# SITUATING FERTILITY

Anthropology and demographic inquiry

EDITED BY

Susan Greenhalgh

# <u>Situating Fertility Anthropology And Demographic</u> <u>Inquiry</u>

Andrew Russell, Mary Thompson, Elisa J. Sobo

#### **Situating Fertility Anthropology And Demographic Inquiry:**

**Situating Fertility** Susan Greenhalgh, 1995-07-13 This collection addresses the world wide pattern of falling birth rates Fertility has commonly been treated from a specialized demographic perspective but there is today widespread dissatisfaction with conventional demographic approaches which are criticized for neglecting the cultural social and political forces that affect reproductive behavior For their part anthropologists have only recently begun to apply their characteristic approaches to the study of reproduction Drawing on new ethnographic and historical research and on a variety of theoretical approaches the contributors to this book indicate some of the ways in which demography might take into account historical processes political forces and cultural conceptions Anthropological Demography David I. Kertzer, Thomas Earl Fricke, 1997-07-15 Revised papers originally presented at the Brown University Conference on Anthropological Demography Demography: Analysis and Synthesis, Four Volume Set Graziella Caselli, Jacques Vallin, Guillaume Nov 3 5 1994 Wunsch, 2006-01-03 This four volume collection of over 140 original chapters covers virtually everything of interest to demographers sociologists and others Over 100 authors present population subjects in ways that provoke thinking and lead to the creation of new perspectives not just facts and equations to be memorized The articles follow a theory methods applications approach and so offer a kind of one stop shop that is well suited for students and professors who need non technical summaries such as political scientists public affairs specialists and others Unlike shorter handbooks Demography Analysis and Synthesis offers a long overdue thorough treatment of the field Choosing the analytical method that fits the data and the situation requires insights that the authors and editors of Demography Analysis and Synthesis have explored and developed This extended examination of demographic tools not only seeks to explain the analytical tools themselves but also the relationships between general population dynamics and their natural economic social political and cultural environments Limiting themselves to human populations only the authors and editors cover subjects that range from the core building blocks of population change fertility mortality and migration to the consequences of demographic changes in the biological and health fields population theories and doctrines observation systems and the teaching of demography The international perspectives brought to these subjects is vital for those who want an unbiased rounded overview of these complex multifaceted subjects Topics to be covered Population Dynamics and the Relationship Between Population Growth and Structure The Determinants of Fertility The Determinants of Mortality The Determinants of Migration Historical and Geographical Determinants of Population The Effects of Population on Health Economics Culture and the Environment Population Policies Data Collection Methods and Teaching about Population Studies All chapters share a common format Each chapter features several cross references to other chapters Tables charts and other non text features are widespread Each chapter contains at least 30 bibliographic citations **Handbook of Population** Dudley L. Poston, Michael Micklin, 2006-08-10 This comprehensive handbook provides an overview and update of the issues theories processes and

applications of the social science of population studies The volume s 30 chapters cover the full range of conceptual empirical disciplinary and applied approaches to the study of demographic phenomena This book is the first effort to assess the entire field since Hauser and Duncan's 1959 classic The Study of Population The chapter authors are among the leading contributors to demographic scholarship over the past four decades They represent a variety of disciplines and theoretical perspectives as well as interests in both basic and applied research Fragmented Families, Poverty, and Women's **Reproductive Narratives in South Africa** Kammila Naidoo, 2009-08-30 Fragmented Families addresses a central question in the demographic debates on poverty and fertility transition in southern Africa In what ways do women s recurrent encounters with poverty serve to shape their sexual unions social relationships and reproductive practices The book focuses on the lives of a group of mothers and daughters from fifteen families in a demarcated part of the Winterveld area in South Africa and draws attention to historical socio cultural political and economic concerns in order to place in context or make sense of reproductive dynamics and family life at the micro level Vignettes drawn from fieldwork highlight the particularities of the area the persistence of historical tensions diverse livelihoods and complex gender relationships The intergenerational stories of the women suggest that they live with immense and increasing adversity and that strategies to contend with them sometimes include attempts to assert control over sexual encounters and reproductive outcomes The book contributes to a continuing debate on how changing socio economic conditions could influence prospects for and the nature of fertility transition in African countries The study concurs with alternative arguments that shifts toward lower levels of fertility might be due in certain contexts to experiences of severe hardship rather than favourable economic circumstances Instead of seeking security and risk aversion through bearing many children the response of indigent women in this area has been largely to resist reproduction at particular stages of their lives whilst using sexual relationships and child bearing as strategies to manipulate and secure resources In reflecting on methodological approaches the book draws attention to the limitations of survey research in efforts to elicit accurate representations of reproductive behaviour and fertility preferences and emphasises the usefulness of more engaged qualitative and long term fieldwork endeavours in building substantive insights on women s familial and reproductive lives Anthropological Conversations Caroline B. Brettell, 2014-10-23 Cultural anthropologists can be an intellectually adventurous crowd open even eager to building bridges across disciplines in the name of understanding human behavior and the human experience more broadly In this first of its kind book Caroline Brettell explores the cross disciplinary conversations that have engaged cultural anthropologists both past and present Brettell highlights a handful of conversations between the discipline of anthropology on the one hand and history geography literature biology psychology and demography on the other She also pinpoints how these exchanges address three enduring issues of anthropological concern the temporal and the spatial dimensions of human experience the scientific and the humanistic dimensions of the anthropological enterprise and the individual and the group population as units of analysis in

