

## **Part VI**

# **Epilogue**

This part of the book reflects ideas that reflect the attempt of many QOL scholars to unify concepts of subjective QOL and advance integrative theories. The final chapter is essentially a conclusion to the book. In that chapter I address how public policy issues can be shaped by QOL research. I also argue that happiness should be a major goal among other goals. In other words, we should find ways to integrate happiness research with other societal goals such as fostering human rights, upholding environmental preservation, protecting animal rights, preserving the human species, ensuring the economic well-being of future generations, eradicating political extremism, resolving political conflicts, dismantling the nuclear arsenal, and so on. I try to make the case that we should broaden our perspective from individual level research on QOL to societal-level research. Happiness maximization is not enough. We should realize that happiness is a cultural value that is more embraced in Western than Eastern cultures. We also should broaden our perspective of QOL to incorporate objective constructs and indicators of QOL with subjective counterparts.