

Indonesia president slams cohabitation

URL: <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/0507/050705-cohabitation-e.html>

Today's contents

The Article	2
Warm-ups	3
Before Reading / Listening	4
While Reading / Listening	5
After Reading	6
Discussion	7
Speaking	8
Listening Gap Fill	9
Homework	10
Answers	11

5 July, 2005

THE ARTICLE

Indonesia president slams cohabitation

BNE: Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono has told his people not to copy Western countries by living together, or living “in sin” before getting married. He was speaking on July 4, Indonesia’s National Family Day. The *Jakarta Post* reported him as saying: “We do not need to imitate the lifestyles of foreign nations.” He added: “Living together out of wedlock is still viewed as a disgraceful deed that goes against the norms of religions and laws.”

Indonesia has the world’s fourth largest population. Many people welcomed his call for better morals. They want to stop Indonesia’s rising numbers and avoid a surge in population. Almost twenty per cent of Indonesians live on less than a dollar a day. Mr. Yudhoyono urged people to have only the number of children they could afford. He stated: “Without birth control, our efforts to boost economic development will be useless.” He warned cohabitation increases births.

WARM-UPS

1. I LIVE ALONE: In pairs / groups, tell each other who you live with. Talk about the advantages and disadvantages of your living situation. Would you like to change? What would you like to change?

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words are most interesting and which are most boring.

Indonesia / living in sin / sex before marriage / religion / morality / National Family Day / family planning / living on a dollar a day / economic development

Have a chat about the topics you liked. For more conversation, change topics and partners frequently.

3. INDONESIA: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with Indonesia. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

4. COHABITATION: In pairs / groups, talk about how far you agree with these opinions about living in sin.

- a. Living together before marriage is no longer a sin.
- b. Marriage is becoming less and less important.
- c. Sex before marriage is a sin.
- d. France has just abolished the term “illegitimate” for children, so it’s OK for children to be born without the parents being married.
- e. Living together before getting married reduces the chance of divorce.
- f. Not living together first is a giant risk.
- g. Living together is part of the fun of relationships.
- h. You should only live with the person you know you’re going to marry.
- i. It’s OK to live together before marriage, as long as there’s no sex.

5. BIRTH CONTROL: In pairs / groups, talk about which of these birth control methods you think are OK.

Condoms

The contraceptive pill

The morning after pill

The rhythm method

Abstinence (not having sex)

Abortion

Vasectomy

A “one family, one child” policy

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

1. TRUE / FALSE: Look at the article's headline and guess whether these sentences are true (T) or false (F):

- | | |
|--|-------|
| a. Indonesia's president tried cohabitation but didn't like it. | T / F |
| b. Indonesia's president wants Indonesians to copy Western values. | T / F |
| c. Indonesia's president said cohabitating couples are disgraceful | T / F |
| d. Indonesia's president said living out of wedlock is not normal. | T / F |
| e. Indonesia is the world's fourth most populous country. | T / F |
| f. Many people want to see a rise in Indonesia's population. | T / F |
| g. Almost twenty per cent of Indonesians live below the poverty line. | T / F |
| h. Indonesia's president thinks birth control damages economic growth. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article:

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| a. in sin | principles |
| b. imitate | act |
| c. wedlock | gladly accepted |
| d. deed | beef up |
| e. norms | immorally |
| f. welcomed | encouraged |
| g. morals | models |
| h. surge | copy |
| i. urged | growth |
| j. boost | marriage |

3. PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases from the article (sometimes more than one combination is possible):

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| a. not to copy | in sin |
| b. living | of foreign nations |
| c. The <i>Jakarta Post</i> reported | economic development |
| d. imitate the lifestyles | the norms |
| e. goes against | call for better morals |
| f. the world's fourth | control |
| g. people welcomed his | Western countries |
| h. avoid a | largest population |
| i. birth | him as saying... |
| j. boost | surge in population |

WHILE READING / LISTENING

GAP FILL: Put the words in the column on the right into the correct spaces.

Indonesia president slams cohabitation

BNE: Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono has told his _____ not to copy Western countries by living together, or living "in _____" before getting married. He was _____ on July 4, Indonesia's National Family Day. The *Jakarta Post* reported him as _____: "We do not need to _____ the lifestyles of foreign nations." He added: "Living together out of _____ is still viewed as a disgraceful _____ that goes against the _____ of religions and laws."

Indonesia has the world's fourth _____ population. Many people welcomed his call for better _____. They want to stop Indonesia's rising numbers and _____ a surge in population. Almost twenty per cent of Indonesians live on _____ than a dollar a day. Mr. Yudhoyono _____ people to have only the number of children they could _____. He stated: "Without _____ control, our efforts to boost economic development will be _____. He warned cohabitation increases births.

sin
imitate
norms
saying
people
deed
wedlock
speaking

largest
less
afford
useless
avoid
birth
urged
morals

AFTER READING / LISTENING

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionaries / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words **'birth'** and **'control'**.

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the gap fill. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. STUDENT COHABITATION SURVEY: In pairs / groups, write down questions about living in sin, living together and good morals.

