

Acknowledgments

I am so grateful for all the support I received while doing this research and writing this book. The research was funded by the Canadian government through a grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. It is part of a larger project we now call Sex in Canada (originally titled Social and Political Attitudes and Sexual Behaviours in Canada), which I developed in collaboration with my colleagues Michelle Dion, professor of political science at McMaster University, and Melanie Heath, professor of sociology at McMaster University. I am thankful for our collaboration on this project and for the support they have offered over the years. I am also very grateful to the participants who completed the survey, sharing the intimate details of their lives in anonymity. Thank you so much.

This project would not have been possible without the support of Debby Herbenick at Indiana University, whose research on sexual behaviour is an inspiration. Her generosity in sharing the questionnaire for the National Survey of Sexual Health and Behavior, which formed the basis of the Sex in Canada survey, is greatly appreciated. Her decision to do so was collegial and kind, and the survey instrument is the foundation for all the research this project will accomplish.

In addition, the larger Sex in Canada project was supported by a

research team that included several graduate and undergraduate students at McMaster University, including Nicole Andrejek, Meghan Bird, Lexie Milmine, Sarah Newell, Mathieu Poirier, Max Stick, Megan Werger, and Thomas Wood. They brought energy, fresh ideas, and hard work to the project. Thanks much, also, to Tony Silva for his collaborations on the research. I thank the anonymous peer reviewers, as well as my editor at UBC Press, James MacNevin, for their kind and helpful feedback.

I owe a deep debt of gratitude to the very talented wordsmith and my good friend Letta Page. Her enthusiasm for this project was contagious, and I appreciate the energy that her upbeat attitude gave me when I needed it most. Letta refuses to let me calcify into a stodgy academic, even though that would be as comfortable as curling up with a good book. Instead, she lent her wit and humour to the project, as well as her substantial talent as an editor, helping me find my voice for this work. If you enjoy reading it as much as I hope you will, you can thank Letta. I certainly do.

I am especially grateful to my friend Miranda Hill. Miranda supported me in writing this book in many ways. She helped me figure out how to make time in my busy schedule, helped me think through the audience and the publication process. She let me use her home as a writing retreat when I needed a quiet space away from it all. I drank her tea, sat at her desk, and soaked up all the creative energies that she had written into that space. Thank you so much, Miranda.

I also want to thank my community of fellow academics whose own work, whether it is in my field or another, is an inspiration. Sometimes, their work is cited here, and I am grateful for the chance to engage with their scholarship. In other cases, though our work may not overlap, I have basked in the warmth and support of our friendship. When I got up early in the morning to write, I was bolstered by the thought that they were probably doing the same. Thank you to Karen Bird, Jessica Fields, Kieran Healy, Carrie James, Jennifer Lena, Tressie McMillan Cottom, C.J. Pascoe, Karen Robson, Stephanie Ross, Sarah Sobieraj, Marisa Young, and so many more. Thanks also to my sister, Tracy Robinson, who has been a steady presence throughout.

Finally, I must thank Lane Dunlop and Max Fetner Dunlop, who have been by my side (and indeed, stuck in the house with me) while I wrote this book. I feel all the love and support that you have always given me, and I am eternally grateful.