

## **Prudence and Pressure**

Reproduction and Human  
Agency in Europe and Asia,  
1700–1900

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et al.

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At the Eurasian Workshop on Family Systems and Demographic Responses held in Bloomington, Indiana, in November 1997, we held our first organizational meeting to present and discuss the results of preliminary analyses of reproduction for each of our five study populations. In November 1998 we organized the Conference on Nuptiality and Household Systems in Eurasian Comparative Perspective in Beijing, China, where we discussed the results of our first comparative analyses. The country teams then presented papers at the annual meeting of the Population Association of America (PAA) in New York City in March 1999, and at the 24th Annual Meeting of the Social Science History Association (SSHA) in Fort Worth, Texas, in November 1999.

At the PAA Annual Meeting in Los Angeles in March 2000, we then presented papers that form the bases for the introductory and some of the comparative geography chapters of this volume. In June 2001 we also held a workshop to discuss analytical models for our comparative analyses in Florence, Italy. At the 26th SSHA Annual Meeting in Chicago in November 2001, we presented papers that later became part of the comparative geography chapters. Finally, in November 2004 the whole EAP group met in Ann Arbor, Michigan, to discuss the organization and general contents of the volume.

To complete writing and re-writing of the volume, different combinations of the lead authors also collaborated face to face a total of

twenty-two times in different parts of the United States, Europe, Japan, and China: twelve times in Irvine, California, three times in Tokyo, twice in Pasadena, California, and in Honolulu, and once, respectively, in Bloomington, Paris, and Beijing. Based on the fruits of these conferences, workshops, and meetings, as well as through numerous informal collaborative activities across the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, different combinations of authors took responsibility for designing and writing various chapters of this volume. We acknowledge with special gratitude the contributions by Tommy Bengtsson, not only as co-author but also as co-editor of the MIT Press Eurasian Population and Family History Series. It is due to his unfailing persistence and participation that a meeting took place in Ann Arbor in November 2006, which led to the new drafts of the first two chapters of this volume.

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