



IS LOVE COLOR BLIND?

Interracial Dating May Be More Common, But Challenges Remain

By Emily J. Minor

A new study out of the Pew Research Center, a nonpartisan think tank that examines attitudes and trends shaping America, recently told us something interesting about interracial couples in our country.

We're getting used to it. *Finally.*

But Dr. Jacqueline Del Rosario, a Miami life coach and empowerment speaker who's often called "America's Marriage Doctor," has intimate experience with the nuances of interracial relationships and she knows it's still complicated.

A successful African-American woman with plenty of interracial relationships in her circle of family, friends and colleagues, Dr. Del Rosario realizes that what "should be" isn't always what plays out.

"Somebody who says, 'Oh, I don't have any prejudices'—I think that's a certain kind of denial," Dr. Del Rosario says. "One of the challenges that couples have to be prepared for is that we're not very comfortable with things we're not familiar with."

Still, the Pew numbers—collected



Dr. Jacqueline
Del Rosario

through 2010 U.S. Census data and phone canvassing for the center's Social and Demographic Trends Project—show that we're trying awfully hard to get comfortable with relationships that cross racial lines.

Consider: Researchers found that 63 percent of those interviewed said they would have "no problem" with a family member marrying someone outside their race. In a 1986 study, only 37 percent were comfortable with this notion.

In 2010, about 15 percent of new