# 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
Violence in Europe
Historical and Contemporary Perspectives
Body-Gendrot, S.; Spierenburg, P. (Eds.)
2008, X, 256 p., Hardcover