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REFUGEES IN HIGHER EDUCATION: DEBATE, DISCOURSE AND PRACTICE

BY

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Acknowledgments

We dedicate this book to the many refugee students who we have worked with over the years, and who have invariably influenced our practice, research and advocacy. We have seen what meaningful access to higher education (with support and care) can do to elevate a person's sense of what is possible, and how they can rebuild some of the resources and opportunities lost through forced displacement. We have often heard our students express enormous gratitude for the opportunity to study, despite the impediments that universities inadvertently impose through inflexible, unresponsive, and punitive structures, systems and practices. We recognise that these students seldom get to speak about their educational experiences into powerful spaces like this book, and when rare opportunities to share the higher education experiences of refugee students are opened, these often trumpet the resilient *individual*, thus ignoring the *many* refugee students engaged in higher education. This book is a testament to all those students.

We would also like to thank Aaliyah, Andy and Sadiya whose stories appear in this book. In addition, we express our immense gratitude to our very patient families, and offer heart-warming thanks to Evonne Irwin, Jackie Tuck and Asher Hirsch for their intellectual support with the writing of this book, as well as those other scholars and practitioners working to open up higher education spaces to refugees in the UK, Australia and elsewhere.

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