CONTENTS

Preface page ix

PART ONE
THE FOUNDATIONS OF DEMOCRACY AND THE SEPARATION
OF CHURCH AND STATE

1. The Plurality of Paths to Liberal Democracy 3
   Liberal Democracy 4
   Outlines of a Case for Liberal Democracy 8
   Freedom and Coercion 27

2. The Separation of Church and State 31
   Three Central Principles of Church-State Separation 32
   Church-State Separation Viewed from a Religious
   Standpoint 41
   Applications of Church-State Separation: Public
   Observances, Educational Policy, and Tax Exemption 51

3. Church-State Separation and the Justification of
   Governmental Power 59
   Liberal Democracy and Conceptions of the Good 59
   A Surrogacy Conception of Justified Coercion 65
   The Positive Role of Religious Arguments in a Liberal
   Democracy 69

PART TWO
THE ETHICS OF CITIZENSHIP AND THE BALANCE OF
RELIGIOUS AND POLITICAL ARGUMENTS

4. Religious Convictions and Secular Reasons 81
   Religion, Politics, and the Ethics of Citizenship 82
# Contents

Two Principles of Democratic Citizenship 86  
Some Problems of Application 105  
The Ethics of Citizenship and the Accommodation of Religion 109  

5. **Religion and Ethics: Toward Integration** 116  
The Diverse Sources of Religious Obligation 116  
Religious Commitment and Political Participation 123  
The Principle of Theo-ethical Equilibrium 135  
Theology and the Autonomy of Ethics 139  

**PART THREE**  
CIVIC VIRTUE AND POLITICAL ACTIVISM IN A RELIGIOUSLY PLURALISTIC DEMOCRACY  

6. **Civic Virtue** 145  
Virtues as Normatively Structured Elements of Character 146  
The Grounds of Civic Virtue 149  
Civic Virtue and the Grounds for Sociopolitical Action 155  
Civic Virtue and the Balancing of Religious and Secular Reasons 163  
The Place of Religious Considerations in Civic Discourse 168  
Institutional Dimensions of Civic Virtue 176  

7. **Religious Conviction and Political Activism** 181  
Prevention of Killing the Innocent as a Rationale for Violence 182  
Some Arguments for Personhood at Conception 187  
The Restriction of Abortion and the Presumption of Innocence 195  
Violence and Coercion versus Civilized Disagreement and Persuasion 204  
Conclusion: Ethics, Religion, and Democracy 209  

*Notes* 217  
*Index* 253