

Acknowledgments

I am indebted to the contributions of the people who inspired or facilitated this book. Edward W. Hook III encouraged me to undertake the study of stigma in sexual epidemics and provided the mentorship to craft theories about stigma that I brought to life in this research project. A debt of gratitude is owed to the University of Alabama for providing a sabbatical leave for writing and for financial support from the Capstone International Center and from the College of Arts and Sciences. I am grateful to the School of Social Work and to the Centre for Global Health, Population, Poverty and Policy at the University of Southampton, where I was a visiting scholar while working on the manuscript. Special thanks are extended to Kish Bhatti-Sinclair, Bernard Harris, and Lucy Jordan for their warm companionship during my time in Southampton and to Liz and Steve Ausden, whose hospitality and interest in the book project were an inspiration. During the time it took me to write this book, I gained a granddaughter and lost a parent, and also lived through the turmoil of natural disasters in both Alabama and New Zealand. Somehow, I made it through with the quiet encouragement of friends, family, and colleagues. My patient editor, Andrew Berzanskis, provided guidance during the writing process, and the anonymous reviewers gave me an excellent roadmap on how to improve the book. Finally, my love and heartfelt thanks go to my life partner, Stanley L. Brodsky, whose unfailing support helped this project to come to fruition, even as I left him at home to mind the bills, house, cat, and garden while I sojourned in England on the academic journey of a lifetime.

