

Contents

<i>List of Tables</i>	x
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xi
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	xiii
Introduction: The Partial Defence of Provocation	1
The partial defence of provocation	7
The law's potential for reform	10
An international comparison of homicide law reform	11
A view from within: researching the law in operation	13
An examination of the aftermath of provocation: book outline	20
Part I The Problem of Provocation	
1 Male Honour and the Provocation Defence	25
Adultery and 'crimes of passion'	26
The homosexual advance defence	29
A cultural excuse for murder?	36
2 Jealous Men and Provocative Women	43
Jealous men and the sexual infidelity defence	44
Lethal separation assault and the provocation defence	52
Victims on trial	56
Excusing lethal domestic violence	65
The declining use of the provocation defence	69
3 The Plight of the Provoked Battered Woman	74
The importance of timing and proportionality	76
The convictions that led to change	79
Provocation as a safety net for battered women who kill	81
Provoked to kill or acting in self-defence?	84
Part II Addressing the Provocation Problem – Divergent Approaches to Homicide Law Reform	
4 Addressing the Provocation Problem	91
The partial defence of provocation in Australia	91

The partial defence of provocation internationally	100
An issue of international concern	106
5 Abolishing Provocation – The Victorian Experience	108
The road to change: provocation in Victoria from 1990 to 2004	109
The Victorian Law Reform Commission (VLRC)	113
Abolishing the partial defence of provocation	117
Implementing the new offence of defensive homicide	122
6 Replacing Provocation – The English Experience	127
The recommendations of the Law Commission	128
The <i>Coroners and Justice Act</i> : implementing loss of control	133
Responses to the new partial defence of loss of control	137
The need for monitoring and evaluation after a decade of reform	148
7 Restricting Provocation – The New South Wales Experience	150
The operation of provocation in New South Wales	151
The case that sparked reform: <i>Singh v R</i>	155
The NSW Parliamentary Inquiry	160
Retaining provocation ... again	167
Post-reform evaluation and reflection	172
 Part III The Intended and Unintended Effects of Homicide Law Reform	
8 New Laws, Same Problems – Alternative Categories to Murder	179
Warning signs: the trial of Luke Middendorp	181
Defensive homicide as provocation	189
Loss of control as provocation	193
Rewriting a change: the trial of Jon-Jacques Clinton	195
Still legitimising lethal violence: the unintended effect of alternative categories post-reform	197
9 The Difficulty of Law Reform for Battered Women who Kill	199
Defensive homicide as a safety net for battered women	200
A law intended for women, abused by men	204

The importance of evidence reforms and the law of self-defence	208
The law of homicide for battered women	211
10 Complicating the Law of Homicide	213
The complicated provocation defence continues	214
Defensive homicide and the law of self-defence	221
The complicated partial defence of loss of control	226
A compromised form of justice	228
Reforms that make a mess of the law	232
11 Questions of Sentencing in the Provocation Debate	235
Mandatory life sentencing and the provocation debate	236
Presumptive minimum sentencing and the provocation debate	239
Judge or jury?	242
The importance of a label: murder or manslaughter?	249
Considering provocation in sentencing for murder	252
Conclusion: The Partial Defence of Provocation and Lessons for Law Reform	263
The role of criminal law in delegitimising lethal male violence and ending narratives of victim-blaming	264
The importance of professional development and community education	268
Beyond the law of provocation: lessons for criminal law reform	270
Where to next?	272
Appendices	
<i>Appendix A</i>	277
<i>Appendix B</i>	278
<i>Appendix C</i>	281
<i>Appendix D</i>	283
<i>Appendix E</i>	285
<i>Notes</i>	286
<i>Bibliography</i>	294
<i>Cases Index</i>	311
<i>General Index</i>	312