CONTENTS

Acknowledgments ix Introduction: "We Have All, Always, Sought the Collective" 1

PART I. GERMANY DURING WORLD WAR I AND THE WEIMAR REPUBLIC

- I Interviews: Youth 21
- 2 Analysis: Finding the Collective in the Youth Movement "Group" 59
- 3 Essays 72
 The Experience of War, Revolution, Disorder, and Inflation 72
 Gemeinschaft, Gesellschaft, and the Collective 76
 Sexuality, Identity, and Equality in the Youth Movement 77
 The Youth Movement and National Socialism 80

PART II. GERMANY DURING THE THIRD REICH AND WORLD WAR II

- 4 Interviews: Young Adulthood 85
- 5 Analysis: Extending the Collective in the Community of the Volk 124
- 6 Essays 150

The Popularity of National Socialism and the *Volksgemeinschaft* with Younger Germans 150

National Socialism and Women 152

National Socialism and Modernization 156

vii

viii CONTENTS

The Experiential and Racial Reality of the *Volksgemeinschaft* 158
"Looking Away" from Jews in Nazi Germany 161
German Knowledge of the "Final Solution" before 1945 162
German Anti-Semitism during the Third Reich 167
National Socialist Terror and the Germans 172
Men and Women during the War and in Its Aftermath 174

PART III. Postwar Germany

- 7 Interviews: Maturity 181
- 8 Analysis: Resurrecting the Collective in the Generational "Circle" 211
- 9 Essays 224

Men, Women, and the Reassertion of the Family in Postwar Germany 224

The Mitscherlichs' "The Inability to Mourn" 230

The National Socialist Past in West German Families 234

Conclusion: The Authority of Historical Experience 237

Notes 243

Bibliography 309

Index 323