Theories and practices of justice do not meet the socio-political challenges of our times. For those theorists attempting to develop an alternative to the criminal justice system, restorative justice has provided an alternative horizon. The restorative justice approach involves meeting people, understanding and recognising their vulnerability through participatory and deliberative forums and practices. The aim of this collection is to bridge the distance between restorative justice and the critical theory tradition. It, on the one hand, takes into account the limits of restorative justice as they have been articulated, or can be articulated through critical social theory, and on the other hand emphasises the ground-breaking potential that restorative justice can bring to this tradition as a way to address crimes, conflicts and injustices, and to pursue justice.

THE EDITORS

Ivo Aertsen is Professor of Criminology at the University of Leuven.

Brunilda Pali is Researcher at the Leuven Institute of Criminology at the University of Leuven.

SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

Introduction: Restorative Justice and Critical Social Theory
Brunilda Pali and Ivo Aertsen
1. Is a Critical Model of Restorative Justice Possible? A Penal Abolitionist Approach
Daniel Achutti
2. Deconstructing Empowerment in Restorative Justice
Daniela Bolívar
Raffaella da Porciuncula Pallamolla
Harry Blegg
5. Outlining a Historical and Critical Ontology of Restorative Justice
Giuseppe Maglione
6. Restorative Justice is Not a Panacea Against All Social Evils
Lode Walgrave
7. Restorative Justice, Procedural Justice and Care
Josep Tamarit Sumalla
8. Restorative Justice and Democratic Citizenship: A New Social Pedagogy or Back to ‘Social Defence’?
Leo Van Gasse
Ida Helene Asmussen
10. Lifeworld, Law and Justice
Katrin Kremmel and Christa Pelikan
11. ‘Cultural’ Problematisations in the Restorative Justice Discourse
Brunilda Pali
12. To Talk or Not to Talk? The Limits and Potential of Restorative Justice in Addressing Social Inequalities
Borbála Fellegi, Gábor Héra and Gabriella Benedek
13. Digital Stories and Restorative Justice in Brussels
Erik Claes, Iman Lechkar, Minne Huysmans and Nele Galinck
Claudia Mazzucato
15. The Broken Tablets of Moses and the Exodus from (Post-) Modernity: On Rethinking the Role and the Rule of Law in a Dialogical Way
Federico Reggio
16. Control Society, Sovereign Victim Culture and Restorative Justice
Ronnie Lippens
17. Promised Communities and Unrestored Justice
George Pavlich
18. A Radical in Disguise: Judith Shklar’s Victimology and Restorative Justice
Antony Pemberton and Pauline GM Aarten