Preface and acknowledgements

In 1999, I published a short article on the apology in politics.¹ At that time, there was relatively little written on the topic, however the years since have seen a large amount of work published in the area. This book is an attempt to consider the main issues raised by the apology in politics and to distil more than a decade's reflections on the topic. These reflections have been helped immeasurably by several people who have discussed ideas with me, organised seminars and conferences to explore these ideas further, provided references or other information and read drafts of articles and chapters. Principal among them are Pauline Anderson, Davide Denti, Tom Dickins, Graham Dodds, Cécile Hatier, Richard Kelly, Jan Löfström, Kevin Magill, Mihaela Mihai, Christopher Norton, Eamonn O'Kane, Debbie Orpin, Mathias Thaler and Simon Thompson. I would also like to acknowledge the School of Law, Social Sciences and Communications at the University of Wolverhampton for sabbatical support in the writing of this book and the *Journal of Political Ideologies* for permission to use material from an earlier article in Chapter 4.²

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Notes

- 1 M. Cunningham, 'Saying sorry: the politics of apology', *Political Quarterly*, 70:3 (1999), 285–93.

- 2 M. Cunningham, 'The ideological location of the apology', *Journal of Political Ideologies*, 16:1 (2011), 115–22.