

Love, Life and Health Study Focus Group Questions

Recommended Introduction:

The purpose of our meeting is to learn about the knowledge, needs, and barriers to accessing reproductive and sexual health services among Latino people you know, like your family, friends, and neighbors. Information shared in this meeting is confidential. Feel free to share your experience as you feel comfortable but you can also say “I know someone who....” if that is a more comfortable way to share information. Please do not mention specific people in your community by name.

These first set of questions ask about how people in your community get information related to sexual and reproductive health – information about sexually transmitted infections, HIV or other STDs such as gonorrhea or chlamydia, birth control, pregnancy tests, family planning and other related health issues.

Questions about access to information

1. When Latino people you know have a health question related to sexual and reproductive health, how do they usually get that question answered? Where do they feel comfortable going to?

❖ Prompts:

- Some examples of where people might go are people, places (including the internet).
 - Are there different sources of information for men compared with women? Younger adults compared with older adults? Unmarried compared with married? Those with children compared with those with no children?
 - Are there reasons why people may be more comfortable with certain resources?
 - How accurate do you think the information is?
 - How would we get accurate information out to the community?
2. Do you think that Latino people you know are aware of the healthcare services and options related to sexual and reproductive health that are available to them? Why? Why not?
 - What can we do to increase awareness?

Questions about access and barriers to services

3. What are some reasons that Latino people you know may not use a public or community health clinic (such as WIC, La Clinica, Rogue Community Health) if they have concerns about family planning, birth control or their sexual health?
 - Are there concerns about private information being shared?
 - Do they prefer to go to their own provider?
 - Are clinics sensitive to cultural customs and try to accommodate cultural values?
 - Does having an additional person in the room to interpret make it difficult?
 - Do traditional cultural beliefs or religious beliefs encourage or discourage use of a local clinic for sexual or reproductive health information or services?
 - Are there different reasons for young people? Men vs. women?

4. Are there specific reasons why you think Latinos who were raised outside the United States may not use such a clinic if they needed one?
 - Would someone's legal status be a barrier?
 - What could clinics do to make them more welcoming and safe for community members raised outside the US?

5. Do Latinos you know experience any language barriers to getting information and services, including interpretation services? If so, please describe.

Questions about experiences with sexual and reproductive health services.

6. Tell us about an experience when you or someone you know received sexual and reproductive health services.
 - Where did they go?
 - What made it a good or bad experience?
 - Some examples to comment on are: service hours, costs, transportation, interactions with clinic staff, having a male or female provider, language, birth control supplies, etc.
 - What would have made it a better experience or made the experience more comfortable?
 - Were you (or someone you know) satisfied with the visit?

7. What would make it easier for Latino people you know to get family planning services or testing for HIV or other sexually transmitted infections, like Gonorrhea or Syphilis?

General/Other Questions

- 8.** What would Latino people you know tell you were the reasons they didn't want to go to a local clinic for sexual and reproductive health services?

- 9.** If you have one suggestion or advice about what could be done to improve the sexual and reproductive health services for Latinos in your community, what would it be?

- 10.** Is there anything else you would like for us to know about the sexual and reproductive health needs of the community or anything else we talked about today?