

# Reducing Maternal Mortality Among Repatriated Populations Along the Guatemala-Mexico Border

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# Context:

- **43,000 Guatemalan refugees repatriated after peace accords signed (1998)**
- **Repatriated to isolated, non-native lands**
- **Maternal Mortality: 270 per 100,000**
- **Significant disadvantage of indigenous Guatemalans**

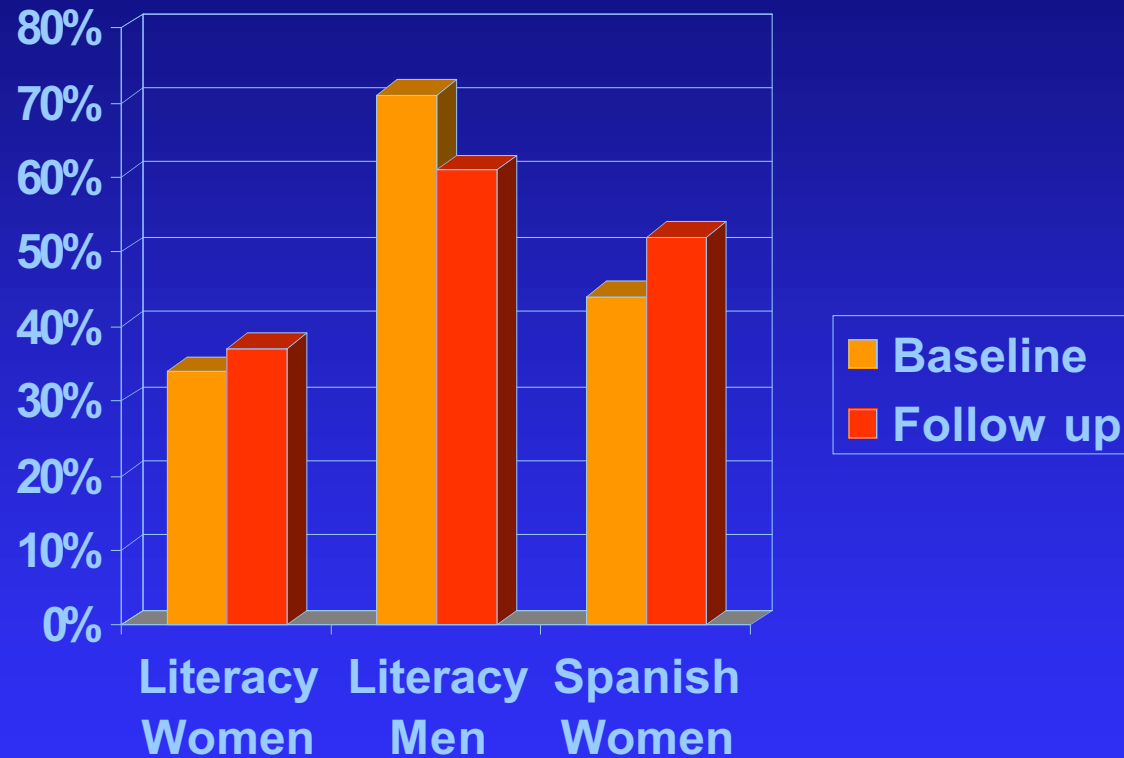
# Methods:

- Service provision through mobile unit to communities
- 23 rural communities in Huehuetenango
- 21 days a month for 24 months
- Training of health promoters and traditional midwives.

# Evaluation:

- 388 Pre and 398 post KAP surveys
- 12 selected communities
- Indigenous men and women of reproductive age
- Data analyzed using EpiInfo 2000

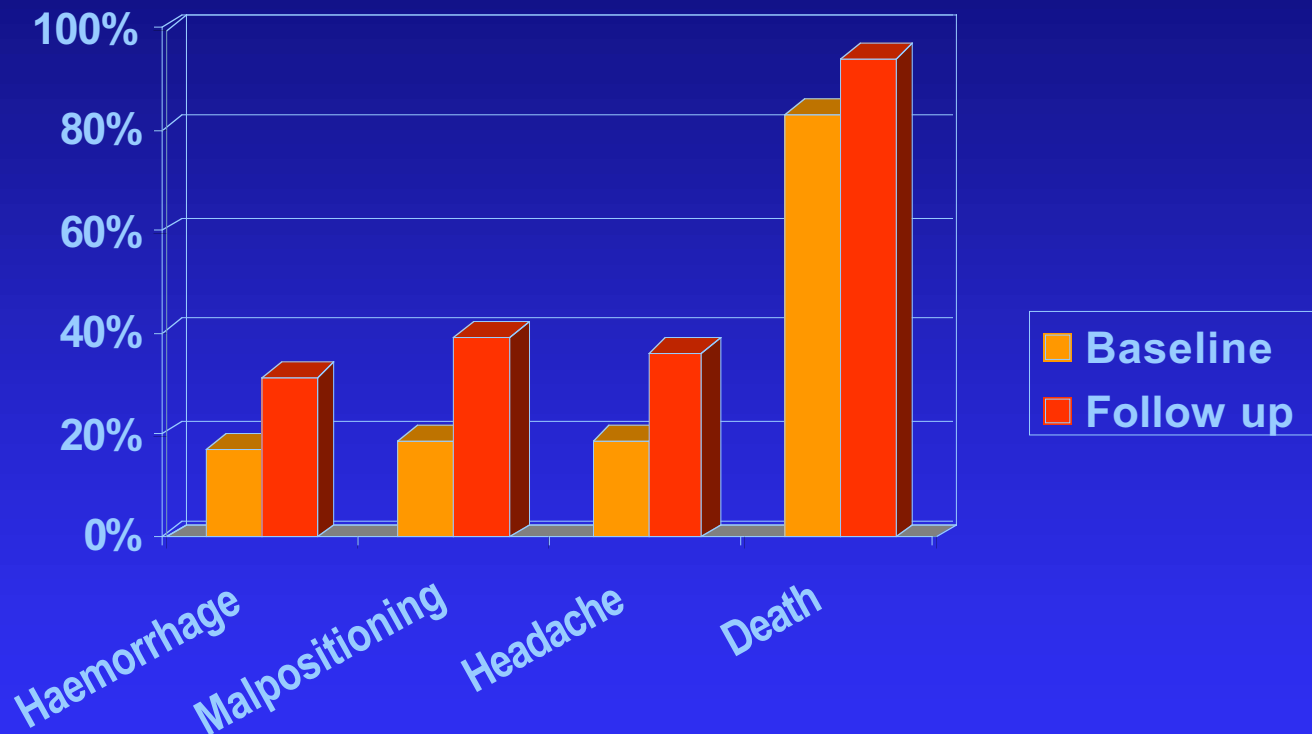
# Socio-Economic Results:



