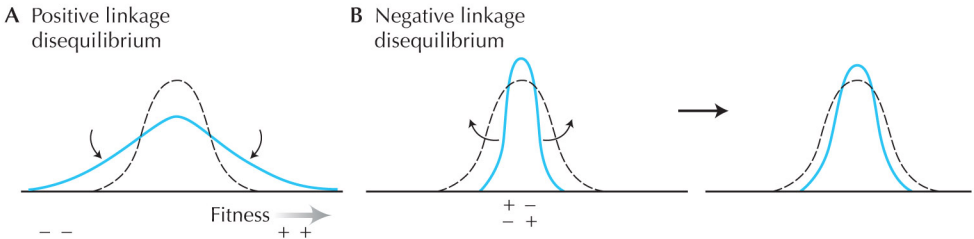

FIGURE 23.15. The effect of recombination on the variance in fitness depends on whether linkage disequilibria are positive or negative. (*A*) If ++ and – – combinations are in excess (i.e., positive linkage disequilibria), then the variance will be higher than when alleles are combined at random (*dashed curve*). Recombination therefore *reduces* the variance (*arrows*). (*B*) Conversely, if +– and –+ combinations are in excess (i.e., negative linkage disequilibria), then the variance will be lower than at linkage equilibrium (*dashed curve*), and recombination will *increase* the variance (*right*).