CONTENTS

List of Figures .................................................. xi
Foreword ......................................................... xiii

CHAPTER 1 ....................................................... 1
  1.1 Prologue .................................................... 1
  1.2 Summary ................................................... 10
  1.3 References ............................................... 10

CHAPTER 2 ....................................................... 11
  2.1 A Journey into the Demographic Heart of the Matter 11
  2.2 The Shape of World Population Growth .................. 18
  2.3 The Emergence of Infertility ............................. 19
  2.4 Longevity, Population Momentum and Migration .... 22
      2.4.1 Longevity ........................................... 22
      2.4.2 Longevity, Affluence and Infant Mortality .... 24
      2.4.3 GDP and Health: Mixed Blessings ............... 26
      2.4.4 Population Momentum ......................... 29
      2.4.5 The Key Role Played by Migration .......... 32
      2.4.6 Can China and India Save Us? ............... 37
      2.4.7 Can Africa Save Us? ......................... 39
  2.5 Forecasting an Uncertain Future ..................... 45
  2.6 Summary ............................................... 51
  2.7 References ............................................. 52

CHAPTER 3 ....................................................... 54
  3.1 Female Fertility: Hostage to Affluence, Age and the Search for Self-Fulfilment 54
      3.1.1 The Ascent of Affluence ....................... 54
      3.1.2 Affluence, Infertility and the Malthusian Paradox 60
      3.1.3 Examples of Prosperity’s Power .......... 62
  3.2 The Demographic Transition ......................... 67
  3.3 Socioeducational Factors and Fertility ............. 71
Table of Contents

3.3.1 Educational Drivers for Female Infertility 74
3.3.2 Female Education and Marriage 80
3.4 The Intersection of Education and Reproductive Biology 84
   3.4.1 The Fundamental Biology of Female Reproduction 84
   3.4.2 Age of Menarche 85
   3.4.3 The Reproductive Years: Over Before You Know It 88
3.5 How the Immaturity of Human Infants Shapes Our Reproduction 90
3.6 Reproduction and the Care of Our Offspring 92
   3.6.1 What is the Point of Granny and Grandad? 92
3.7 Marriage: Virtue or Vestige? 94
3.8 Importance of Adequate Sex Education 100
   3.8.1 ‘Why Have My Eggs Forsaken Me?’ 101
3.9 Chromosomal Abnormalities and Female Infertility 105
3.10 The IVF Industry and Maternal Age 109
3.11 Are There Any Solutions to Age-Dependent Female Infertility? 113
   3.11.1 Oocyte Donation 113
   3.11.2 Oocyte Freezing 115
3.12 Sociopolitical Issues 116
   3.12.2 A Role for Pro-Natalist Government Policies? 121
3.13 Summary 125
3.14 References 128

CHAPTER 4

4.1 What is Happening to the Human Male? 132
4.2 Testicular Cancer 132
4.3 Cancer and Opulence 137
4.4 Other Defects of the Male Reproductive Tract 144
4.5 The Vexed Question of Declining Sperm Counts 145
4.6 Possible Causes of Declining Sperm Counts 152
   4.6.1 Genetics 152
   4.6.2 Epigenetics 153
   4.6.3 Environmental and Lifestyle Factors 154
4.7 Environmental Pollution and Semen Quality 159
## CONTENTS

### CHAPTER 8

8.1 The Gathering Storm 270
8.2 The Infertility Trap 278
  8.2.1 Demographic Factors 279
  8.2.2 Social Factors 280
  8.2.3 Economic Factors 283
  8.2.4 Environmental Factors 287
  8.2.5 Evolutionary Factors 291
8.3 Summary 299
8.4 References 301

### CHAPTER 9

9.1 How Do We Escape the Trap? 305
9.2 Sex Education 308
9.3 Remove Reproductive Toxicants 310
9.4 Counter Oxidative Stress 312
9.5 Elevate the Status of Reproductive Toxicology 316
9.6 Find Ways of Working With the IVF Industry 318
9.7 Engineer Social Change 322
9.8 Summary 325
9.9 References 327

Acknowledgements 330
Index 331