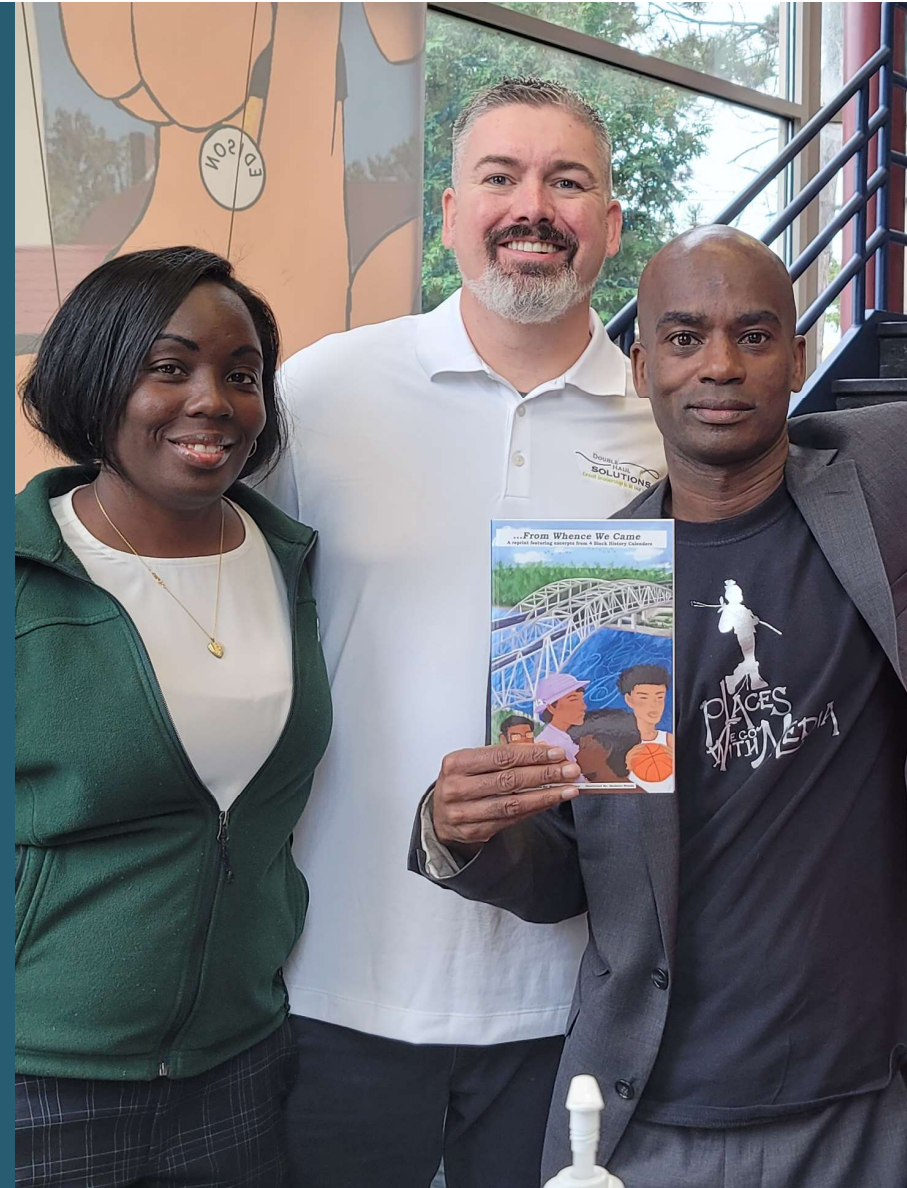
Nate Geinzer, Double Haul Solutions
Rachel Witherspoon, Village of Pentwater
Bridgette Gransden, Midland County

Introductions



Let me tell you a story...

