

## ILOBA Radio Program: Ireti Eda (Man's Hope)

### 11. Couple Communication: Discussion of when to have Children and Spacing

1. **SFX:** THEME MUSIC AND FADES UNDER THE HOST'S VOICE
2. **YINKUS:** Good people of this our fine city, welcome to your radio program *Ireti Eda*. Thanks for tuning in, how has your day been? My name is Olayinka Owoyemi a.k.a Yinkus or you can call me the Iyalode of Yoruba airwaves; and with me on the program is my very cheerful Bosun.
3. **BOSUN:** **(VERY UPBEAT)** Yes ladies and gentlemen, it is me, your main man, Bosun, a.k.a. Da Boss coming to you right now on this your favourite station.
4. **YINKUS:** Ah Bosun, you must tell us what is making you so happy today, so that all of us too can be happy with you.
5. **BOSUN:** Hmmm Iyalode, hmmm this small Bosun you're seeing here, very soon I'll be a big boy around town o.
6. **YINKUS:** Ahn ahn, Da Boss. How do you mean?
7. **BOSUN:** Hmm I have a big show coming. One of my friends has arranged for me to perform at one big man's son's wedding. And you know what that means... All the big people of the music industry will be there and who knows who can notice me from there!
8. **YINKUS:** **(DISTRACTED)** Big wedding ke? But I make it my business to know all the functions happening in town? Is it the one of that son of that man in industry or the one of the one in government? Because hmm Da Boss, I am trying to see if I can be an MC for either one so if you can introduce me? This must be my year o!
9. **BOSUN:** **(TEASING)** Ah Yinkus, don't worry for a big boy like me, introducing you is no problem. **(LAUGHS)** I'm joking o. It's just by luck that one producer got me this opportunity. You know your own contacts in this city are bigger than mine.
10. **YINKUS:** Hmm anyway, this will be our year. Okay o, for now it's time for our drama segment. Last time, Oyemade considered his decision to pursue the court case against the Animashauns; Folashade questioned where their relationship was headed; and Wosilat encouraged Abokede not to give up on her dreams of pursuing her education. Hmm, let's see what will happen today. Over to the drama.
11. **DRAMA:** CUE IN DRAMA EPISODE (MAX 12 MINS)
12. **YINKUS:** Hmm this is how little by little Iyabo will reveal her true self to Lukman. Finally.

He's seeing it, now.

13. **BOSUN:** I'm not worried about Iyabo, she will get her just reward, it's just this Alaba I don't trust. I think Wosilat is being naïve.
14. **YINKUS:** Ahn ahn, Da Boss! The man is very kind. See how he's given Wosilat opportunity for employment, now he has promised jobs for both Abokede and Ajani. I don't know what your problem is with him.
15. **BOSUN:** Okay o, Yinkus. Abi we'll see who's right in the end. **(LAUGHS)** But hmm I feel bad each time I see this nice couple who can discuss and agree about every thing except when it comes to sharing intimacy. **Wosilat** and Ajani are always in distress as soon as the matter of expressing their closeness comes up because she is afraid of getting a surprise pregnancy .
16. **YINKUS:** You mean because they're not using family planning, abi? Hmmm, it's like I want to enter the programme and advice Wosilat about using family planning because I don't think she and Ajani are ready to cope with another baby right now o.
17. **BOSUN:** Abi o. Hmmm... anyway let's take this short music break. We'll be right back!
18. **MUSIC:** **MUSIC BY A POPULAR YORUBA MUSICIAN.**
19. **YINKUS:** Aha! Welcome back listeners. You're still listening to **Ireti Eda** and that was **Kollington** with the song "**Ifeto somo bibi.**" I hope you all enjoyed that.
20. **BOSUN:** **(TEASING)** Hmmm at least I know Yinkus, YOU really enjoyed it. See dance steps. Hmmm. It's not easy o. **(SERIOUS)** Anyway, ladies and gentlemen, back in the studio with us this week is our favourite big aunty. She's a midwife, marriage counselor and respected person in the community. Please listeners, join us in welcoming Madam Adunni back to programme.
21. **SFX:** **FANFARE AND SHEKERE SOUNDS**
22. **M. ADUNNI:** Thank you, everyone. I am very happy to be back with you all on the program today. Although I really enjoyed hearing from our daddy, Chief Agbobileke, last week.
23. **YINKUS:** Madam Adunni we're very glad you're back because today we want to discuss couples communication and family planning.
24. **BOSUN:** Yes ma, you know based on conversations with friends and relatives, it seems

that maybe many couples don't talk about important issues such as the family size they desire before or even during marriage. The first time I wanted to discuss future family size with my babe, Shade and she was asking won't I first marry her and let us have a few kids before bringing it up.

