

Contents



Introduction	1
Part One Bachelorhood and the Peasant Condition	7
1 The system of matrimonial exchanges in traditional peasant society	11
2 Internal contradictions and anomy	38
3 The opposition between the <i>bourg</i> and the <i>hameaux</i>	63
4 The peasant and his body	81
Conclusion	94
<i>Appendix I</i> Bibliographical notes	97
<i>Appendix II</i> Changes in population, 1836–1954	108
<i>Appendix III</i> Dialogue between a villager and a peasant	111
<i>Appendix IV</i> Another dialogue between a villager and a bachelor	115
<i>Appendix V</i> The exemplary tale of a younger son from a modest family	116
<i>Appendix VI</i> Excessive maternal authority and bachelorhood	118
<i>Appendix VII</i> An attempt to generalize: bachelorhood in 16 rural cantons in Brittany	121

Part Two Matrimonial Strategies in the System of Reproduction Strategies	131
Bibliographical notes	160
 Part Three Reproduction Forbidden: The Symbolic Dimension of Economic Domination	 165
1 Addenda and corrigenda	169
2 'From the closed world to the infinite universe'	174
3 The unification of the matrimonial market	180
4 'Sound opinions of the people'	190
<i>Appendix</i>	192
Postscript: A class as object	193
 <i>Index</i>	 201