

FOCUS GROUP GUIDE

Presentation:

- Thank the participation in the group
- Presentation of the coordinator
- Brief explanation why they were chosen (representative of many others)
- Brief description of the objective of the meeting. If they complete the questionnaire first, relate it with the objectives of the meeting.
- Notify that we are taping to avoid taking notes and miss parts of the discussion

- Description of the dynamic of the meeting
 - duration of the meeting
 - respect about anonymity
 - make clear that it is expected their opinions and that we won't be talking about personal experiences
 - make clear that we are interesting in a group conversation and incentive about expressing freely their ideas and opinions
 - make clear that while we do not expect to ask permission to talk, we expect that they listening to each other and wait for the other participant to finish his/her idea to express theirs.

- Presentation of participants. Before we start, I'd like to go around the room and just hear a little bit about each of you. Can you say your name and a few words about yourself, your age, what do you do, who do you live with?

Topics guide

- 1) What do you think about if I ask you what is a “modern” family”?
- 2) What do you think about if I ask you what is a “traditional” family?
 - Probe for aspects that do not are mentioned spontaneously and ask if they think would be different in a modern or traditional family.
 - o For example: never marrying
 - age at marriage
 - arranged marriages
 - separation and divorce
 - family solidarity
 - number of children in the family
 - premarital or out of wedlock sex
 - status of women
 - the amount of love between a prospective bride and groom
 - living in extended households
 - quality and standard of living
 - parental control

3) What places come to your mind that have a “modern” family?; and a “traditional family”?

4) You mention XXX as examples of modern family. Do you think they had those characteristics (the ones mentioned) throughout their history? (or do you think they were always that way)? How do you think they were in the distant past? If changes are mentioned: Why do you think they changed?

5) Now let’s think about these places you mentioned as having a “traditional family”. Do you think ZZZ had those characteristics (the ones mentioned) throughout their history? (or do you think they were always that way)? If changes are mentioned: How do you think they were in the distant past? Why do you think they changed?

6) Do you see any chance that a place like XXX (example of one with a “modern family”) could turn in the future having a “traditional family”? Why do you think that?

7) Do you see any chance that a place like XXX (example of one with a “traditional family”) could turn in the future having a “modern family”? Why do you think that?

8) Now let’s think about a village, town, or state that you consider that is poor, that has poor health, poor transportation, people have low income, low industry. (Get a name of a place to use as an example). Ask about how they picture family characteristics of this place. (Of course, do not make them think about an example if a place has already been assigned as poor with these characteristics and family was already characterized). If the economic situation of YYY changes so that there are more schools, hospitals, roads, work, income, do you think it would be the same or different how families are formed, and how families live? . Why?

(Potential examples: would people have the same number of children, more, or less?; where and with whom they go to live?; would people marry at the same time, earlier, later? Would the same, less or more number of people separate/divorce?)

9) Now let’s talk about YYY in a different way. Let’s suppose we want to make YYY richer and wealthier. Do you think it would help if people in YYY start marrying at a later age, women would have more status, families would have less number of kids? Why? Is there any other change around the family that could help make YYY wealthier?