One of the measures of a just society is the way in which it deals with its most vulnerable people. There are few more vulnerable than refugees, and among the most vulnerable of refugees are young people from Africa. This makes successful settlement into Australian society of such critical importance both to them and to the broader community. Schools and teachers are at the front line of resettlement of refugee families.

Crossing Borders sets out to inform and clarify issues in relation to the education of African students, and explore some of the ways through which education systems, schools and teachers have developed effective strategies and approaches to meet the needs of their African students. The book brings together research findings that teachers can use to inform and support their own practice, and its seven chapters lead the reader carefully from changing perspectives and practices for social justice and policy issues to the educational future.

Crossing Borders reminds us of the critical role that we, as teachers, play in helping young people realise their hopes and aspirations, and that the borders to be crossed are ours, as well as theirs. It reminds us that trust is central to the human business of teaching. This book will help teachers working with young African refugees to find the way forward for their students and to cross the invisible borders into full participation in Australian life.

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