

February 23, 2007

How to Win Friends (1 Letter)

To the Editor:

Re “Let’s Start a War, One We Can Win,” by Nicholas D. Kristof (column, Feb. 20), makes a compelling case that foreign aid can be effective.

While moral arguments are far and away the most important reasons for the United States to support such programs, there is another one. The vast majority of Indonesians told pollsters that they had a more favorable view of the United States because of its emergency relief after the 2004 tsunami.

Imagine if the United States were to commit the resources to reducing malaria deaths by three-quarters. At an annual cost of six days of spending on the Iraq war, we could both improve our image around the world, undercutting support for terrorism, and save millions from dying from malaria.

Eric Freeman

Oakland, Calif., Feb. 20, 2007

[Copyright 2007 The New York Times Company](#)

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Search](#) | [Corrections](#) | [RSS](#) | [First Look](#) | [Help](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Work for Us](#) | [Site Map](#)
