

## Tanzania's president advises against birth control

16th September, 2018



Tanzania's President John Magufuli has advised women in his country to stop taking birth control pills. He said the reason was because Tanzania needed more people and the country was

now wealthy enough to feed and educate many children. President Magufuli said: "Women can now give up contraceptive methods." He supported his argument by citing the example of European countries that he says are struggling to find enough workers because people use different methods of birth control. He told reporters: "I have traveled to Europe and I have seen the effects of birth control. In some countries they are now struggling with a declining population. They have no labor force."

President Magufuli accused those of using birth control of laziness. He said: "Those going for family planning are lazy. They are afraid they will not be able to feed their children. They do not want to work hard to feed a large family and that is why they opt for birth control and end up with one or two children only." He added: "You have cattle. You are big farmers. You can feed your children. Why then resort to birth control? I see no reason to control births in Tanzania". One politician pointed out the fact that Tanzania does not help large families. He said: "Our health insurance schemes can only accommodate a maximum of four children from one family."

Sources: [cnn.com](http://cnn.com) / [aljazeera.com](http://aljazeera.com) / [allafrica.com](http://allafrica.com)

## Writing

Birth control is essential in all countries. Discuss.

## Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

birth control / reason / feed / educate / contraceptive / example / Europe / effects / control / laziness / work hard / family / children / farmers / cattle / politician / health

## True / False

- Tanzania's president wants women to avoid birth control pills. T / F
- Tanzania's president said his country needed more people. T / F
- Tanzania's president said Europe is suffering because of birth control. T / F
- Tanzania's president has never been to Europe. T / F
- Tanzania's president said people were lazy if they used birth control. T / F
- Tanzania's president said people no longer had cattle. T / F
- Tanzania's president said he could see a few reasons for birth control. T / F
- A politician said Tanzania had health insurance for families of all sizes. T / F

## Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                        |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. <b>advised</b>      | a. turn         |
| 2. <b>wealthy</b>      | b. consequences |
| 3. <b>struggling</b>   | c. rich         |
| 4. <b>effects</b>      | d. charged      |
| 5. <b>declining</b>    | e. help         |
| 6. <b>accused</b>      | f. choose       |
| 7. <b>opt</b>          | g. recommended  |
| 8. <b>resort</b>       | h. highlighted  |
| 9. <b>pointed out</b>  | i. battling     |
| 10. <b>accommodate</b> | j. falling      |

## Discussion – Student A

- What do you think of birth control?
- What's the best number of children to have?
- Is it becoming more difficult to bring up children?
- Are there enough people in your country?
- What problems are caused by declining populations?
- Is it better to have a large or small family?
- How can European countries get more workers?
- How can governments encourage people to have more children?

## Phrase Match

- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. stop taking birth control           | a. of birth control     |
| 2. He supported his argument by citing | b. for birth control    |
| 3. I have seen the effects             | c. force                |
| 4. they are now struggling with a      | d. their children       |
| 5. They have no labor                  | e. out the fact         |
| 6. family                              | f. pills                |
| 7. they will not be able to feed       | g. of four children     |
| 8. that is why they opt                | h. declining population |
| 9. One politician pointed              | i. planning             |
| 10. accommodate a maximum              | j. the example          |

## Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- Is birth control lazy?
- How sad is it that people worry about feeding their family?
- Should we grow food ourselves to feed our family?
- Should governments help any size of family?
- How many children would you like?
- Is it better to come from a small or large family?
- What questions would you like to ask the president?

## Spelling

- the country was now whlayet enough
- give up ivetatoencpr methods
- gtcnii the example
- emtdhos of birth control
- they are now ltuggingsr
- a dgnncilie population
- President Magufuli dcsacue those
- You have ltetac
- teosrr to birth control
- One tnlipcoiai
- health insurance mhcsee
- a ammxium of four children

### Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. c	3. i	4. b	5. j
6. d	7. f	8. a	9. h	10. e

## Role Play

### Role A – Cost

You think cost is the hardest thing about raising children. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least hard of these (and why): mess, noise or worry.

### Role B – Mess

You think mess is the hardest thing about raising children. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least hard of these (and why): cost, noise or worry.

### Role C – Noise

You think noise is the hardest thing about raising children. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least hard of these (and why): mess, cost or worry.

### Role D – Worry

You think worry is the hardest thing about raising children. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least hard of these (and why): mess, noise or cost.

## Speaking – Raising children

Rank these with your partner. Put the hardest things about raising at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- |                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| • less space    | • cost        |
| • weddings      | • noise       |
| • teenage years | • messy rooms |
| • worry         | • loud music  |

### Answers – True False

a	T	b	T	c	T	d	F	e	T	f	F	g	F	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.