

Game G: Agree/Disagree





Purpose:

To give participants a chance to reflect on their own attitudes and values about fertility and family planning.

Materials:

Cards or small signs:

- One with “Agree” written on it 
- One with “Disagree” written on it 
- Tape

Take Away Messages:

- We can re-consider and change our own attitudes and beliefs around reproductive health.
- Support from families and communities can help couples make positive choices for health and happy families.

Introduction:

We are going to play a game where people can think about their ideas regarding family planning and having children. As people begin to talk about their ideas, communities and families can be more supportive of couples' choices.

Discuss:

- ? Why is it difficult to talk reproductive health and family planning with other people?
- ? Why might it be helpful to be able to talk with other people about these things?

How to Play:

- Tape or place the sign with “Agree” to the wall (or on floor) on one side of the space and the sign with “Disagree” on the other side of the space.
- Tell participants: “I will read several statements out loud. Move to the ‘Agree’ side of the room if you agree with the statement read. Move to the ‘Disagree’ side of the room if you disagree. Participants who are not sure can stay in the middle.
- Explain: **“There are no “right” or “wrong” answers for this game. You should follow what you think and not what others think. Everyone can stand where they are most comfortable.**

- Read the first statement: **“Couples should decide together when to have their first child.”** Allow time for participants to move to one side of the room or the other.
- Ask: “Can anyone on the “Agree” side give a reason why you chose to go to the “Agree” side?” Then ask: “Can anyone on the “Disagree” side give a reason why someone might have chosen “Disagree?” If there are people in the middle, ask why someone might choose the middle.
- Important Instructions
 - “It is important that people share by choice – do not force participants to share if they do not want”
 - “It is also important that this is a discussion to SHARE IDEAS, not a debate to convince people to change their mind.”
- Tell everyone to move back to the center of the room and read the next statement. Continue to follow the same steps for each of the statements below: read it, ask participants to decide where to stand, and ask people to explain why they chose to stand where they did.
 1. **“It is necessary for every family to have a son.”**
 2. **“Young people should not think about family planning until they are married.”**
 3. **“A newly married woman should get pregnant soon to prove she is fertile.”**

Discuss:

How is it possible to change our opinions and traditional beliefs?

? How can our friends and families help support each other to make their own choices?

? Would anyone like to share their experience with having conversations like this?

- What is one thing you learned today that you would share with a friend or family member?
- **Please talk with your health provider if you have questions or are interested in family planning.**

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Optional Additional Sentences for Discussion

- A man should follow his wife's choice to use family planning or not.
- It is important for a couple to discuss together when they would like to get pregnant.
- It is not necessary for a girl to understand menstruation before she is married.
- Boys and girls should not talk together when they are attracted to each other.
- Boy children are more important than girl children.