

EXPLORING COMMON REASONS OF UNRECEPTIVE INVITEES
AMONG THREE CCF DGROUPS

By
Billy Sunday Auza

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Master of Arts in Theology major in Christian Leadership

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Capstone Project Report

Name: Billy Sunday Auza

Student ID#: 20098027

Expected Graduation Date: May 28, 2022

Working Title of Project: Exploring Common Reasons of Unreceptive Invitees to among three CCF DGroups.

Faculty you have consulted for this project: Rev. Dr. Gerardo Bacos Lisbe, Jr., Dr. Susan Cuambot and Dr. Ricardo Guevara Recodo, Jr.

List the courses you've taken at CGST that you will be integrating into this capstone project: CL 621 Transformational Leadership and CL 501 Principles of Leadership

Introduction

Discipling others is a benefit, as well as a joy and a privilege. However, there will be moments when it is challenging. Discipleship Group (DGroup) leaders are spiritual leaders who will inspire others to endure difficult times because they can accomplish all things through Christ who empowers them. "Transformational leaders motivate others to do more than they originally intended and often even more than they thought possible." (Avolio and Bass 2002, 12)

Some of the common DGroup leader heartaches include being seen zoned, inconsistent attendance, multitasking during DGroup meetings, members that are consistently late, and when you try to help but the situation is beyond your control. The last common source of concern for leaders is unresponsive invitees, which will be the focus of this study.

There is a significant percentage response of people who have been invited to DGroup meetings that move the heart to do this project. These are individuals who were asked to join the meeting but do not return to attend or there are those who will return but only once or twice and then will not join anymore. The capstone project will be about addressing this group of people from the three CCF DGroups. These groups meet regularly on a weekly basis for discipleship.

This capstone project will explore more into this very common concern by understanding why a person invited to DGroup will only attend a few meetings and then never return again. This project will also investigate why some people are not interested to join DGroup no matter how many times being invited. Among the three DGroups where this project was focused, it shows that 72.73% of the individual being invited will only attend one or two sessions and then leave. Only 31.17% of those invited accepted the invitation by attending meetings on a regular basis.

Background

The three CCF DGroups where this study is being focused are all meeting online. The first group meets every Tuesday from 7:00 - 8:30 PM and this group is mixed of couples and single men. This group is being handled by a couple. The 2nd group is the youth and meets every Friday from 8:00-9:30 PM and is being handled by a young professional leader having a heart for the youth. The third is the group of professionals mostly teachers and the gathering is every Saturday 7:00 -

8:30 PM. This group is being handled by a teacher. The three groups have been meeting together for more than a year on average.

The approach taken in this project was to conduct a survey. The survey research was made to analyze all respondents' views, opinions, and feelings. The poll was made easier for everyone by using a Google form. It is easy to use interface, google makes the interface for google form integration almost easy to use and user-friendly. It is free and can create all forms of questions. Aside from that it only takes a few minutes to create surveys, keeping the work organized and customizable.

The survey's content was prepared in such a way that it is simple, quick, and hassle-free for the respondent to complete. The aim is to complete the survey in less than two minutes. The survey's content will be a multiple-choice style in which the respondents will be given a variety of alternatives to pick from. The survey forms were sent to the respondent by email, messenger, and viber.

Common Reasons People Don't Come Back to a DGroup. Please choose FIVE only. *

- Conflict of schedule.
- Preoccupied.
- Lack of commitment.
- Did not feel accepted or welcomed into the group.
- DGroup has been existent for quite a time and new member feels out of place.
- DGroup has no investment in building closer relationships.
- DGroup leader has no intentionality to disciple members.
- DGroup meetings are boring to attend because they are not engaging.
- Discussion is dominated by the DGroup leader.
- DGroup leader or other members are insensitive about others' needs.
- Did not have a good and healthy relationship.
- Uncomfortable to meet people that they don't know.

- Experiencing poor internet connection.
- Find it too religious.
- Unable to participate due to family problems.
- Unable to participate due to work-related concerns.
- Pace of discussion in the DGroup is either too slow or too fast.
- No growth or multiplication taking place.
- Sharing in the DGroup discussion is superficial.
- Afraid of being judged, particularly if the new member has unrepented sins.
- Afraid of taking on responsibilities, such as leading their own DGroup, evangelizing to family, friends, and s...
- Offended by the DGroup leader or members' comments.
- Too many members in the group
- Too little members in the group
- Language barrier

Body

Timeline

The timeline shown in table 1 shows how the project is progressing. The essential task, as well as the deadline for completion, is meticulously tracked to ensure that the project is completed on time. A timetable is not only useful for organizing tasks, but it also serves as a visual reminder to complete them, and by God's grace, this project is on track.

