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Daryl Koehn

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Thinking and Acting Ethically in a World of
Unintended Consequences

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Daryl Koehn : Living With the Dragon: Acting Ethically in a World of Unintended Consequences before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Living With the Dragon: Acting Ethically in a World of Unintended Consequences:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. highly relevantBy Pamela S. MabenIn this era of sweeping legislation for healthcare reform and financial regulation it is time to mindfully consider the possible unintended consequences. The author traces the history of some well-meaning actions that resulted in unintended consequences. There are worldly, practical and psychological causes for these consequences. She suggests possible ethical remedies which include having a craftsman ethic of taking responsibility for one's actions, embracing federalism and incrementalism, and intervening cautiously and with plenty of expert advice. This is a timely thought-provoking

discussion as our government attempts to affect substantial change in highly complex systems. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. *An Elegant Little Book with Important Ideas* By Victoria A. Harrison This elegant little book is full of important ideas to keep in mind when making decisions of personal or political or professional nature. The vulnerability to unintended consequences lies in ways of thinking that go unexamined and in ways of reacting that usually are outside awareness as well as in the complexity of the system in which we act and react. Daryl Koehn's writing provokes the ability to see around blindspots and emphasizes the reality of ongoing thoughtfulness in daily life. I hope that individuals in positions of widespread influence responsibility will find this book. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. *Thought Provoking Little Book* By Julian E. Brown This book implies that policy and decisions that are made and become ideology or never questioned are blind to their consequences. As we get farther from a decision, the decision itself blinds us to the new realities that have new consequences radiating from the original decision. I enjoy any book that makes me see that by understanding the human endeavor of thought itself, I can become a more mindful human being. This is a work of philosophy that reads like one of the most interesting conversations you could have flying from Chicago to San Francisco.

The book consists of a short introduction to the significance of unintended consequences and four chapters. The first chapter develops a typology of unintended consequences and distinguishes them from historical contingencies. The second chapter analyzes three types of causes of such consequences: worldly, practical and psychological causes. The third explores the significant problems these consequences pose for standard moral theories. The fourth and final chapter examines how we might begin both to think about and cope with unintended consequences in an ethically good way.

"hellip; Replete with examples, this book would be a good supplementary text in business or environmental ethics or a business and society course" ndash; T.R. Gillespie, Northwest University, CHOICE (July 2010) About the Author nbsp; nbsp; Daryl Koehn nbsp; Ms. Daryl Koehn is the Cullen Chair of Business Ethics at the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Texas. She has a Ph.D. in ethics from the University of Chicago, an M.A. in politics, philosophy and economics from Oxford University and an MBA in finance from Northwestern University. Her writings have been translated into many foreign languages, including Spanish, Chinese, Japanese and Indonesian Bahasi.