- Ask other classmates your questions and note down their answers.
- Go back to your original partner / group and compare your findings.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

6. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall exactly how these were used in the text:

- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| • copy | • fourth |
| • sin | • rising |
| • reported | • dollar |
| • lifestyles | • afford |
| • wedlock | • control |
| • religions | • cohabitation |

DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a. What did you think when you saw this headline?
- b. Did the headline make you want to read the story?
- c. Do you often follow news on Indonesia?
- d. What do you think about President Yudhoyono's comments?
- e. What do you think about cohabitation?
- f. Is cohabitation common in your country?
- g. Do you think living apart until marriage would reduce population?
- h. What do you think is the best way to stem population growth?
- i. Do you think President Yudhoyono is wrong to attack Western culture?
- j. Do you think President Yudhoyono is right to tell people to have better morals?

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a. Did you like reading this article?
- b. What did you think about what you read?
- c. Have you lived or would you live "in sin"?
- d. Do you think living with someone before marriage is disgraceful?
- e. Is sex before marriage a sin for both a man and a woman?
- f. Do you think divorce would be reduced if couples lived together first?
- g. Do you agree with China's "one family, one child" policy?
- h. What would you think if your daughter moved in with a boyfriend?
- i. Does / Should your country have a National Family Day?
- j. Did you like this discussion?

AFTER DISCUSSION: Join another partner / group and tell them what you talked about.

- a. What question would you like to ask about this topic?
- b. What was the most interesting thing you heard?
- c. Was there a question you didn't like?
- d. Was there something you totally disagreed with?
- e. What did you like talking about?
- f. Do you want to know how anyone else answered the questions?
- g. Which was the most difficult question?

SPEAKING

COHABITING:

In pairs / groups, write one question about cohabitation using each of the words in the list below.

1. Sin
2. Parents' feelings
3. Religion
4. Fun
5. Normal
6. Old-fashioned
7. Economical
8. Disadvantages
9. Neighbours
10. Western morals
11. (Your own question)

Change partners and ask each other your questions.

After you have finished, return to your original partner(s) and share and compare the answers to your questions.

Does the class think cohabitation is OK or wrong?

LISTENING

Listen and fill in the spaces.

Indonesia president slams cohabitation

BNE: Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono ____ ____ his people not to copy Western countries ____ ____ together, or living "in sin" before getting married. He ____ ____ on July 4, Indonesia's National Family Day. The *Jakarta Post* ____ him as saying: "We do not need ____ ____ the lifestyles of foreign nations." He added: "Living together out of wedlock is still viewed as a disgraceful ____ that goes against the ____ ____ religions and laws."

Indonesia has the world's ____ largest population. Many people welcomed ____ ____ ____ better morals. They want to stop Indonesia's rising numbers and avoid a ____ in population. Almost twenty per cent of Indonesians ____ ____ less than a dollar a day. Mr. Yudhoyono urged people to have only the number of children they ____ _____. He stated: "Without birth control, ____ ____ to boost economic development will be useless." He warned ____ increases births.

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find more information on Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono. Share your findings with your class in the next lesson.

3. MY THOUGHTS: Write an essay explaining your thoughts on cohabitation. Read your essays to your classmates in your next lesson. Did everyone write about similar things?

4. LETTER: Write a letter to Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono. Tell him what you think of his attack on Western values. Tell him whether or not you think cohabitation is a "disgraceful deed". Read your letter to your classmates in your next lesson. Did you all write about similar things?

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE:

a. F b. F c. T d. T e. T f. T g. T h. F

SYNONYM MATCH:

a. in sin	immorally
b. imitate	copy
c. wedlock	marriage
d. deed	act
e. norms	models
f. welcomed	gladly accepted
g. morals	principles
h. surge	growth
i. urged	encouraged
j. boost	beef up

PHRASE MATCH:

a. not to copy	Western countries
b. living	in sin
c. The <i>Jakarta Post</i> reported	him as saying...
d. imitate the lifestyles	of foreign nations
e. goes against	the norms
f. the world's fourth	largest population
g. people welcomed his	call for better morals
h. avoid a	surge in population
i. birth	control
j. boost	economic development

GAP FILL:

Indonesia president slams cohabitation

BNE: Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono has told his **people** not to copy Western countries by living together, or living "in **sin**" before getting married. He was **speaking** on July 4, Indonesia's National Family Day. The *Jakarta Post* reported him as **saying**: "We do not need to **imitate** the lifestyles of foreign nations." He added: "Living together out of **wedlock** is still viewed as a disgraceful **deed** that goes against the **norms** of religions and laws."

Indonesia has the world's fourth **largest** population. Many people welcomed his call for better **morals**. They want to stop Indonesia's rising numbers and **avoid** a surge in population. Almost twenty per cent of Indonesians live on **less** than a dollar a day. Mr. Yudhoyono **urged** people to have only the number of children they could **afford**. He stated: "Without **birth** control, our efforts to boost economic development will be **useless**." He warned cohabitation increases births.