Acknowledgments

This book has been published with the help of a grant from the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, through the Awards to Scholarly Publications Program, using funds provided by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. The original research was funded by the Social Science and Humanities Research Council Doctoral Fellowship.

This book was borne out of the help of many individuals. My gratitude goes to the following:

The editors at UBC Press, especially Darcy Cullen for believing in the possibility of this book at the proposal stage and James MacNevin for seeing me through the completion of the book, including the final peer review and approval by the UBC Press board.

The reviewers, for their insightful feedback and supportive comments that helped to morph what was an academic exercise into a true book.

Professor Cindy Patton, my doctoral senior supervisor, mentor, and friend. She nurtured me as a scholar and taught me to use my research skills for forces of good.

My committee members, Professors Dany Lacombe and Zoë Druick, as well as examiners Professors Nancy Tomes and Lara Campbell, for their thoughtful and engaged reading of the original research.

Jane Jones, for her gentle but firm coaching, which gave me the extra push I needed to finish the book.

M.T. O'Shaughnessy for offering me his critical insights and challenging my thinking about pertinent political and cultural issues in health, at a time when such spaces of reflection were not readily available to me.

Natasha Patterson, Joy Walcott-Francis, and Ayaka Yoshimizu wonderful scholars and friends – as well as friends and colleagues I met through the Self-Employed PhD online community. Their creativity and commitment to intellectual work after their degree programs inspired me to write this book.

All the medical doctors I have worked with over the years, whose dedication to their patients, care, and the health care system remind me to be both compassionate and critical when engaging in critique of medicine.

My parents and my sister, who patiently saw me through my doctoral degree and gently encouraged me to finish the book.

My best friends and soul sisters, Shoshana Magnet and Shanta Varma. There are no words that adequately describe my love for these two amazing people who support me and challenge me to be the best person I can be in all aspects of life, including as a writer and thinker.

Last but not least, my partner in crime and in life, Dietrich Bassewitz, who has stood by my side through thick and thin and never ceased to be loving and encouraging, even during my many phases of self-discovery.