Contents

	List of figures	xi
	Preface	xii
	Acknowledgements	xiv
	Foreword	xv
P	art I	
1	Introduction	3
	Background to the book 3	
	Vignette one: a hugless farewell 3	
	Vignette two: a nude awakening 4	
	Vignette three: an undetectable filled space 5	
	Vignette four: the bakappuru that was I almost 6	
	Vignette five: families farewelling like strangers 6	
	Perceptual differences 8	
	Need for the book 11	
	Positioning the study of touch and intimacy 12	
	Theoretical underpinnings to touch and intimacy 13	
	Connection via meeting 13	
	Touching bodies 14	
	Alternative discourses of embodiment in Japan 17	
	An ethnographic approach 19	
	Participant-observations 19	
	Interviews 20	
	Sampling 20	
	Organisation of the book 21	
Pa	art II	25
2	Parent-child touch: (dis)locating the body in skinship	27
	The Japanese family 28	
	Parent-child relationships 29	

	Contents	
Х	Comenia	•

	Establishing skinship: mother-child relationships 30 Establishing skinship: father-child relationships 46 Summary 57	
3	Exclusion and inclusion in the bedroom Vignette six: the Mizuno family 60 Vignette seven: the Fukushima family 61 Co-sleeping in Japan 63 Exclusive family relations 65 Exclusive relations in soine: on the other side of the river Inclusive family relations 75 Inclusive relations in soine: the river that flows through the family 78 Summary 83	70
Part III		87
4	Moving into the big, wide world Pre-schooling in Japan 89 The daycare context: Kikyō hoikuen 91 Kikyō hoikuen: the family outside the home 92 Hiyoko Gumi (Young Chicks Class) 93 Vignette eight: finding security through onbu 95 Sumire Gumi (Violets Class) 97 Sakura Gumi (Cherry Blossoms Class) 100 Kikyō Gumi (Chinese Bellflower Class) 102 Vignette nine: can we sleep together? 102 Summary 105	89
5	Arriving to a conceptual understanding of belonging through the felt meanings of touch Transitional touch 109 Securing the space of intimacy in the Japanese family: touching at depth 111 Feeling through sight 112 The home is where the heart is 114 Being-together 115 Tone and presence through absence 119 Filled space: ma and air 121 Summary 121	108
6	How touch feels after five Stages of development 124 Age 124	123

The birth of a new sibling 135	
Public discourses: why touch stops 138	
Public/private dichotomies 138	
It's because we're Japanese! 140	
Summary 142	
Conclusion	145
Vignette ten: a touching return 145	
The Japanese culture of embodiment 146	
Touching at depth: developing the social theory	
of the body 146	
Recommendations for further research 147	
Living skinship 148	
Glossary of terms	149
Bibliography	153
Index	163

Beginning school 129