research Anthropological Conversations offers detailed accounts of particular ethnographic methodologies and findings and the theoretical trends informing them as a means of grasping the big picture issues Brettell clearly shows that by engaging with other fields cultural anthropologists have been able to think more deeply about what they mean by culture through this book she invites readers to continue the conversation American Indian Population Recovery in the Twentieth Century Nancy Shoemaker, 1999 Studies the growth of Indian populations since 1900 showing why and how American Indian The Companion to Development Studies Vandana Desai, Rob populations recovered in the 20th century Potter, 2014-03-21 The Companion to Development Studies contains over a hundred chapters written by leading international experts within the field to provide a concise and authoritative overview of the key theoretical and practical issues dominating contemporary development studies Covering a wide range of disciplines the book is divided into ten sections each prefaced by a section introduction written by the editors The sections cover the nature of development theories and strategies of development globalization and development rural development urbanization and development environment and development gender health and education the political economy of violence and insecurity and governance and development This third edition has been extensively updated and contains 45 new contributions from leading authorities dealing with pressing contemporary issues such as race and development ethics and development BRICs and development global financial crisis the knowledge based economy and digital divide food security GM crops comparative urbanism cities and crime energy water hydropolitics climate change disability fragile states global war on terror ethnic conflict legal rights to development ecosystems services for development just to name a few Existing chapters have been thoroughly revised to include cutting edge developments and to present updated further reading and websites The Companion to Development Studies presents concise overviews providing a gateway to further reading and a flexible resource for teaching and learning It has established a role as essential reading for all students of development studies as well as those in cognate areas of geography international relations politics sociology anthropology and economics **Barren States** Carrie B. Douglass, 2020-05-25 The fertility rate has dramatically declined across Europe in recent years Globally over sixty four countries have fallen below generation replacement levels and countries in eastern and southern Europe are registering the lowest birth rates in the history of humanity Demographers emphasize that these developments could have serious repercussions for society and public policy from a projected drastic loss of national population numbers to labor shortages and a swelling population of over 65s Typically analysts have approached the issue of low fertility quantitatively and from state levels As a result most research tends to elide any nuanced understanding of this significant trend Filling a major gap this timely book goes well beyond existing studies to investigate how people experience understand and speak about what is called low fertility On the individual level is there such a thing How do people understand their choices and the perceived limitations on their lives What is the meaning of motherhood for women today How has the definition of family changed What are the particularities of fertility decline in each country And perhaps most importantly what does this tendency toward fewer births mean to the women and men who ultimately become demographic statistics Offering new readings and a much deeper understanding of Europe's decline in fertility this exciting book adds the voices of everyday people to previous state centered studies Overturning a number of assumptions case studies show that having fewer children is often understood positively in Europe as a means to freedom and self empowerment Anyone wishing to understand what low fertility means to the people who live it will find this book essential reading Planning Families in Nepal Jan Brunson, 2016-03-29 Based on almost a decade of research in the Kathmandu Valley Planning Families in Nepal offers a compelling account of Hindu Nepali women as they face conflicting global and local ideals regarding family planning Promoting a two child norm global family planning programs have disseminated the slogan A small family is a happy family throughout the global South Jan Brunson examines how two generations of Hindu Nepali women negotiate this global message of a two child family and a more local need to produce a son Brunson explains that while women did not prefer sons to daughters they recognized that in the dominant patrilocal family system their daughters would eventually marry and be lost to other households As a result despite recent increases in educational and career opportunities for daughters mothers still hoped for a son who would bring a daughter in law into the family and care for his aging parents Mothers worried about whether their modern rebellious sons would fulfill their filial duties but ultimately those sons demonstrated an enduring commitment to living with their aging parents In the context of rapid social change related to national politics as well as globalization a constant influx of new music clothes gadgets and even governments the sons viewed the multigenerational family as a refuge Throughout Planning Families in Nepal Brunson raises important questions about the notion of planning when applied to family formation arguing that reproduction is better understood as a set of local and global ideals that involve actors with desires and actions with constraints wrought with delays stalling and improvisation Population Politics and Development L. Richey, 2008-01-21 This book uses political and socio anthropological theory to examine the relationship between power interest and agency within population and family planning discourse across Africa with particular emphasis on case studies from Tanzania