Table 1

Stage	Description	Timeline	Remarks
Identification	During this step, data will be gathered. Name, gender, civil status, employment, age, and location are all important details.	February 14-19, 2022	On-Time

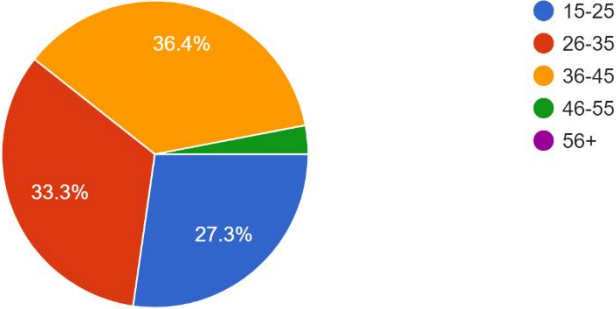
Create a survey form	A survey form will be created using Google forms at this point. Make a list of at least ten reasons why individuals aren't returning to DGroup sessions, and they can choose their top five reasons in a survey using multiple-choice options.	February 21- March 5, 2022	On-Time
Run a survey	Conducting the survey is the project's most important task. It may be done in a face-to-face setting if the health protocol is carefully followed. It's also possible to do so by emailing the respondent a link. Finally, it can be done by seeking the help of a third party to assist with the survey.	March 7- May 7, 2022	On-Time
Evaluation	In this step, the survey's whole findings will be compiled. This will reveal the top five of all the respondents in the poll, as well as a composite rating of how many people ranked each of the reasons presented.	May 9-14, 2022	On-Time
Presentation	Data compilation and presentation before a panel for defense and approval.	May 16-21, 2022	

Age Group

In this project majority of the respondents belong to the 36-45 age group which shares 36.4% however this is not too far from the 26-35 age group bracket which is at 33.3% as shown in the chart 1. The age category of 15-26 years old is in third place, accounting for 27.3 % of the total number of people surveyed. The data show that these respondents are from our society's working class.

Chart 1

Age Group
33 responses

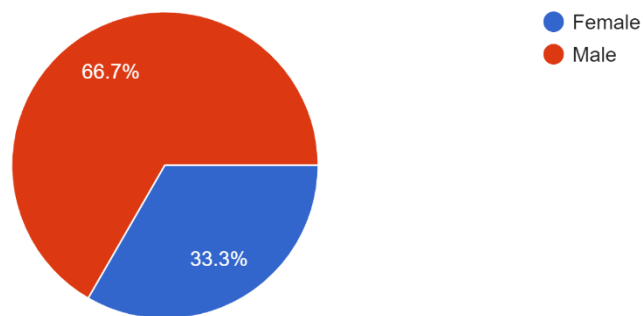


Gender

It is expected that male respondents will take the majority because one of the DGroup has ministered to a group of all men and because the majority of the leaders in all three groups are men, the members are likely to be men as well as shown in chart 2. The males account for 66.7 % of responses, while females account for 33.3 %. Males account for 22 individuals, while females account for 11 individuals.

