

**2000 IEEF/EIFLE Conference****“Natural Family Planning: Future Role and Developments”****28<sup>th</sup> June – 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2000****Workshop No. 2 “How To Bridge The Gap  
Between NPP Educators and Users”****Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2000**

NFP is the scientific but natural way that a couple can live their intimate life. Couples seek to learn it for different reasons and needs. There are those who, on the one hand, are not fully convinced of their motivation, while on the other hand, there are those who are determined that NFP is the right method for them as a couple.

We should not be any means forget those who are sceptical about the success of NFP as their family planning method. Members of the mass media, medical profession, or society may have influenced the latter in general.

The NFP Educator meets all of these different situations in her daily work, and she tactically adapts to her clients' needs. The importance of the NFP Educator's qualities and training cannot be emphasised enough, if we have to receive recognition from other professional bodies, and acceptance from couples, who after all are seeking our help and reassurance in the method of their choice. The training given to the NFP Educator is professional and she has to keep herself constantly updated and well-read to be able to assist and advise her clients according to their various needs in the different circumstances of their fertile life. Similarly, dealing with intimate and important needs of married couples, requires qualities, skills, relevant to any vocation involving the basic needs of the human being.

What makes a qualified NFP Educator who can make all the difference for her clients?

What are the needs of the couples who decide to use NFP as “their” method of family planning?

Does a gap exist between the two?

## **“How to Bridge the Gap between NFP Educators and Users”**

### **Does A Gap Exist**

#### **The NFP Educator**

- o What are the reasons for being a NFP Educator?
- o Does one learn this “profession”?
- o Is it only a “profession”?
- o Does the NFP Educator use NFP in her/his personal life?
- o What were the initial doubts?
- o Have these changed over the years? How?

#### **The NFP User**

- o Which are the most common motivations of NFP users?
- o How are they looked upon? Why?
- o Which of the motivations given is closest to your own?
- o Which of the motivations given do you feel strongly against?

#### **Other Factors**

- o Are there external factors, such as mass media, health professionals and others, which/who can influence a couple’s motivation when choosing NFP?
- o Health Professionals may influence in a negative manner NFP Educators. Should we, and how could we challenge this situation?
- o Can we take part in Sex Education classes for young people in order to help them in their future decision-making regarding NFP?