

Evidence of Reliability and Validity for FOCCUS Fourth Edition Pre-Marriage Inventory

- Evidence of reliability was tested through triangulation – research on inventory items, review of current inventory items and review of revised inventory items.
- Face validity for item development was obtained by surveying priests, organization administrators, and facilitators using the current inventory. Content validity was obtained by surveying priests, FOCCUS office staff, and sociologists familiar with the FOCCUS Pre- Marriage Inventory. The inventory was enhanced by adding 24 items, revising 110 and deleting 27.
- To further validate the revised inventory, we invited priests, deacons, and other selected FOCCUS facilitators to participate in a pilot study. One hundred and two participants were given the revised inventory to complete. This pilot study data was utilized to determine the Cronbach Alpha. Using the SPSS Statistical Analysis Program for Social Sciences, the reliability of the inventory was tested. The Cronbach Alpha was .921 which is significantly high. An item discrimination analysis was completed for frequency of responses. Each statement was examined in light of these findings and one additional statement was revised.
- In 2014, 1,531 current users of the FOCCUS Fourth Edition Pre-Marriage Inventory were surveyed as to its effectiveness. Ninety-three percent stated the inventory helped them prepare for marriage.
- In 2014, a United Kingdom Department of Education funded evaluation stated FOCCUS had a statistically significant positive effect on couples' relationships and resulted in "staggering benefit to the public purse of 11.50 pounds for each pound invested." (Mark Molden, Chief Executive, Marriage Care. "APPG for Strengthening Couple Relationships" Speech on November 4, 2014.