Episode 10: How Community and Religious Leaders Can Support FP

1. SFX: THEME MUSIC UP AND UNDER HOST's VOICE

2. YINKUS: Good day my beautiful people, welcome to another episode of your favourite radio programme, Ireti Eda. I am Olayinka Owoyemi a.k.a Yinkus a.k.a the iyaloje of the Yoruba airwaves and your host of this programme. And with me as always is my co-host, Bosun a.k.a Da and together we hope to make your day as exciting as possible.

3. BOSUN: Yes ladies and gentlemen, it is me your main man Bosun Da Boss welcoming you to the programme. How are you all today? I hope the answer is fine. I'm fine myself. Abi Iyalode, how are you today?

4. YINKUS: Ah Da Boss! I'm fine o. I can't complain. Anyway, what about you? How did you cope with the Shade matter from last time. Remember your one year anniversary of being together was coming and she wanted you to show your seriousness.

5. BOSUN: Ah Yinkus. I won't lie when we left here I thought of going to try to double my money at pools or game-of-chance. Or at the very least, borrowing money from a money lender. Because I know things are very tight for everyone.

6. YINKUS: Hehn Bosun!!!

7. BOSUN: Wait now Yinkus, let me finish. When I thought of what you said to me, I decided to approach Shade and explain the true situation to her about how I have to contribute to my family and help train my younger ones and so I had no spare money to do anything special as she wanted.

8. YINKUS: How did she take it?

9. BOSUN: Ehn well you know how it is. Of course she wasn’t too happy and she was a bit disappointed. But she understood sha. She knows how it is. She said she was happy I just told her at once instead of lying and trying to “form.” I then used the opportunity to discuss with her why I believe in using family planning, i.e. so that I can cope with providing for my family without too much stress.

10. YINKUS: Well Da Boss! I'm happy that everything turned out okay for you. For now,
it’s time for our drama. Last time in the drama, Lami let Iyabo know that she was aware of Iyabo’s hypocrisy; Tayo informed Iyabo that she would not pick up from where Abokede left off and the younger ones in the house would have to start helping with chores; and Wosilat made the decision to take Abokede with her to Ilorin and had to face Ajani’s reaction to her decision. Fortunately for her he wasn’t too upset but supported her decision. Let’s see now what will happen this week. Over to the drama.

11. DRAMA: CUE IN DRAMA EPISODE (MAX 12 MINS)

12. YINKUS: Hmm Da Boss, how can Oyemade think of a wedding with Folasade at this time when there is fire on the mountain?

13. BOSUN: I know you’ll talk about that, but that is not his fault, he is in love.

14. YINKUS: Hmmm! Instead of him to drop the court case so that he can reduce the obstacles to being with Folasade... Anyway it seems Folasade has already realized that it will be tough for this relationship to go anywhere.

15. BOSUN: Well Yinkus, I’m just glad to see Abokede settling into her aunty’s house and getting the encouragement she needs.

16. YINKUS: Yes o, Wosilat is really a good person. Things must be very hard for her and Ajani. Everytime I hear their matter, it’s like I want to tell them “Get it together, plan your family.”

17. BOSUN: (LAUGHS) Ah YINKUS!!!! Okay o. Well listeners we’re going for a short music break. When we return we have a surprise for you. So stay tuned!

18. MUSIC: YORUBA POPULAR MUSIC (MAX. 1.1/2 MINS)

19. BOSUN: Welcome back to Ireti Eda. That was Wasiu with the song “Oko Faji.” I hope you all enjoyed that..

20. YINKUS: Okay o. My good people, before the break, Bosun promised you a surprise and indeed we’re very excited.

21. BOSUN: Yes listeners. Today our favourite big aunty, Madam Adunni is not in studio With us. Instead we have a very, very special guest. He’s a community leader, counselor and advocate of his people, a father, grandfather and recently even, great-grandfather. Please help me in welcoming our daddy, Chief Oguntoyinbo Agbobileke. You are very welcome, sir.

22. CHIEF A: Ah Bosun, Olayinka, my children, thank you for that welcome. Good day
everyone. I hope you’re all fine today.

23. **YINKUS:** Chief Agbobileke, you’re aware that we’ve been discussing family planning on the programme for some time and one issue that keeps coming up whenever we get questions or comments about family planning is whether or not family planning goes against our religious and traditional values. We were hoping you would address some of these questions from our listeners today.