Chart 2

Gender
33 responses

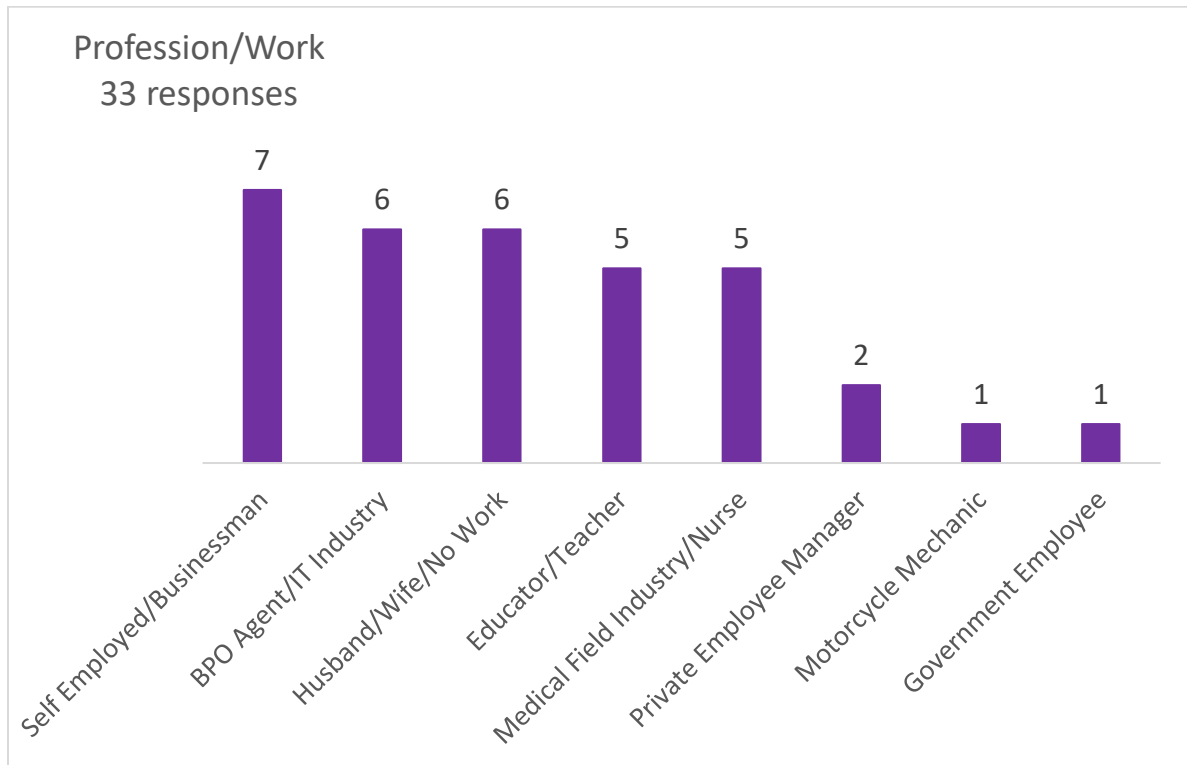


Work/Profession

The work or profession shown in chart 3 of the person is very important because this will be a big factor in deciding to join and committing to a DGroup because of the schedule. The businessman or so-called self-employed persons, with a total of 7, are at the top of the list in the graph below. Generally, they own their time but these are the busiest group of individuals. Customer service associates and agents in the BPO and IT industries group has a total of six and is in the second spot. This group of people works on a flexible schedule with no fixed rest days. In second place also is a people group that spends the most of their time caring for children and the home. These individuals are the husbands or wives, and there is a total of six of them.

In the fifth place are the groups of educators and those working in the medical field. Both of these groups have a total of 5 each. This group of teachers has an advantage with regard to schedule because it is predictable, the 8:00-5:00 PM schedule. While those in the medical fieldwork, they are having shifting schedules, like the nurses.

Chart 3



The Top Five Common Reasons People Don't Come Back to a DGroup

Conducting the survey is the project's most important and challenging task. To connect to those who are not connected to the group requires a lot of encouragement and effort. This is the result of the survey after gathering all the data, please refer to chart 4. The top 5 common reasons people do not come back to a DGroup are:

1. Conflict of schedule - 72.7%
The schedule conflict at the DGroup meeting occurs when two activities fight for time and focus at the same time. The attendees cannot manage to return back or attend the DGroup because of some important and unavoidable appointments such as client meetings, work, and other important matters to attend.
2. Unable to participate due to work-related concerns - 60.6 %
The demand of the work pushes the individual not able to attend DGroup meetings. The work-home setup drives the attendees to work beyond the what is required normal schedule. That is why working extended hours in the comfort of the home is what others see it a reason.
3. Lack of commitment - 57.6%
A lack of involvement frequently leads to a lack of commitment. This reason is being expressed because attendees can not commit to meeting regularly, sharing lives with each other, studying the Bible together, and being accountable to each

other all in the pursuit of being more Christ-like. These are decisions to consider in joining DGroup that made the attendees difficult to commit.

4. Pre-Occupied - 42.4%

This factor is related to personal circumstances that caused the attendees to get preoccupied. Something is wrong with life in terms of family, finances, marriage, and illness. This reason causes the person to stop coming because he or she believes that the burden problem outweighs God's help. In other words, the attendees want to settle first all these concerns and then join DGroup.