25. **ALL:**

**(LAUGH)**

26. **YINKUS:**

**(TEASING)** Bosun, you and this your babe! **(SERIOUS)** But madam Adunni, it's true. Some feel that it's a man's role to make those decisions rather than a joint one. Just the other day, one of our neighbors was complaining to my husband that his wife is too fertile and all she knows how to do is have children! Imagine that! He went on to say that left to him, he'd have had no more than 3 or 4 children and they have more than that now. It turns out that he has never told his wife this before and the poor woman had been under the illusion all the time that he wants many children.

27. **M. ADUNNI:**

**(CHUCKLES)** This quite a common mistake couples make. In Bosun's situation for example, he could have replied to his Shade, that it's never too early to start planning. There was no need for him to feel shy. In our drama Wosilat and Ajani are a close couple who should discuss and arrive at a joint decision about their family size and spacing of their children. Just now all you hear is Ajani wanting intimacy and Wosilat pushing him away because she seems to have decided that they shouldn't have any more children till their situation improves. This is a decision they should make together and with the help of family planning achieve those goals and still enjoy intimacy. Yinka, your neighbour's situation was a simple case of lack of communication. By talking about this very important matter, a couple will avoid the misunderstanding and blame that comes with having more children than a partner is prepared to raise. It has also been observed that some women are afraid of raising issues related to family planning for fear that their husbands may think badly of their conduct even going so far as to accuse them of infidelity.

28. **BOSUN:**

Ahn ahn based just on a topic of conversation? Wow! That's rather extreme. Madam Adunni, here's a question from Ayobami via SMS who wants to know why he has to discuss with his partner how many children he wishes to have.

29. **M. ADUNNI:**

Ayobami, raising the issue of how many children you want to have with your partner shows a commitment to the family's prosperous and quality future, and it's a sign of care and trust. Also knowing the number of children will help you to allocate and plan with the available resources. When planning, think about expenses like quality education, health care, feeding, clothing among others

30. **YINKUS:**

Moving on, Amirudeen texted in wanting to know really if the family planning discussion should be during courtship or after marriage

31. **M. ADUNNI:** Before or after marriage is fine as long as you end up achieving your desired goals. Communication on family size will ensure that spouses have an understanding of the size of their family and agree on the number of children before or after they are married.
32. **BOSUN:** Okay Madam Adunni, one last question. Faidat sent in this comment via SMS. She writes: *“Aunty Sabi, before I got married, we discussed the number of children we wanted but we did not take steps to ensure... now we have much more than we agreed on.”*
33. **M. ADUNNI:** Faidat, you are not alone. This happens. In discussing the family size and aspirations, couples should also decide the method of family planning they want to use and adopt it. Discussing family size should also include spacing between one child and another. But all is not lost, Faidat. Even if you now have more children than you had planned, it’s not too late to adopt a family planning method to prevent further unplanned pregnancies.
34. **YINKUS:** In fact Ma, you’ve really tried for us today. We’re very grateful Madam Adunni for your time. Unfortunately, that is all we can take today, listeners. We hope you enjoyed hearing from our favourite big aunty. We’ll be taking a short music break right now, but we’ll be right back. Stay tuned.
35. **MUSIC:** **MUSIC FROM A POPULAR NIGERIAN MUSICIAN**
36. **BOSUN:** Welcome back, good people. That was the song *“Gbam Gbam”* by **9ice**. I hope you all enjoyed that. Unfortunately we have come to the end of another episode of **Ireti Eda**. As always, we’re giving 5 of you a chance to win one of our fantastic prizes in our quiz. Today’s quiz question is:  
- ***What is one reason a person should talk to his or her partner about family size and spacing of children?***
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 Patent medicine vendor like chemist or drug seller’s shop 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 as always I remain your Yinkus! O da booo! (Till next time).

40. MUSIC:

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