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).