Acknowledgments

A large number of people have assisted me in producing this book and I am extremely grateful to all of them. Above all, I am especially thankful to Professor John Braithwaite, who has been the most inspiring, supportive, nurturing and kindly mentor it is possible to imagine. I am also extremely grateful to Dr Greg Rawlings and Dr Guy Powles, for their insightful comments and assistance, and for the support given to me by RegNet at The Australian National University. The time I spent working together with Professor Don Paterson was also richly rewarding due to his encyclopedic knowledge of Vanuatu, its legal system and its people. I would also like to thank all of the members of the judiciary, members of the legal profession, chiefs, community leaders and others who gave up their time to be interviewed by me, to those who housed and fed me when I travelled around Vanuatu and especially to those who read draft chapters and commented on them, or who took the time to listen to my ideas and respond to them. A very special thanks is due to the Vanuatu fieldworkers, members of the Young People’s Project and the staff at the Vanuatu Cultural Centre, who assisted me with gathering data about the operation of the kastom system. My mother, stepmother, sister and friends were also enormously encouraging throughout the duration of this study and I am very grateful to them. In particular, I am grateful to Tom Clarke and Kendra Gates for their time spent proofreading and to Miguel Juston for his assistance with IT difficulties. Finally, I wish to thank my husband, Sebastien Lacrampe, for his unfailing support, encouragement and continuing interest in this project.