- This journey began with exploring challenges in the Council/Manager relationship and how they impact personal and professional growth.
- Inspired by the book ***13 Ways to Kill Your Community***, by **Doug Griffiths**, which highlight common pitfalls that undermine trust and collaboration.
- Awareness is the **first step**—by naming the problem, we can begin to address it effectively.
- Strong relationships are built on **listening**, **understanding**, and **vulnerability**, while walls, rejection of differences, and lack of compromise erode them.
- Together, we'll explore how awareness and small changes can foster healthier, more effective relationships in our communities and teams.



13 Relationship Killers

1. Disregard roles
2. Don't check your ego
3. Listen to reply
4. Build a wall
5. Fail to relate personally
6. Get defensive
7. Build/perpetuate false narratives
8. Reject differences
9. Don't compromise
10. Fake it
11. Don't offer grace
12. Don't take responsibility
13. Don't ask for help



13 WAYS TO KILL YOUR RELATIONSHIPS

COMMUNITY BUILDERS (KILLERS) EDITION

By: Nate Geinzer, Mission Driven Leader | Community Builder | Founder & CEO

13 Ways to Kill Your Relationships: Community Builders (Killers) Edition



Nate Geinzer

Mission Driven Leader and Founder/CEO of Double Haul Solutions



March 8, 2024

I have long enjoyed the themes and communication strategy within *13 Ways to Kill your Community* by Author Doug Griffiths since it was first introduced to me by a colleague of mine. I seem to have been wired to veer towards pessimism and negativity (some might say I am a recovering pessimist), so I've found it easy to relate and respond to Griffiths' messaging. It is a simple premise, want to *kill* your community? Then:

Top Five Takeaways



A group of people is gathered outdoors in a grassy area. In the center, a man with a beard and glasses wears a blue Nike t-shirt. To his right, a woman in a white t-shirt is gesturing with her hand. Other people are visible in the background, including a man in a blue t-shirt and a woman in a black top. The scene is overlaid with a semi-transparent white rectangle containing text.

Don't Check Your Ego

The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly of Ego

Teacher



A group of people are gathered around a table in a meeting room. A man in a white cap and dark shirt is pointing at a flip chart on an easel. Other people are looking at the chart and talking. The scene is overlaid with a blue semi-transparent rectangle containing the text "Build A Wall".

Build A Wall

A photograph of a street scene with a large green overlay containing the text "Don't Compromise". The background shows a street with people, trees, and buildings. The text is in a bold, white, sans-serif font, centered on the green overlay.

Don't Compromise

A photograph of a group of people sitting at tables in a room, possibly a classroom or meeting room. A presentation screen is visible in the background. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue rectangle containing white text.

**Don't Offer Grace
+
Don't Take Responsibility**

A photograph of a crowded indoor event, possibly a conference or trade show, with a semi-transparent green overlay. The text "Don't Ask for Help" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font across the center of the overlay. In the background, people are seen interacting, some holding documents. A sign in the background reads "PROPER TWELVE SID".

Don't Ask for Help



ADVERTISING

This Agency's End-of-2020 PSA Wins Prize for Most F-Bombs Ever

Public gets profane to support mental health

by David Gianatasio

December 18, 2020 3:45 pm 3 min read

Share: [in](#) [f](#)



EDITOR'S PICK



Liquid Death, Tubi Head to Super Bowl

EDITOR'S PICK



WHAT Types of Fun Events would you Attend?

- Community dance
- community potluck/dinner
- family oriented holiday events
- food truck rally
- other

What kinds of adult classes would YOU be interested in taking here?

- cooking classes
- home maintenance classes
- gardening & lawn care classes
- yoga classes
- exercise classes
- painting classes
- art classes
- other?

Would you or someone in your household rent space here to host an event?

yes

What are tools you use to Kill Your Relationships?

(Share & Tell)

Resources

- [13 Ways to Kill Your Relationships: Community Builders \(Killers\) Edition](#)
- [Benjamin Zander Rule No. 6](#)
- [How to recognize and tame your cognitive distortions](#)
- [SMART Asking](#)



Questions?



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