

## *I*

### Selves

The chapters in this section focus on gene talk and name talk and their uses as devices for exclusion and belonging and as explanations of social life. Also, the section addresses large-scale personal genomics projects and services, emphasizing the role of users. The discussion of belonging and inheritance is partly framed within the context of research in Nunavut (Canada) and Greenland, emphasizing the similarities and differences in scientific discussions of the constitution of the individual through the vertical transfer of substance and Inuit notions of personhood, subjectivity, and relatedness. Genomic anthropology has played an important role in this domain, drawing upon and expanding anthropological understanding of human genomes and their differences. Focusing on deCODEme, 23andMe, and similar projects, which offer personal services to people who wish to assess genetic risks for common diseases and to explore geographies of ancestry, I discuss the difficulties encountered by such projects and their larger social implications. I argue that the users of genomic “stuff” not only perform labor on themselves, seeking to know themselves and to care for their bodies, their labor also needs to be situated in the mode of production involved.

