

# Contents

Acknowledgements	viii
Abbreviations, references and conventions	x
<b>I THE MALTHUSIAN MARRIAGE SYSTEM</b>	
✓ 1 Charles Darwin and Thomas Malthus	3
2 The importance of Malthusian marriage	20
3 The Malthusian marriage system and its origins	35
<b>II THE VALUE OF CHILDREN</b>	
4 The benefits and costs of children	51
5 Setting up a separate economic and social unit	79
6 Children as insurance	103
<b>III THE PURPOSES OF MARRIAGE</b>	
7 Who controls the marriage decision?	119
8 The purposes of marriage	148
9 Romantic love	174
<b>IV THE RULES OF MARRIAGE</b>	
10 The duration and durability of marriage	211
11 Status rules concerning marriage	245
12 Economic arrangements at marriage	263
13 Courtship and wedding	291
<b>V CONCLUSIONS</b>	
14 The Malthusian marriage system in perspective	321
Bibliography	345
Index	367