

## Preface

The contents of this book represent almost 30 years of my work in studying and assessing critically philosophical work in the areas related to responsibility and punishment theories. Certain chapters or sections of chapters of this book contain materials that I have contributed to various philosophy journals, conferences, or other sources. For example, the contents of Chap. 4 is a reprinting of my article by the same title in Jesper Ryberg and J. Angelo Corlett, Editors, *Punishment and Ethics* (London: Palgrave MacMillan, 2010), while the content of Chap. 5 consists of a revised version of an essay by the same title published in *The Southern Journal of Philosophy* to which thanks are expressed for the use of it herein. Substantial sections of Chap. 6 consist of my essay, “Making Sense of Retributivism,” *Philosophy*, 76 (2001), pp. 77–110, and “Making *More* Sense of Retributivism: Desert as Responsibility and Proportionality,” *Philosophy*, 78 (2003), pp. 277–285, and gratitude is expressed to the Royal Institute of Philosophy, London, and Cambridge University Press, for use of it here. I have since made important additions to this chapter in order to answer certain concerns with my version of retributivism during the past few years. Chapter 7 consists in my article, “Retributivism and Recidivism,” in Claudio Tamburinni, Editor, *Criminal Recidivism* (Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2010). An earlier version of this article was presented at the Conference on Recidivism, University of Stockholm, Sweden, in May, 2009. I am grateful to attendees at that conference for helpful comments. Chapter 8 is a revised version of an article having the same title in the *American Philosophical Quarterly*, 43 (2006), pp. 25–42, and gratitude is expressed to North American Philosophical Publications, Inc. for the permission to use the contents of that article herein. This chapter is also a significant reworking of the chapter on the same subject in the third edition of this book. Chapter 9 is a fully revised version of Chap. 7 in the third edition of this book on capital punishment. While most of the objections to capital punishment that were covered in the previous edition are the same, the new version of this chapter represents a substantial reworking of the problem. I am grateful to participants at the International Conference on the Philosophy of Criminal Punishment, Chinese University of Hong Kong, 18–20 June 2013, for helpful comments on an

earlier draft of part of Chap. 9. The content of Chap. 10 is a revised version of “Collective Moral Responsibility,” in A. Jokic, Editor, *From History to Justice* (New York: Peter Lang Publishers, 2001), pp. 305–18. The contents of Chaps. 10 and 11 are essentially revised forms of articles by the same titles from the *Journal of Social Philosophy*, and gratitude is expressed to Blackwell Publishers for use of both articles in this book. Chapter 12 amounts to a conglomeration of “U.S. Responsibility for War Crimes in Iraq” *Res Publica*, 16 (2010), pp. 227–244, as well as a previously unpublished work on U.S. reparations to Iraq. They represent final drafts of earlier papers that were presented at the Conference on Punishing War Criminals—New Ethical Challenges? Danish Research Group for the Ethics of Punishment, University of Copenhagen, 21–22 September 2007, as well as the Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia, 27 June 2012. I am grateful to audiences at those events for helpful comments that helped to shape the final drafts of those works. I have deleted from this edition the chapter on reparations to American Indians that appeared in previous editions. For my more detailed and updated arguments and analyses on reparations to American Indians and U.S. blacks, see my book, *Heirs of Oppression* (Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2010). The “List of Sources” represents a comprehensive list of works I have consulted over the years in my writing and revision of this book. I have made every attempt to give credit where credit is due concerning the ideas presented herein where ideas have, as far as I can discern, originated from others. I have made an ardent attempt to consult as many philosophical sources as possible that concern responsibility, punishment, and related topics.

I am grateful to Joel Feinberg, Keith Lehrer, and Burleigh Wilkins for their incisive comments on an early version of the contents of Chap. 6. I thank the participants of the Stockholm University conference on criminal recidivism, organized by Claudio Tamburinni in 2009, for their comments on an earlier version of Chap. 7. Gratitude is also expressed herein to the participants of the University of Copenhagen conference on punishment for war crimes, organized by Jesper Ryberg in 2008. They provided valuable insights for the final draft of part of Chap. 11.

I am grateful to Ishtiyaque Haji who provided critical insights on the first edition of this book by his supportive assessment of it in *Mind*, 111 (2002), pp. 847–852. I am also grateful to Michael Davis for the issues he raises about my theory of punishment in his note on the first edition of this book in *Ethics*, 113 (2003), p. 735. Several changes have been made throughout this fourth edition to accommodate many of their concerns. For assistance in writing part of the reply to the economic objection to capital punishment in Chap. 9, I am indebted to Norma Mejia. For proofreading of this edition I owe thanks to Kimberly Unger.

This edition features the addition of a new chapter tracing the roots of retributivism (or desert-based thinking on punishment) back to Socrates, a section at the end of Chap. 6 answering a particular concern with my version of retributivism regarding the punishment of innocents, the addition of a new chapter on criminal recidivism, and the addition of a new chapter devoted to the issue of the extent to which the U.S. is responsible for war crimes in the recent invasion and occupation of Iraq by the U.S.

To those who might find the contents of this book, in whole or in part, worthy of their philosophical reflection and critical scrutiny, I express my sincere gratitude, in advance, to you.

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