

CONTENTS

Introduction **vii**

PART 1 THEORY AND METHODOLOGY **1**

- 1** A Note on Social Theory and the American Street Gang
SUDHIR VENKATESH 3
- 2** Toward a Typology of Contemporary Mexican American
Youth Gangs
AVELARDO VALDEZ 12
- 3** The Negligible Role of Gangs in Drug Distribution in New York
City in the 1990s
RIC CURTIS 41
- 4** Marginal Youth, Personal Identity, and the Contemporary Gang:
Reconstructing the Social World?
KEVIN MCDONALD 62

PART 2 GANGS AND POLITICS **75**

- 5** Gangs and the Contemporary Urban Struggle: An Unappreciated
Aspect of Gangs
ALBERT DI CHIARA AND RUSSELL CHABOT 77
- 6** Urban Street Activists: Gang and Community Efforts to Bring
Peace and Justice to Los Angeles Neighborhoods
JUAN FRANCISCO ESTEVA MARTÍNEZ 95

PART 3 GANGS, AGENCY, AND AT-RISK YOUTH **117**

- 7** The Almighty Latin King and Queen Nation and the Spirituality
of Resistance: Agency, Social Cohesion, and Liberating Rituals
in the Making of a Street Organization.
LUIS BARRIOS 119
- 8** Education in the Reform of Street Organizations in New York City
DAVID BROTHERTON 136

PART 4 WOMEN AND GANGS 159

- 9** Liberating Yet Limiting: The Paradox of Female Gang Membership
DANA NURGE 161

- 10** Amor de Reina! The Pushes and Pulls of Group Membership among
the Latin Queens
DAVID BROTHERTON AND CAMILA SALAZAR-ATIAS 183

PART 5 GANGS AND SOCIAL CONTROL 211

- 11** Gangs and the Law
LOREN SIEGEL 213

- 12** The Gang Crackdown in the Prisons of Massachusetts:
Arbitrary and Harsh Treatment Can Only Make Matters Worse
PHILLIP KASSEL 228

PART 6 GANGS AND PHOTOGRAPHY 253

- 13** On the Subject of Gang Photography
RICHARD RODRÍGUEZ 255

- 14** From Civil War to Gang War: The Tragedy of Edgar Bolanos
DONNA DeCESARE 283

- 15** Snapshots of a Movement: The New York Latin Kings and
Queens 1996–99
STEVE HART AND DAVID BROTHERTON 314

Contributors 337

Index 341