Interview Guide

1. Background Questions
   1. Describe how you became involved with the Schoenstatt movement. How long have you been involved with Schoenstatt? Why did you want to be involved with the Schoenstatt movement? When did you decide to be a part of a LifeGroup? What was going on in your life at the time you found Schoenstatt? What were your expectations of Schoenstatt before you became involved?
   2. Have you been involved in other Church movements? If so, which ones? How does Schoenstatt differ from those movements?
   3. How involved in Schoenstatt are you? Are you a leader? How important is Schoenstatt to your daily life? How committed are you to this movement/community?
2. Spirituality
   1. How important is your Catholic faith to you? Has this always been the case?
   2. Is Marian devotion an important aspect to your spiritual life? Why are you drawn to Marian devotion in particular?
   3. What was your relationship with the Virgin Mary or Marian devotion before becoming involved in the Schoenstatt movement?
   4. Describe your relationship with Mary. How do you view her? How important is she to your spiritual life? How do you relate to her? How has Schoenstatt influenced these views?
3. Gender
   1. Describe what it means to be a man/woman. What kinds of qualities embody masculinity/femininity? Does Schoenstatt encourage these qualities? Do these qualities shape your spirituality?
   2. Do you feel your views on masculinity/femininity differ from those of secular society? Do you feel pressure to conform to society’s view of masculinity/femininity? How are men/women involved in Schoenstatt different from men/women who are not involved in Schoenstatt? How has Schoenstatt shaped the way you view women/men?
   3. In what ways do you express your masculinity/femininity within Schoenstatt? Are there roles or expectations within the community that are traditionally associated with men/women?
4. LifeGroup
   1. Describe your LifeGroup. How many people are in your LifeGroup? What is your relationship with the other members in your LifeGroup? How is it organized? Is it well-organized? What goals have you set? Have those goals been achieved?
   2. Does your LifeGroup have an ideal? If so, what is it? Why did you choose that ideal? Describe its significance.
   3. Describe a typical LifeGroup meeting. Where do you meet? What kinds of activities do you do? What kinds of topics do you discuss? Who do you meet with? What does your LifeGroup spend most of its time doing?
   4. Does your LifeGroup have connections to a mentor or guide? What kind of authority do they hold? How present are they? How supportive are they? Have there been challenges involving these mentors?
   5. Does your LifeGroup have a relationship with the traditional authority of the Church, such as priests? If so, do you feel that this relationship is helpful? Why? If not, do you find this challenging? How so?
   6. How often does your LifeGroup interact with the women’s/men’s LifeGroup? In what contexts do these interactions occur? Is there any tension between the men’s branch and the women’s branch? How are the branches different?
   7. What aspects of your LifeGroup do you most enjoy? What aspects of your LifeGroup would you change? Are there any challenges to the way LifeGroups are organized?
5. Concluding Questions
   1. What is the most challenging aspect of the Schoenstatt movement? What is your favorite thing about the Schoenstatt movement?
   2. What would you change about the Schoenstatt movement?
   3. Is there anything else you would like to add?