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Dynamics of Marriage Change; Changing Marriage Patterns; Changing Meaning of Marriage; Marriage Finance and Marital Transfers of Brideprice and Dowry; Decision-making Concerning Marriage; 6 The Changing Nature of Family Relations; Post-Reform Family and Household: Smaller in Size and Simpler in Structure; Early Household Division in the Reform Period; Division of Labour: Nangong Nunong, Women in Agriculture and Men in Non-agriculture; Intra- and Inter-family Relations; 7 Inter-generational Obligations and Fertility Motivation  
Changing Roles of Children Within the Family: Pre-reform and Post-reform Period  
Reshaped Fertility Motivations; 8 Implementation of State Family Planning Programmes; Pre-Reform and Post-Reform Family Planning: Old Styles and New Characteristics; Mediation of Formal Family Planning Policies; The 1993 Family Planning Campaigns; 9 Fertility, Contraception and Adoption; Changing Fertility Patterns; Fertility Decision Outputs: Start Childbearing, Birth Intervals and Stop Childbearing; Contraception, Abortion and Sterilization; Adoption of Children; Conclusion; Overview of Findings  
Rethinking Economy, Institutions and Fertility in Rural China  
Appendixes; I A Note on Fieldwork; II Some Problems in Official Statistics; Bibliography; Index

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### Sommario/riassunto

Based on an intensive fieldwork in a southern Hebei village in northern China (1992/3), the author takes an institutional approach and focuses on the way deliberate Chinese state policies driven by new economic and social agendas since the late 1970s have impacted on marriage, family relations and consequently on the way fertility trends have been adversely affected; the study is also very much concerned with the human dimension and the way in which such social and economic changes are perceived and applied in a rural community. The research presented in this study goes a long way to unravelli

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