Surviving Disaster: The Role of Social Networks
Robin L. Ersing and Kathleen A. Kost (Eds.)
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Disaster is a sudden event that has significant effect on the human population. It can be manmade or natural; manmade disaster is as a direct result of an accident or human errors done by the action of men whilst natural disaster is a result of natural forces of nature for example a tornado or a hurricane (Kruks-Wisner, 2011; Doreian & Conti, 2012).

The main focus of this book is to inform readers of the relationship between social networks and natural disaster. It tells how social networks can be used to mitigate the effect of a disaster on people and their communities by promoting survival and sustaining recovery efforts. It explains how models are developed to assist with the process of social network and is used to assess the strengths of the social network in the communities. The purpose of this book is to stress the importance of social networks and to give practical advice to those that have been affected by a natural disaster and others that may need to be educated as a precautionary method.

Social Network is an invisible force that binds society; it is established through the relationship of families or groups such as churches, communities, or workplaces (Duncan et al., 2011). Social Network plays a very important role in saving the lives of people in all society; the collective actions of a community have the potential to reduce social vulnerability and increases chances of survival. Ersing and Kost state that “evidence suggests that communities that promote the inclusion of disaster risk management activities among diverse neighborhood groups may be more successful in protecting vulnerable citizens” (p. 9). Communities have different cultures and as such social networks must be able to deal with each different cultural group effectively so as to build competence and community preparedness to act in response to natural disasters both in the United States and other countries that were studied.

Chapter 1 gives an understanding of disaster and the role social network plays in
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