

Cohabitation

~Do you know how living together before marriage will affect you now and after you marry?

~Have you read the results of secular research on cohabitation?

~Are you aware of what the Church is saying about cohabitation?

Find the answers to all these questions at www.ForYourMarriage.org. Type "Cohabitation" in the search box.

For a free copy of the booklet, "Living Together: Questions and Answers Regarding Cohabitation and the Church's Moral Teaching", contact the Family Life Office.

Book (To borrow from the Family Life Office)

Not Ready for Marriage, Not Ready for Sex: One Couple's Return to Chastity by Chris & Linda Padgett

Wondering if you have the resolve to choose sexual purity? Wondering why you should choose it? Read the Padgett's story for some straight talk about sex and the truth that will set you free.

When Your Child is Cohabiting

You might be confused, surprised, terribly disappointed, even angry. But what can you do? Realize that you cannot make your grown child change. What you can do is to decide on the way you will act and react.

1) Stay connected to your son or daughter. Don't cut the bonds.

2) Make clear to your child that you think what he/she is doing is morally wrong and very unwise. Mention that you hope they have done some research on the issue and also prayed about it. Say this once when you are calm enough to talk without anger or sarcasm, or any hint of manipulation. Pray for a good time to make your position clear, when your child can hear you. Then let it go, your child has heard you.

3) If the cohabitating couple needs to stay overnight at your house, just state in a matter-of-fact way that while they are in your home, they need to abide by your rules of no sleeping together. Resist the temptation to lecture. It is counterproductive.

4) Pray for them.

5) Stay connected! This is so important.