Contributors

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**Laia Bécares** is a Research Fellow at the University of Manchester, UK. Her work examines the determinants of ethnic inequalities in health, with a focus on life course and neighbourhood effects. She is interested in understanding the pathways by which the racialization of people and places leads to socioeconomic and health inequalities.

**Yanjie Bian** is Professor of Sociology at the University of Minnesota, USA, and concurrently he is the Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Science and the Director of the Institute for Empirical Social Science Research at Xi’an Jiaotong University, China. He is currently leading his research team to conduct a new household survey on the changing roles of social networks in employment processes in Chinese cities.

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**David Cutts** is a Reader in Political Science at the University of Bath, UK. His main research interests focus on the role of geographical and contextual effects on political and civic behaviour. His specific areas of interest include political and civic engagement, party campaigning, electoral behaviour, social capital and methods for modelling political and civic behaviour.
Neli Demireva is a Lecturer in Sociology at Essex University, UK. She completed an MSc in Sociology and a DPhil in Sociology at St John’s College at the University of Oxford. Her research interests include migration, inter-ethnic ties, social cohesion, ethnic penalties and multiculturalism. She has published in leading journals in the field: Sociology, Ethnic and Racial Studies, the Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies, the International Journal of Comparative Sociology and has prepared several policy reports on issues of ethnicity and migration.

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Jaswinder K. Dhillon is Professor of Education at the University of Worcester, UK. She teaches and supervises postgraduate and doctoral students and her research interests include qualitative research methods, social capital, inter-organizational partnerships and transnational education. She is particularly interested in the dynamic relationship between empirical data and theory building.

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