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Debating Women has been a labor of love from start to finish, even on those days when I felt that I might not finish. My ability to write this book was dependent upon many people who provided professional, intellectual, and personal support, and I am happy for the opportunity to acknowledge them here.

Perhaps it will come as no surprise to hear that I was (am!) a debating woman. My life was transformed in no small way through my involvement in debate teams at Oak Harbor High School, the University of Mary Washington, and the University of Pittsburgh, and on the National Communication Association’s Committee on International Discussion and Debate tour of Japan and South Korea. I am especially grateful to Timothy O’Donnell, P. Anand Rao, Gordon Mitchell, and members of the Schenley Park Debate Authors Working Group (including Gordon Mitchell, Matt Brigham, Eric English, Brent Heavner, Takuzo Konishi, Stephen Llano, Cate Morrison, Joe Packer, Damien Pfister, Shanara
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