

## ABOUT THE RESEARCH

Dr. Charles and Dr. Elizabeth Schmitz are renowned love and marriage experts and authors of multiple award-winning and best-selling books. They have determined that the best way to understand successful marriage is to study successful marriages. From their research emerged seven pervasive characteristics that are found in all successful marriages—the “Seven Secrets.” Their research protocol is a very different approach from the one employed by other so-called relationship experts. Dr. Charles and Dr. Elizabeth Schmitz do not believe you learn a lot about success by studying failure. You learn about success by studying success.

The criteria for determining a successful marriage were stringent:

- First, the couple had to be married to each other for at least 30 years.
- Second, the couple being interviewed had to be *successfully* married based upon the results of the Doctors’ scientifically developed interview protocol.

The Doctors gathered more than 15,000 years of collective marital wisdom from happily and successfully married couples in all 50 states of the United States –people of different faiths, ages and ethnicities, including Caucasians, African-Americans, Latinos, and Asian-Americans married in the Judeo-Christian tradition. In addition, they interviewed successfully married couples in all 10 Canadian Provinces and 52 foreign countries on all seven of the world's continents. After more than 35 years and thousands of interviews with successfully married couples, they discovered the answers to the seven most important questions about love and marriage.

While successful marriage isn’t difficult to understand, many couples fail to do the simple things required to make their marriages work. They either forget to do them or they haven’t learned them in the first place. Successful love is an accumulation of the simple things.

The Doctors have committed their lives to increasing the success rate of marriage by sharing what we have learned from decades of research and their own 50 years of marriage—*most marriages are worth saving and can be saved!!*

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