

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A debt of gratitude is owed to

- my Curtin supervisors, Dr Lyndall Steed and Dr Lynne Roberts for their patient, ever constructive comment and their impressive powers of recall when responding to the chapters that arrived haphazardly with them;
- Dr Jill Reynolds, The Open University, Milton Keynes, for her supervision, both by distance and on the occasions we could meet either in Australia or England;
- Claire Chambers, for her editorial advice and other contributions to the progress of the thesis;
- my friends and family for their active interest in the project and their tolerance of my increasing unsociability towards its end.

Special mention must go to the 25 women who generously gave their time and glimpses into their private worlds in the cause of better understanding women living single.