Contents

Preface ix
Acknowledgments xi

I. How We Engage in Politics and Why It Matters
   1 Varying Styles of Political Activity 3

II. Congregation-Based Community Organizing
   2 How Congregation-Based Community Organizing Works 27
   3 The Religious and Political Perspective of Community Organizing 49
   4 Stories and Practices of Community Organizing 82
      Conclusion to Part II: Expansive and Constrained Discourse in Community Organizing 108

III. Human Rights and Amnesty International
   5 The Human Rights Tradition and Amnesty International 123
   6 Cultural Work in Amnesty International 146
      Conclusion to Part III: Dilemmas in Human Rights Discourse 176

IV. How Should We Talk about Politics?
   7 Individualism and Its Discontents 189
   8 Integrating Culture and Politics 212
Appendixes

A. Results from Two National Surveys of Congregation-Based Community Organizing 231
B. A Catholic Framework for Economic Life (U.S. Catholic Conference) 236
C. Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen (Republic of France) 238
D. The Bill of Rights and Supporting Documents (United States of America) 241
E. Universal Declaration of Human Rights (United Nations) 244
F. Excerpts from the Statute of Amnesty International 250

Notes 253
Index 277