

## Teaching Skills for the Childbirth Educator

### Objectives:

- Discuss importance of knowing own learning style
  - Identify advantages of immediate application of knowledge
- I. Research shows that Adult Learners:
    - a. Have distinct preferences for learning styles
    - b. Are pragmatic and want to apply knowledge immediately
    - c. Are strongly affected by previous learning experiences
    - d. Benefit from a positive relationship with educator and other learners
  - II. Educator must know own learning style and styles of learners
    - a. We teach the way we prefer learning
    - b. We might inadvertently alienate those with other preferences
    - c. Learners of different cultures may learn differently
    - d. Quick, informal learning style assessments can determine:
      1. Preference for auditory, visual, tactile or kinesthetic teaching
      2. Preference for lecture, readings, video, group work, etc.
  - III. Educator can use learning assessment results to teach skillfully
    - a. Class members have a variety of learning preferences
    - b. Variety of teaching techniques can meet class needs
      1. Auditory/lecture
      2. Visual/video
      3. Tactile
      4. Kinesthetic
  - IV. Meet adult learners' desire to immediately apply learning
    - a. Learners can "check out" information
      1. Accept or reject the material
      2. Adapt it to their needs
      3. Provide feedback to educator on efficacy of teaching
    - b. Increase retention of learned material
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