Contraception across Cultures Andrew Russell, Mary Thompson, Elisa J. Sobo, 2020-06-04 Contraception is an issue of considerable concern to a great many heterosexually active people Yet the impact of contraceptive technologies in the world today in particular their implications for kinship gender relations and other aspects of social life receives relatively little scholarly attention This book brings a new perspective to the study of contraception by collecting together in one volume leading experts in the fields of contraception family planning and reproductive health Contributors look at the social economic political and cultural contexts in which contraceptive providers and recipients make decisions about whether and what forms of contraception to use User perspectives whether those of recipients or providers of contraceptive services are taken seriously as are the perspectives of policy makers and development experts With its in depth case study approach this

challenging book will appeal to practitioners and planners in the fields of family planning and reproductive health as well as to students and academics of applied and medical anthropology health studies gender and development studies or anyone interested in the social cultural and ethical issues raised by contraceptive technologies **Building the Population Bomb** Emily Klancher Merchant, 2021 Building the Population Bomb carefully examines how the rise of the world s human population came to be understood as problematic by scientists and governments across the globe It challenges our assumption of population growth as inherently problematic by demonstrating how it is our anxieties over population growth and not population growth itself that have detracted from the pursuit of economic environmental and reproductive justice

**Unraveled** Elizabeth L. Krause, 2009-09-17 Deftly bridging literary conventions this compelling work exposes the cultural origins of a quiet revolution that occurred over the course of the twentieth century Elizabeth Krause combines novelistic and ethnographic techniques to illuminate population dynamics that have raised alarm across Europe and the United States and manifested for example in Italy's extremely low birthrate But what actually motivates people to have fewer children Krause turns to the evocative story of one woman Emilia Raugei who was born in a Tuscan hill town in 1920 and worked as a straw weaver in a rapidly globalizing economy to better understand this guestion Based on extensive fieldwork including indepth conversations with Emilia herself Krause draws on her rich and unconventional memories to create an engaging portrait of life in a rural village during Mussolini s rise to power it is a tale of migration love and loss political turmoil and the struggle to make a living during hard times Giving voice to a largely silent history that is at once local and global Unraveled A Weaver s Tale of Life Gone Modern will challenge us to find innovative approaches to understanding the transformative shift to a modern way of life Publisher's website **Population, Gender and Politics** Roger Jeffery, Patricia Jeffery, 1997-07-13 Roger and Patricia Jeffery are well known for their work on religion and gender in South Asia In their latest book a study of the demographic processes of two castes in rural north India they ask why fertility levels are higher among the Muslim Sheikhs than the Hindu Jats They conclude that explanations can only partially be attributed to gender relationships and religion and it is the economic and political interests of both groups which are the defining factors Their marginal economic position provides little incentive for the Sheikhs to raise small families while the Jats who are locally dominant are encouraged to use birth control and educate their children The authors go on to demonstrate the significance of this analysis for a wider understanding of the problems of population and politics in India generally The book will be invaluable for students of South Asia and for anyone interested in the demography of developing countries Reconceiving the Second Sex Marcia C. Inhorn, 2009 Extensive social science research particularly by anthropologists has explored women s reproductive lives their use of reproductive technologies and their experiences as mothers and nurturers of children Meanwhile few if any volumes have explored men s reproductive concerns or contributions to women s reproductive health Men are clearly viewed as the second sex in reproduction This volume argues that the marginalization of men is an oversight

