Acknowledgements


I have presented the ideas in this book at the Annual Meeting of the American Law & Economic Association; the Conference on Empirical Legal Studies; the Annual Conference of the Association for Law, Property, and Society; the Annual Meeting of the Association for Public Economic Theory; the workshop at George Mason University School of Law; and several workshops, seminars, and forums at New York University School of Law. I thank the organizers and participants for their feedback.

I developed many of the theoretical arguments and accumulated the empirical data mostly when I pursued my Doctor of Juridical Science (JSD) degree at New York University School of Law. The rest of it is based on later works that I finished while serving as an assistant research professor of law at Institutum Iurisprudentiae, Academia Sinica in Taiwan. For generous financial and academic support, I thank NYU Law’s JSD Program (particularly Faculty Director Joseph Weiler and Dean Ricky Revesz), NYU’s Center for Law, Economics, and Organization (particularly Faculty Co-Directors Jennifer Arlen, Oren Bar-Gill, Lewis Kornhauser, and Geoffrey Miller), NYU’s Furman Center (particularly Faculty Co-Director Ingrid Ellen), Academia Sinica (particularly the two directors of Institutum Iurisprudentiae, Dennis Tang and Tzu-yi Lin), National Science Council of Taiwan, Li Foundation Heritage Prize, and Ministry of Education of Taiwan. I also thank Yi-Sin Chen and Yi-Shien King for providing helpful research assistance.

I thank Richard Epstein for writing a Foreword for this book, and Mitchell Yeh and Vera Hsu for providing photos for the book cover. They make this book better.

It is amazing how one’s life can change over the course of writing a book. When the idea of four prototypical assessment methods (see Chapter 4) emerged in 2005, I was unmarried. Now my son, Phil, is about three years old. (I cannot reveal the age of my wife, Vera . . .) I could not have worked on and finished this project, in New York and Taipei, without the support of my family. To them, thank you!