

Texas Healthy Marriage Initiative

April 2011

Research Brief 9

Respondents report that Twogether classes provided ways to improve their relationships and have increased their commitment to the long term success of their relationships.

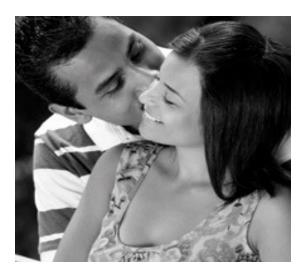
Twogether in Texas participants provide feedback regarding their perceptions of the Twogether workshops.

Summary

Texas residents, participating in 8-hour *Twogether* in Texas premarital education courses provided by Texas Regional Intermediaries, responded to a customer satisfaction survey. Survey questions addressed presentation styles, beneficial aspects, and possible areas of improvement for the *Twogether* program.

- Participants reported that the *Twogether* facilitators created a positive learning environment using personal stories, humor, unique activities, and group interaction.
- The participants reported that the fun, interactive, and informative atmosphere created by the instructors led directly to the success of not only learning and retaining the information, but also applying it to their personal lives.
- The majority of the participants reported that they learned new ways to communicate and listen more effectively with their partner and children.
- The openness with sharing their own personal lives by the participants fostered an environment that added to the class by hearing stories from couples that are "in the same stage of life." This helped others to feel more comfortable to open up, sharing their own stories and views.

 Participants strongly praised the program for its curriculum which focuses on improving communication skills, particularly in nonverbal communication and conflict resolution tactics.



The majority of the participants responded that the program met their expectations for strengthening their relationships. The participants reported that after taking this class they are more "committed to the long-term success of the marriage and relationship." Many participants also indicated that they will use these resources in the future for further insight and assistance. The curricula and instructors of these workshops effectively equip couples who are seeking to improve their relationship with new communication skills.

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