In *Join the Club*, author Tina Rosenberg identifies a brewing social revolution that is changing the way people live based on harnessing the positive force of peer pressure. The author shows how peer pressure has reduced teen smoking in the United States, made villages in India healthier and more prosperous, helped minority students get top grades in college calculus, and even lead to the fall of Slobodan Milosevic.

If you or your group does not have enough time to read the whole book, we recommend the following chapters that deal with health or education issues or give summaries of the concept that Tina Rosenberg calls the “social cure.”

**Suggested chapters to read:**

- **Introduction:** For an overview of the concept of positive peer pressure
- **Chapter 1:** Turning Positive, about AIDS control in South Africa
- **Chapter 3:** Righteous Rebels, Rage Against the Haze, successful campaign to stop teen smoking
- **Chapter 5:** The Calculus Club, peer interaction helps minority students excel in Calculus
- **Chapter 6:** Angels of Change, community health workers change villages in India
- **Chapter 10:** Next, summary of positive peer pressure and social cure concepts introduced in book

**Some suggested questions to get the book discussion going:**

- What is the central idea discussed in the book? Do you agree with it?

- Can you give an example of positive peer pressure in your own life? Or examples from your community, church, school, support group?

- Do you think most peer pressure can be considered positive or negative?

- How do you think positive peer pressure can be used in health care settings to change behavior? What types of behavior can best be addressed by positive peer pressure? Can you think of some examples from your work or other personal experience?

Rosenberg ends the chapter about the Calculus Club with this statement: “Since so much of our behavior is shaped by our peers, so much of it can be changed with peer pressure...Peer pressure changes you, and in turn you change a community, a bureaucracy, a culture, a government – a world.” Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not?

In a review of *Join the Club*, the reviewer asked, “Who gets to decide what constitutes positive peer pressure? Your idea of a good peer group might be my idea of a cult. Your worthy goal might be my worst nightmare.” Who gets to decide?