

## INSTRUCTIONS

Each of these movies features intimate relationships as a major plot focus. Watch one movie a week together then discuss the 11 movie discussion questions as a couple for about 45 minutes.

## Movies used in the study

A Star Is Born Adam's Rib Anna Karenina As Good As It Gets **Barefoot in the Park** Children of a Lesser God **Days of Wine and Roses Desk Set Dying Young Fools Rush In Forget Paris French Twist Funny Girl** Gone with the Wind **Guess Who's Coming to Dinner** Hanover Street

**Husbands and Wives Indecent Proposal Jungle Fever** Love Jones Love Story Made for Each Other Mississippi Masala Move Over, Darling Mr. Blandings Builds His Dreamhouse My Favorite Wife Nina Takes a Lover Nine Months **On Golden Pond** Pat and Mike **Penny Serenade** Pfft!

Red Firecracker, Green Firecracker She's Having a Baby Steel Magnolias Terms of Endearment The Devil's Advocate The Egg and I The Male Animal The Out of Towners The Thin Man The Way We Were Untamed Heart When a Man Loves a Woman Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf With Six You Get Eggroll Yours, Mine and Ours

## Additional movies to try

**American Beauty** Anger Management Autumn in New York **Bee Season Before Sunset Blue Valentine Coal Miner's Daughter Couples Retreat** Crooklyn **Date Night Deliver Us from Eva Devil Wears Prada Family Man** Father of the Bride Fool's Gold **Four Christmases** Her **Hope Springs** It's Complicated

Julie & Julia Jumping the Broom Just Married Life as We Know It **Longtime Companion** Love and Other Drugs Marley and Me **Meet the Fockers** Monster-in-Law Mr. & Mrs. Smith Obsessed Something's Gotta Give Surviving Christmas Sweet Home Alabama Sweet November **The Five-Year Engagement The Backup Plan** The Big Wedding

**The Bounty Hunter** The Breakup The Campaign The Door in the Floor The Good Girl The Horse Whisperer The Marriage Chronicles The Mirror Has Two Faces The Money Pit The Notebook The Story of Us Think Like a Man True Lies Unfaithful Waiting to Exhale Wanderlust Why Did I Get Married? You, Me and Dupree

## **Movie Discussion Questions**

**DIRECTIONS:** Please use the following questions to discuss the relationships portrayed in the movie. Once you've discussed a specific question, write your joint answer in the space provided.

What movie did you watch? -----

- 1. What was the main relationship portrayed in the movie? This is the relationship that you will focus on in the following questions.
- 2. What main problem(s) did this couple face? Are any of these similar to the problems that the two of you have faced or might face as a couple?
- 3. Did this couple strive to understand each other? Did they tend to accept one another, even if they were very different? Or did the couple tend to attack each others' differences?

In what way was this relationship similar to or different from your own relationship in this area?

4. Did the couple have a strong friendship with each other? Were they able to support each other through bad moods, stressful days, and hard times? Did they listen to each other like good friends? Did the couple in the movie do considerate or affectionate things for each other?

In what way was this relationship similar to or different from your own relationship in this area?

5. How did the couple handle arguments or differences of opinion? Were they able to open up and tell each other how they really felt, or did they tend to just snap at each other with anger? Did they try using humor to keep things from getting nasty? Did it feel like they were really trying to understand each other?

In what way was this relationship similar to or different from your own relationship in this area?

6. If the couple got into arguments, did they tend to become heated? Did the couple ever start attacking each other, getting increasingly mean and hostile? Did they end up saying things they didn't really mean? Once this started happening, how did the arguments tend to end?

In what way was this relationship similar to or different from your own relationship in this area?

7. When one of the partners brought up a problem, did he or she seem to do it in a constructive way (keeping things specific, explaining his or her feelings without attacking), or did it seem more like an attack? Did it seem like bringing up a problem became an assassination of the partner's character?

In what way was this relationship similar to or different from your own relationship in this area?

8. How did the couple in the movie handle hurt feelings? Did they apologize to each other? Did the apologies seem sincere? Did they tend to jump to negative conclusions when their feelings got hurt, or did they tend to give each other the benefit of the doubt?

In what way was this relationship similar to or different from your own relationship in this area?

9. Did the partners seem to have similar expectations of their relationship? Where did their expectations differ? Did it seem like they were aware of their own expectations? Were their expectations reasonable? Did they share their expectations with each other?

In what way was this relationship similar to or different from your own relationship in this area?

10. What other things happened in the movie that might lead you to think differently about your relationship/marriage?

11. What other comments do you have about this movie?

How relevant was this movie to your own relationship?	Not at all		Somewhat			Very Much		
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
How entertaining was this movie?	Not at all			Somewhat			Very Much	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
How would you rate this movie's overall quality?	Very Poor		Average			Excellent		
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	