Contents

Introduction ...................................................... 1
Sophie Body-Gendrot

Part I: Contested Definitions

Violence: Reflections About a Word .......................... 13
Pieter Spierenburg

Violence as an Essentially Contested Concept .......... 27
Willem de Haan

Part II: Long-Term Trends

Homicide in Scandinavia: Long-Term Trends and Their Interpretations ........................................... 43
Dag Lindström

Violence in France’s Past: An Anthropological Approach ................................................................. 65
François Ploux

The Fall and Rise of Homicide in Ireland ................ 79
Ian O’Donnell

Part III: Contemporary Trends

Violence in Present-Day France: Data and Sociological Analysis .................................................... 95
Philippe Robert

From Old Threats to Enigmatic Enemies: The Evolution of European Policies from Low Intensity Violence to Homegrown Terrorism ......................................................... 115
Sophie Body-Gendrot
Part IV: Gendering Violent Practices

The Language of Violence: Symbolic Body Parts in Marital Conflicts in Early Modern France .......................................................... 141
Dorothea Nolde

Negotiating Violence and Gender: Security and the Night Time Economy in the UK ................................................................. 161
Kate O’Brien, Dick Hobbs and Louise Westmarland

Part V: Politics, War and Violence

Violence and War: Measuring Homicide in Belgium (1900–1950) ........ 177
Xavier Rousseaux, Frédéric Vesentini and Antoon Vrints

Democratization and Violence: European and International Perspectives . 205
Susanne Karstedt

Violence and Violence-Control in Long-Term Perspective: ‘Testing’ Elias in Relation to War, Genocide, Crime, Punishment and Sport .......... 227
Eric Dunning

Index .................................................................................................................................................................................. 251