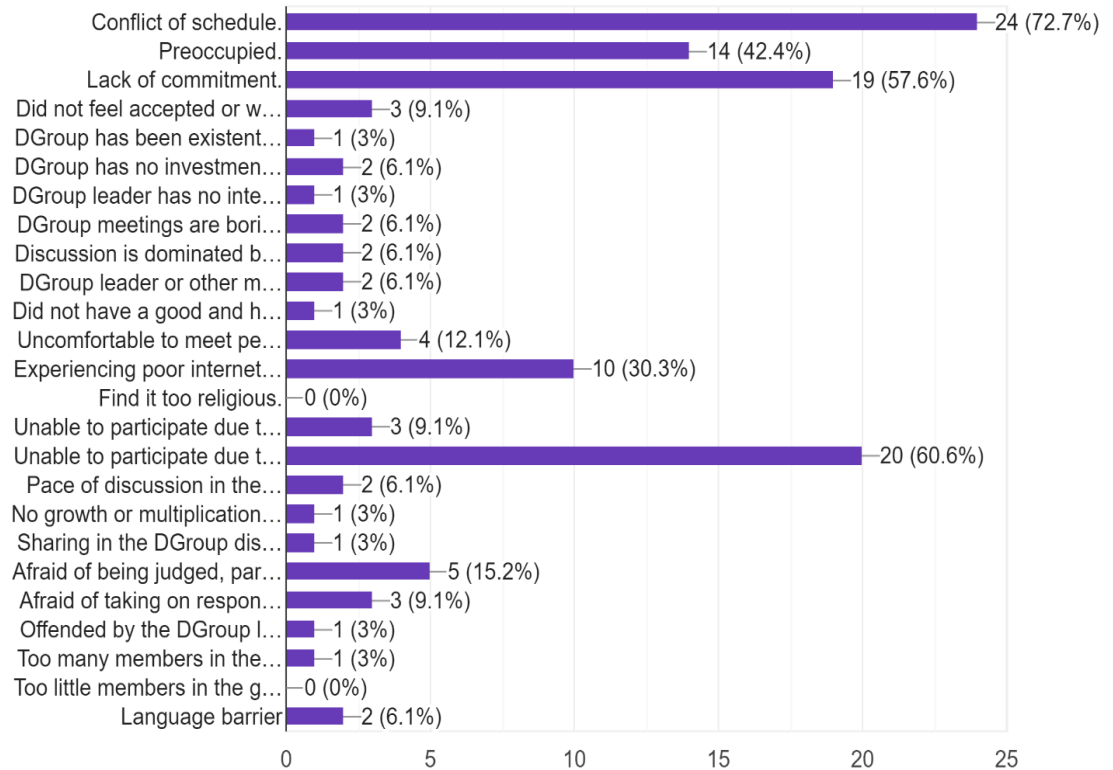
5. Experiencing poor internet connection - 30.3 %

Finally, the reason for having problems connecting to the internet is number five on the list. This explanation is not unique to online DGroups; it also applies to other online gatherings. There are people who live in areas where internet access is extremely limited. Also, multiple and simultaneous users with various online activities such as heavy downloading, video streaming, online gaming, programs with auto-updates, and so on may slow down the internet connection. Because the meeting is conducted entirely online, they are unable to participate anymore.

Chart 4

Common Reasons People Don't Come Back to a DGroup. Please choose FIVE only.

33 responses



Conclusion and Final Reflections

This project gives a clear understanding of why a significant percentage of people who have been invited to among three CCF DGroup meetings do not return to attend or there are those who will return but only once or twice and then will not join anymore. Here are some practical recommendations that might be applied to solve these top five issues.

Conflict of schedule

Develop more leaders because having more leaders will lead to more DGroup meeting schedule openings. The members will have more options to choose base on their availability. Second, the leader can set up a one-on-one discipleship meeting with the concerned individual. Lastly, refer the concerned person to another DGroup leader that matches his or her schedule.

Unable to participate due to work-related concerns

Don't be discouraged; individuals go through phases in their lives that drive them to act in various ways, keep them busy, or disrupt their schedules. A DGroup leader can't control how someone responds, but one can pray for them and if there is an opportunity, show them, love. If feasible, have a heart-to-heart with that individual and inquire as to why they are having difficulty attending. Treat each member as your spiritual children and be gentle with them. Do not just remove the children from the family; in fact, the only way one might remove them from the list is if they express a desire to transfer or leave the group.

Lack of commitment

Speak with them. Tell them how much you respect honesty, truth, and keeping your word. If a person feels unable to attend, it is OK to let them depart. You may also assist them in getting a suitable DGroup for them. Or one might remind them that the purpose of a DGroup is discipleship, which requires commitment and responsibility. If this is the case, they should focus their efforts on one group.

