

CONTENTS

Preface / ix

Acknowledgments / xxiii

ONE / The Ethical Condition / 1

TWO / Virgin Marriage and the Autonomy of Women in Mayotte / 40

THREE / Taboo as Cultural Practice among Malagasy Speakers / 59

FOUR / The Past Imperfect: Remembering as Moral Practice / 86

FIVE / The Anthropology of Religion and the Quarrel
between Poetry and Philosophy / 105

SIX / Just Anger: Scenarios of Indignation in Botswana and Madagascar
COAUTHORED BY JACQUELINE SOLWAY / 128

SEVEN / Rheumatic Irony: Questions of Agency and Self-Deception as
Refracted Through the Art of Living with Spirits / 150

EIGHT / On Catching Up with Oneself: Learning to Know
That One Means What One Does / 171

NINE / Sacrifice and the Problem of Beginning: Reflections
from Sakalava Mythopraxis / 189

TEN / Value and Virtue / 214

ELEVEN / Toward an Ethics of the Act / 242

TWELVE / Ethics Out of the Ordinary / 267

THIRTEEN / The Value of (Performative) Acts / 282

FOURTEEN / The Continuous and Discontinuous Person:
Two Dimensions of Ethical Life / 302

References / 329

Index / 351