# Antenatal Care Results:

- Antenatal and childbirth care by midwives: 71% to 89%
- Knowledge of problems which can occur during childbirth increased
- Illiterate women twice as likely to have had a miscarriage

# Problems Recognized During Childbirth

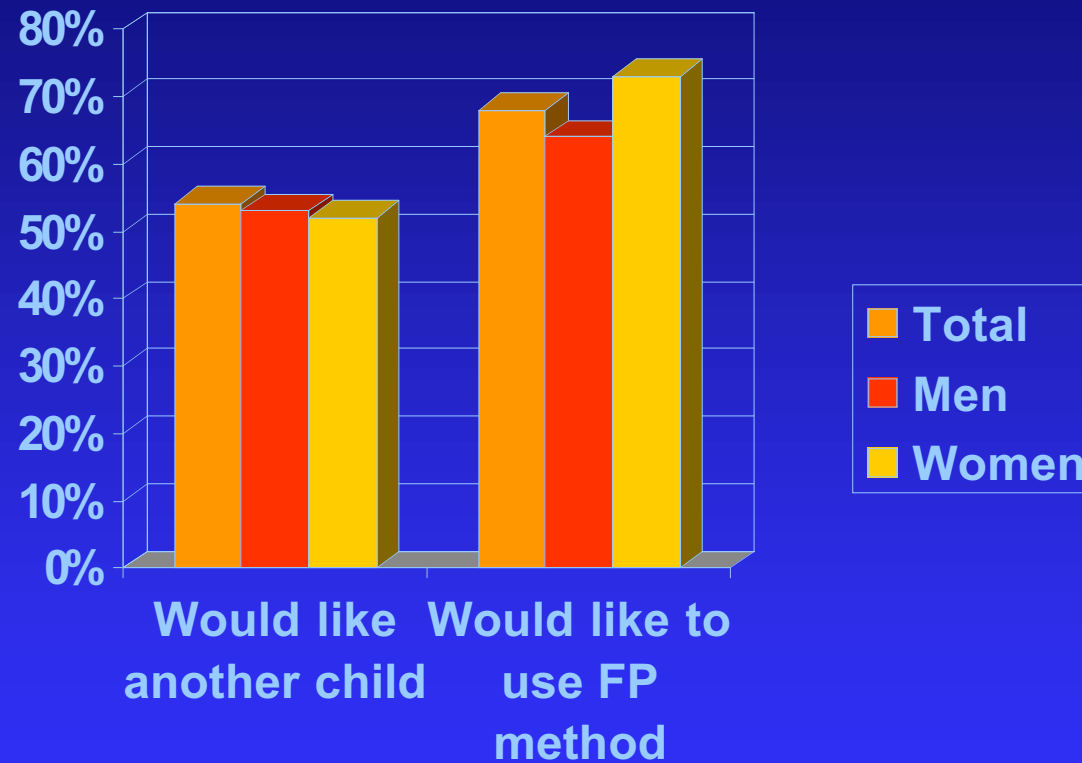


# Family Planning Results:

- Knowledge of all modern family planning methods doubled
- Use increased from 9% to 30%
- Knowledge and use associated with knowledge of Spanish and literacy in women
- Use of FP methods associated with increased age group among men

# *Providing Services*

# Fertility Preferences:



# Analysis:

- Knowledge of maternal risk increased
- Knowledge, demand and use of FP methods increased
- Women are valued for high fertility
- Women have little choice over their bodies

# **Future Implications:**

- **Improve male participation**
- **Increase emphasis on gender equity and reproductive rights**
- **Expand IEC activities to include young people**
- **Improve collaboration with MoH**

# *Health Promoters and Midwives*