Pre-Occupied

Don't make judgments on the concerned person; instead, treat him or her with sympathy as if he or she was a lost child. Listen to their hearts to understand why they are struggling, and show them how much God loves them and wants the best for them. Be patient with them, just as God has been with you, and continue to reach out to them with God's love.

When a person continues to live in this manner, they may not realize how God sees them or how valuable they are in God's sight. This will change their thinking and yearning to do what God wants them to do, when they see how loved they are and how God has offered His Son for them.

Experiencing poor internet connection

Perform a speed test on www.speedtest.net by Ookla or download the app for smartphones and other wireless devices to check your internet speed. Some few reminders in doing a speed test, make sure you have a strong signal for wireless connections and only one device should be

connected to the internet. For individuals who live in areas with poor internet access, it is preferable that the concerned person stays in a nearby location with a strong and favorable internet connection. One can switch off the camera during the meeting, remove unnecessary apps or apps running in the background, disable automatic syncing, turn off animations and update the apps regularly to optimize the device.

In conclusion, discipling others is a benefit, as well as a joy and a privilege. However, there will be moments when it is challenging and yes sometimes very challenging. Let us get encouragement from Galatians 6:9 “**Let** us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” The goal is not to get someone into your group, but to show them God’s love in action so that the Holy Spirit can work in their hearts.

Recommendation

This project recommends investigating further the need to look at the respondents’ level of commitment. This can be done by knowing each respondent if they are a believer, one who has a personal relationship with Jesus, or a seeker one who does not have yet a personal relationship with Him.

References - References used in this project will be indicated here.

<https://pldthome.com/slow-connection>

<https://www.ccf.org.ph/dleaders-corner/login/>

<https://bit.ly/3FLnJh2>

Avolio, Bruce J. and Bass, Bernard M. 2002. *Developing Potential Across A Full Range of Leadership*. Mahwah, New Jersey: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates Publishers.

Appendices - The survey form and other documents will be placed here.

The survey form

<https://forms.gle/CN1wvcQZmTWpdbSXA>

Some of the chat communications when the survey is conducted.

Hello bro good afternoon. How are you? I am conducting a dgroup survey and I hope you can take bro. Do not worry I will not get your name and it will only take less 2 mins of your time 😊

<https://forms.gle/rXa2bimg7XL2hdYM8>

DGroup Survey

Describe a problem to solve a meeting as well as a design and a prototype. And there will be a meeting and a prototype (if you have) when people are required to join (10-15 min). There is a significant proportion of people who are not required to be a member. This survey aims to address common issues and to make a contribution to your DGroup.

*Required

Age Group *

- 18-20
- 21-25
- 26-30
- 31-35
- 36-40
- 41+

thank you bro

Apr 7, 2022, 9:25 AM

← Mikayel replied to you

Hello bro good afternoon. How are you? I am conducting a dgroup survey a...

Good Morning bro I'm done na on the Dgroup survey 😊 thank you!

docs.google.com/forms/u/0/

Apr 11, 2022, 1:14 PM

Noy pwede ko mag survey nimo? 😊

<https://forms.gle/x9YGfgcqG15qdBhF6>

DGroup Survey

Describe a problem to solve a meeting as well as a design and a prototype. And there will be a meeting and a prototype (if you have) when people are required to join (10-15 min). There is a significant proportion of people who are not required to be a member. This survey aims to address common issues and to make a contribution to your DGroup.

*Required

Age Group *

- 18-20
- 21-25
- 26-30
- 31-35
- 36-40
- 41+

Thank you noy

● Sige kol. Iff makagamit kos pc ako ning asnweran

Yahoo, top 5 lang nimo

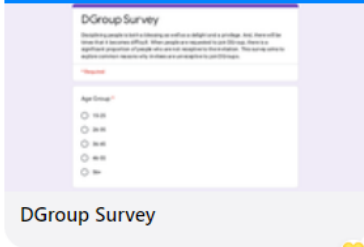
Thank you noy

Apr 28, 2022, 3:15 PM

Mar 15, 2022, 1:27 PM

Hello bro good afternoon. I am currently running a survey. Pwede ba kita maging isa sa mga respondent? 😊 Do not worry I will not get your name and it will just take fewer 2mins of your time. Thank you bro.

<https://forms.gle/prdVdR46vBFrTPVU7>



↩ Edu replied to you

Hello bro good afternoon. I am currently running a survey. Pwede ba kita...



Hi Bro. Billy, okay po

Wow thank you bro 🙏