of considerable proportions and thereby seeks to break the silence surrounding men's thoughts experiences and feelings about their reproductive lives It sheds new light on male reproduction from a cross cultural global perspective focusing not only upon men in Europe and America but also those in the Middle East Asia and Latin America Both heterosexual and homosexual married and unmarried men are featured in this volume which assesses concerns ranging from masculinity and sexuality to childbirth and fatherhood Thus men are brought back into the equation as reproductive partners progenitors Oxford Handbook of Evolutionary Psychology Robin Ian MacDonald Dunbar, Louise fathers nurturers and decision makers Barrett, 2007 The Oxford Handbook of Evolutionary Psychology is the definitive comprehensive and authoritative text on this burgeoning field With contributions from over fifty experts in the field the range and depth of coverage is unequalled It will be an essential resource for students and researchers in psychology Categories and Contexts Simon Szreter, Hania Sholkamy, A. Dharmalingam, 2004-03-18 Throughout its history as a social science demography has been associated with an exclusively quantitative orientation for studying social problems As a result demographers tend to analyse population issues scientifically through sets of fixed social categories that are divorced from dynamic relationships and local contexts and processes This volume questions these fixed categories in two ways First it examines the historical and political circumstances in which such categories had their provenance and second it reassesses their uncritical applications over space and time in a diverse range of empirical case studies encouraging throughout a constructive interdisciplinary dialogue involving anthropologists demographers historians and sociologists This volume seeks to examine the political complexities that lie at the heart of population studies by focusing on category formation category use and category critique It shows that this takes the form of a dialectic between the needs for clarity of scientific and administrative analysis and the recalcitrant diversity of the social contexts and human processes that generate population change The critical reflections of each chapter are enriched by meticulous ethnographic fieldwork and historical research drawn from every continent This volume therefore exemplifies a new methodology for research in population studies one that does not simply accept and re use the established categories of population science but seeks critically and reflexively to explore test and re evaluate their meanings in diverse contexts It shows that for demography to realise its full potential it must urgently re examine and contextualize the social categories used today in population research <u>Debating Roman Demography</u> Walter Scheidel, 2017-09-18 In conjection with an extensive critical survey of recent advances and controversies in Roman demography the four case studies in this volume illustrate a variety of different approaches to the study of ancient population history. The contributions address a number of crucial issues in Roman demography from the evolution of the academic field to seasonal patterns of fertility the number of Roman citizens population pressure in the early Roman empire and the end of classical urbanism in late antiquity This is the first collaborative volume of its kind It is designed to introduce ancient historians and classicists to demographic comparative and interdisciplinary perspectives and to situate and contextualize Roman population studies in the wider ambit

of historical demography Discovering Successful Pathways in Children's Development Thomas S.

Weisner,2005-02-15 Discovering Successful Pathways in Children's Development provides a new perspective on the study of childhood and family life Successful development is enhanced when communities provide meaningful life pathways that children can seek out and engage Successful pathways include both a culturally valued direction for development and competence in skills that matter for a child's subsequent success as a person as well as a student parent worker or citizen To understand successful pathways requires a mix of qualitative quantitative and ethnographic methods the state of the art for research practice among developmentalists educators and policymakers alike This volume includes new studies of minority and immigrant families school achievement culture race and gender poverty identity and experiments and interventions meant to improve family and child contexts Discovering Successful Pathways in Children's Development will be of enormous value to everyone interested in the issues of human development education and social welfare and among professionals charged with the task of improving the lives of children in our communities

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In a digitally-driven earth where monitors reign supreme and quick transmission drowns out the subtleties of language, the profound secrets and emotional nuances hidden within phrases usually get unheard. However, set within the pages of **Situating Fertility Anthropology And Demographic Inquiry** a fascinating fictional value sporting with fresh thoughts, lies an exceptional quest waiting to be undertaken. Penned by a skilled wordsmith, this enchanting opus encourages visitors on an introspective journey, delicately unraveling the veiled truths and profound influence resonating within the cloth of each word. Within the emotional depths of the moving review, we can embark upon a genuine exploration of the book is primary styles, dissect their interesting publishing model, and yield to the powerful resonance it evokes heavy within the recesses of readers hearts.

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