24. **CHIEF A:** Olayinka, no problem. I, myself along with various religious and community leaders, have been working for some years now to try to overturn what misconceptions exist about family planning in our culture. So I’m ready to address your questions.

25. **BOSUN:** Okay Sir, let’s get started with this question from Damilola who texted to ask: If family planning is so good, how come we do not hear Pastors and Imams talking about it and encouraging their followers to learn about it and maybe use it?

26. **CHIEF A:** (LAUGHS) Damilola, you remind me of myself when I was young, always asking the difficult questions. Well, my boy, let me assure you that many religious leaders are talking about family planning these days. These leaders in fact want the best for their followers and kinsmen and their children too. They are interested in seeing the families in their communities enjoying good and healthy lives, and reaping the benefits of their hard work. All these things are the objectives of Family Planning. Family Planning fosters healthier relationships between couples. Nobody wants to see broken homes or divided families in our communities. Also, family Planning saves lives, helps to avoid unwanted pregnancies and abortions. Religious and community leaders support these values too.

27. **BOSUN:** Actually, I’ve been to my Shade’s church once or twice for some functions and I heard her pastor talk about family planning positively at a wedding. He advised the couple to plan their family to maintain a good relationship and provide a better life for their kids.

28. **YINKUS:** Even me sef. Our Imam at the mosque supports family planning. He says that family planning is essential for protection of our women’s health and provision of sound moral, traditional, formal and religious upbringing of our children.

29. **BOSUN:** We have a caller on the line. Muri, what’s your question for Chief Agbobileke?
30. INSERT: (MURI’s VOICE VIA PHONE) Good day Chief. You are well done. But I want us to be realistic, culturally the more children you have, the more accolades you get from your community. So from that point of view, is family planning not against our culture?

31. CHIEF A: Hmmm Olayinka, I like these your listeners, they speak their minds and ask good questions. Muri, my child, thank you for that question. Look, family planning is not against having children but it supports having children well-spaced out in order to safeguard the health of mother and children. It is a tool used by wise couples to help them organize their lives so that they and any children they bring into the world will have a good quality of life. In the past, our wives and daughters were dying due to many pregnancies and childbirths. We were losing our children because some parents don’t have enough resources to look after all their children. My children it is the quality and not the quantity of children that is important and that should bring accolades. Where is the accolade in having many, many children that will be suffering because you cannot train them. Family planning is helping our people to have a better future and that is why myself and many of our colleagues support it..

32. YINKUS: Okay sir, one last question. Please sir, how can more of our community leaders really support family planning?

33. CHIEF A: Thank you for that question, Olayinka. First, I think it is necessary that religious and community leaders acquaint themselves with information about family planning. With the knowledge, they can begin to speak positively about family planning in public and private conversations. They can also talk about their experiences and compare with the choices available today for young couples. Finally Community leaders can refer couples to the appropriate health providers for correct information about family planning.

34. BOSUN: Hmmm Chief Agbobileke, thank you very much for being with us in the studio today. We are very grateful for your wisdom. Unfortunately that’s all we have time for today. We’ll see you soon. Right now listeners, we’ll be taking a short musical break, we’ll be right back!

35. MUSIC: POPULAR NIGERIAN MUSIC (MAX 1 MIN)

36. BOSUN: Well listeners that was Olamide with the track “Jara On Top.” Unfortunately we’ve come to the end of today’s edition of the program. As always to show our gratitude to you all, our amazing listeners, we’re giving 5 of you a chance to win one of our fantastic prizes in our quiz. Today’s quiz question is:

- Which of the Ojo boys is a lawyer by profession- Oyemade or
Kolawole?

37. **YINKUS:** Listeners, please send your answers via SMS to this number .................
If you would like to know where you can access family planning services in your area, you can call ################ (same number). Or go to a clinic, pharmacy or PMV with a sign that says “Get it Together” and has a blue, yellow and orange puzzle pieces logo.

38. **BOSUN:** And of course, you know you can also connect with us on Facebook at the “Get it Together Ibadan/Illorin” page. Listeners, thanks for hanging out with us. Until next time, I’m Bosun “DA Boss!”

39. **YINKUS:** And of course I remain your Yinkus! O da booo! (Till next time).

40. **MUSIC:** THEME MUSIC UP & UNDER PROGRAMME SPONSORSHIP & BY-LINE (GET IT TOGETHER, PLAN YOUR FAMILY)