

FROM THE DESK OF DAVID L. SCHUTZER

Modernizing the !Kung

It is the year 1967. You are members of a task force of the Botswana government that has been asked to evaluate the conditions of the *San !Kung*. Another group of government officials, distressed over the primitive ways of the *!Kung*, had recommended that they should begin to enjoy the benefits of civilization. Specifically, the group had recommended that the government should settle the *!Kung* in permanent villages, dig wells to ensure a steady water supply, distribute domesticated animals to ensure a steady food supply, and introduce modern health services. The group also had recommended that jobs be found for the *!Kung*.

You have toured the area, and spoken to some of the *!Kung*. Your specific job is to evaluate the recommendations of the previous government task force and then make your own recommendations to the government on how the lives of the *!Kung* could be improved. You may agree or disagree with the previous panel, but you must give reasons for your recommendations.