# Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foreword</th>
<th>page vii</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgements</td>
<td>ix</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Introduction
- Competing perspectives on corporate responsibility 3
- Contrasting stakeholder and shareholder theories 8
- Stakeholder theory and corporate social responsibility in a market economy 12
- A critique of stakeholder theory: the methodology 16
- A critique of stakeholder theory: the structure 21

2 An introduction to stakeholder theory 24
- The etymology of ‘stake’ and ‘stakeholder’ 25
- Stakeholder theory in organisations 29
- Ethics and strategy 33
- Normative arguments for stakeholder theory 39
- Conclusion 52

3 The philosophy of stakeholder theory 54
- Social contract theory 56
- John Rawls and social contract theory 68
- Fairness and distributive justice 76
- Conclusion 79

4 The corporation as a private association in a market economy 81
- An analysis of the concept of trade 82
- The ethical principles of a market economy 86
- The corporate objective in a market economy 94
- Conclusion 100


vi  

Contents

5 The corporation as a sovereign power in a market economy  
   Stakeholder theory and the corporation as a commercial entity  
   Stakeholder theory and the corporation as a ‘social contract’  
   Conclusion  

6 Shareholder theory and its limitations  
   The separation of ownership and control  
   The consequentialist critique of stakeholder theory  
   The deontological defence of shareholder theory  
   The limits of contractual duties  
   Ethical discretion in company law  
   Conclusion  

7 Conclusion  

References  
Index  

© in this web service Cambridge University Press  www.cambridge.org