

DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to my mother, Jane Bass, and my stepfather, Amos Bass. Without their endless love and encouragement I would never have been able to complete my graduate studies. I love you both and I appreciate everything that you have done for me.

This thesis is also dedicated to my sister, Kelli Campbell who was there for me throughout this process and gave me lots of support. I'll miss you when I leave, but you know where to find me.

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