Contents

Acknowledgments vii Introduction xi

- 1 One History of Disability in America: How Collective Action Became Possible 1
- 2 Collective Consciousness and a Profile of Issues 31
- 3 The Social Basis for Movement Formation and Mobilization 57
- 4 A Profile of Contentious Actions: How Success Became Possible 66
- 5 Cross-Disability and Impairment-Specific Protests: Social Movement Unity and Disunity 109
- 6 Changes in Protests over Time: Increased Heterogeneity, Decreased Societal Attention 139
- 7 The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act: The Effects of Cross-Disability Successes 160
- 8 The Deaf President Now Protest: The Effect of an Impairment-Specific Success 192
- 9 Looking to the New Millennium 214
- 10 Conclusion: Against All Odds and Contrary to the Conventional Wisdom 222

Appendix A: List of Acronyms 225 Appendix B: Methodology 227 References 243

Index 261