

# Contents

## PART I: IDENTITY IN COMMUNICATIVE ETHICS

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <b>1. Identity Crises and the Present Age</b>                      | <b>3</b>  |
| 1.1. Habermas's Question to Kierkegaard, 5                         |           |
| 1.2. Postnational Identity and Multiculturalism                    |           |
| Conclusions, 27  |           |
| <b>2. Ethics, Morality, and Identity</b>                           | <b>29</b> |
| 2.1. Habermas's Reading of Hegel with Kantian Means, 30            |           |
| 2.2. The Regulative Ideal of Communicative Ethics, 44              |           |
| Conclusions, 53  |           |
| <b>3. Identity and System</b>                                      | <b>55</b> |
| 3.1. Habermas's Reading of Marx, 57                                |           |
| 3.2. The Present Age in Existential and Legitimation<br>Crises, 67 |           |
| Conclusions, 75  |           |
| <b>4. Self-Realization and Self-Determination</b>                  | <b>78</b> |
| 4.1. Habermas's Reading of Mead: Individual<br>and Community, 79   |           |
| 4.2. Habermas's Reading of Durkheim, 97                            |           |
| Conclusions, 103   |           |

## PART II: IDENTITY IN AN EXISTENTIAL MODE

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| <b>5. The Performative Mode of Identity</b>                      | <b>107</b> |
| 5.1. The Performative Notion of the Individual, 109              |            |
| 5.2. A Kierkegaardian Transformation of the<br>Performative, 116 |            |
| <b>6. Communicating Existence</b>                                | <b>127</b> |
| 6.1. Existential Identity and Self-Choice, 128                   |            |
| 6.2. Existential Communication, 133                              |            |

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| 6.3. Restoring the Community to the Difficulty of Beginnings, 140                      |            |
| Conclusions, 149   |            |
| <b>7. The Ideal of Communicating Community</b>   | <b>151</b> |
| 7.1. An Existential Mode of the Individual and Community, 153                          |            |
| 7.2. An Existential Mode of Justice and Love, 173                                      |            |
| Conclusions, 182   |            |
| <br><b>PART III: IDENTITY, TRADITION, AND REVOLUTION</b>                               |            |
| <b>8. Identity and Existential Revolution</b>  | <b>187</b> |
| 8.1. Havel on Identity Crises and the Present Age, 189                                 |            |
| 8.2. Havel's Nonpolitical Politics, 196  |            |
| Conclusions, 201   |            |
| <br>   |            |
| <b>9. Self-Reading and Authoring</b>   | <b>203</b> |
| 9.1. Kierkegaard: Authorship and Authoring, 203  |            |
| 9.2. Havel and Authoring in Deliberative Democracy, 224                                |            |
| Conclusions, 227   |            |
| <br>   |            |
| <b>10. Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy</b>                                  | <b>229</b> |
| 10.1. Habermas and Jaspers: Reading the Situations of the Present Age, 230             |            |
| 10.2. Kierkegaard's Critical Theory of the Present Age, 234                            |            |
| 10.3. Havel's Existential Politics in the Present Age, 246                             |            |
| 10.4. A Permanent Democratic and Existential Revolution?, 253                          |            |
| Conclusions, 257   |            |
| <br>   |            |
| <b>Appendix A. Habermas's Reading of Kierkegaard: Notes from a Conversation</b>        | <b>259</b> |
| <br>   |            |
| <b>Appendix B. Abbreviations and Bibliography for the Primary Works Cited in Notes</b> | <b>265</b> |
| <br>   |            |
| <b>Notes</b>   | <b>272</b> |
| <br>   |            |
| <b>Bibliography of Secondary Works</b>   | <b>307</b> |
| <br>   |            |
| <b>Index</b>   | <b>321</b> |