

# Contents

|  |      |
|--|------|
| <i>Preface</i>   | ix   |
| <i>Acknowledgments</i>   | xvii |
| 1 Fertility Behavior and Demographic Change: Economic and Other Perspectives                                 | 1    |
| 1.1 <i>Introduction</i>  | 1    |
| 1.2 <i>Theories of Fertility</i>   | 5    |
| 1.3 <i>Summary</i>   | 26   |
| 2 Learning in Social Networks and Contraceptive Choice   | 29   |
| 2.1 <i>Introduction</i>  | 29   |
| 2.2 <i>Social Learning about Fertility Control: An Example</i>   | 34   |
| 2.3 <i>A Qualitative Choice Model of Information Diffusion</i>   | 37   |
| 2.4 <i>A Revealed Utility Model</i>  | 52   |
| 2.5 <i>Observable Implications of Social Learning</i>  | 56   |
| 2.6 <i>Conclusions</i>   | 58   |
| 3 The Density of Social Networks and Fertility Decisions: Evidence from South Nyanza District, Kenya         | 61   |
| 3.1 <i>Introduction</i>  | 61   |
| 3.2 <i>Social Structure and Fertility Decisions</i>  | 63   |
| 3.3 <i>Towards a Model of Social Interaction and Fertility</i>   | 83   |
| 3.4 <i>Conclusions</i>   | 89   |
| 4 From Individual Behavior to Aggregate Fertility Dynamics   | 93   |
| 4.1 <i>Introduction</i>  | 93   |
| 4.2 <i>Implications of Linear and Nonlinear Models of Family Planning Diffusion with Social Interactions</i> | 95   |

|     |  |     |
|-----|--|-----|
| 4.3 | <i>Conclusions</i>   | 108 |
| 5   | Fertility Decline as a Coordination Problem                                      | 111 |
| 5.1 | <i>Introduction</i>  | 111 |
| 5.2 | <i>Background</i>  | 115 |
| 5.3 | <i>Fertility Decline, Networks and Coordination</i>                              | 117 |
| 5.4 | <i>A Dynamic Model of Demographic Change in a Socially Structured Population</i> | 124 |
| 5.5 | <i>Social Networks and Equilibrium Selection</i>                                 | 127 |
| 5.6 | <i>Conclusions</i>   | 142 |
| 6   | Social Interactions and Fluctuations in Birth Rates                              | 145 |
| 6.1 | <i>Introduction</i>  | 145 |
| 6.2 | <i>Why Social Interaction Matters</i>  | 146 |
| 6.3 | <i>Social Interactions and Fluctuations in Birth Rates</i>                       | 158 |
| 6.4 | <i>Estimation of a Switching Regression Model</i>                                | 172 |
| 6.5 | <i>Conclusions</i>   | 180 |
| 7   | Summary and Conclusions  | 183 |
|     | <i>References</i>  | 187 |
|     | <i>Index</i>   | 207 |