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My Neighbor, My Enemy

Justice and Community in the Aftermath of Mass Atrocity

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Acknowledgments

This book is the culmination of more than four years of investigation by ten research teams in four countries, speaking six different languages and representing nine different disciplines. It is a tribute to our researchers that each one put ethnic and cultural differences aside and made concerted efforts to reach beyond the narrowness of a disciplinary perspective in order to engage with colleagues to understand the complexities of social reconstruction. As editors, we would be remiss if we did not recognize the enormous strength it took to surmount these barriers. Despite the uneasy ups and downs of negotiations and compromise, our researchers are a model of collaboration across cultures and conflict.

To all of our participants who survived ethnic cleansing and genocide and who live daily with the consequences of the horrors, we express our gratitude for the countless hours you gave us, for the time you spent in answering survey questions, for putting up at times with our naiveté, and for helping us understand the resilience of the human spirit. Thank you for sharing your stories, your tears, your hopes, and your courage.

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Finally, the editors must acknowledge each other. Put two strong-willed perfectionists together and that can spell disaster. That has not been the case here. The collaboration has been fruitful, occasionally joyful, and a privilege for both of us. Hopefully, this book, the product of four years of intense discussion and debate, will translate into policies and practices that make the rebuilding of divided societies a more thoughtful and deliberate process.