



**Brojid Sisters**

WhatsApp Hangout

*What's the Big Deal about*  
**Cohabiting?**

*How to determine if you should live with your fiancé or not.*

**Joseph 'Brojid' Dinwoke**

*Let's Understand*

# **Cohabitation**

Cohabiting is a situation where two UNMARRIED people start living together as a couple to know each other better and prepare themselves to have a successful marriage. In most cases, they live as a couple in every sense of it, save for childbirth.

It's not the same with an occasional visit to a would-be spouse. While occasional visit may be a one-off, a harmless gesture of checking on someone and hangout out to catch up, cohabiting is moving to your partner's house, (usually by the lady) to start living with the man as a wife.

## **Cohabitation with Good Intention**

Many people that cohabit have a good intention— they just want to be sure that they are compatible with their would-be spouse. That is, they don't cohabit because they just want to live together or see each other often, but to avoid marital troubles.

The implication is that cohabitation doesn't just end in their living together and getting to know it each other better, they often enjoy benefits of marriage—like sex, house chores and financial responsibilities— even when they are not married.

When sex is involved in a cohabitation situation, they have sex as a way of measuring their sexual compatibility so that they don't run into sexual compatibility issue in marriage.

## **Does Cohabitation Make Sense?**

I know many people are against the idea of cohabiting while some see nothing wrong with it. But before I tell you where I stand, I want to answer a very important question: Does cohabiting make sense? Yes!

You see marriage is not a trial and error thing and it's supposed to be entered for a lifetime. This person you are considering getting married to is largely a stranger to you and efforts to know him well enough to determine if both of you can roll in Holy matrimony is a smart move! It's a clear case of looking before you leap. But do you need cohabitation to know him enough? That's the crux of this teaching. Follow me as we explore...

## **Cohabitation: The Lady is on Trial**

You see, although cohabitation is often started with the aim of the two people getting to know each other better to determine if marriage can work between them or not, the truth is that in many cases of cohabitation, it's the lady that's on trial.

As a result, she does EVERYTHING within her power to impress the guy as wife material. Unfortunately for her, she lives with the risk of being used, rejected and dumped. This reality makes cohabiting a BIG RISK—especially for a lady like you.

## **Risk of Being Used, Rejected & Dumped**

When you start living with someone that is not your spouse, the general impression people have is that you are married or about to be married.

The implication is that other interested men steer clear of you as a married woman or someone's bae. The fact that you lived with someone for years does not mean he will marry you.

Smart guys also know that cohabiting with a lady throughout their university days doesn't mean that she won't finish chopping their money, draining their energy and still hop on a richer man tomorrow.

In some cases, such prolonged living together puts pressure to marry the person that didn't make sense as a husband just to cover your shame and because those who know about both of you may not want to marry a 'rejected product'. Pardon my language.

## **Sex is a Beautiful Thing!**

I believe that sex is a good thing. It's so good that even when I am not at peace with my wife, it doesn't stop me. If we don't yet feel like making peace, I will first do-the-do and we can continue vexing.

As pleasurable as sex is, I also believe that the **ONLY** context to have sex is in marriage. I believe the Bible that teaches that sex between unmarried people is a sin which should be shunned. The Bible also teaches that I should flee everything that will push me into sin.

So, as good intentioned as cohabitation is, the reality of the practice is that it doesn't help me resist the temptation for sexual sin; instead, it **CONDITIONS** me to make fornication a lifestyle. Is that how you want to live your life?

## **So, My Stand?**

Cohabitation is a well-intentioned practice which I consider precautionary in the sense of looking before one leaps; but it comes with so many risks and possible complications which makes the gains of cohabitation pale when placed side by side with the trauma.

Cohabitation is not a guarantee of a good home or happy marriage. History is replete with people that courted and cohabited for years but broke up shortly after being married. That's a sign that cohabitation doesn't offer happier marriage as touted by its proponents.

Many ladies have been put in the family way and married in circumstances

they hate because they cohabited to impress a guy they claim to love.

Cohabiting to test your sex prowess is a way of telling God that He is not wise enough to command that singles don't enjoy sex (1 Cor 6:18-19).

The God that said I should not have sex before marriage said that He delights in every detail about my life and perfect all that concerns me (Psa. 37:23; 138:8). So, I trusted Him to perfect all that concerns my sexual pleasure.

So, in simple term: despite the benefits of cohabitation, I don't believe in it. I didn't practice it and I advise you should not!

## **Start Parking Your Kaya**

Do you know what I am saying in essence? You should not cohabit with anybody for whatever reason. Anybody can cook up reasons to lure you into the practice, let the risks associated with it make you have a rethink.

If he is pressuring you, don't be blinded by your desire to marry now that you lose sight of the negative consequences of living with a man that is not your husband.

If you are living with a man now, start putting your *kaya* together for your exit. You need to leave as a way of putting an end to the error you have been living in. You need to leave to redeem your image. You need to leave as a sign of recognition of your error.

I am not asking you to leave today *o*; but if you can please do. But even if you can't leave or are still in doubt about what I taught you here, in the points I will share in this series, I will show you how to quit cohabitation peacefully and answer the question: what if I lose my guy for refusing to cohabit?

Before you think I am just inconsiderate, let me tell you something. I can see that you have a genuine intention, but there is a better alternative that won't destroy your future. You have good intention but this practice can keep you unmarried years after the right time.

## **Next Time in This Series**

Every big brother protects his sisters, but I not only protect my sisters with my

muscles but wisdom for living. In my next post, I will start showing you how to still know your guy enough to determine whether marrying him is a good or bad idea—without cohabiting with him.

Hope you got my point? If you have any questions drop it below or send it directly to me on WhatsApp through +2348105504664 or send me a mail through [sisters@brojid.com](mailto:sisters@brojid.com). For other wisdom I share with ladies, visit [www.brojid.com/sisters](http://www.brojid.com/sisters) or follow @BrojidSisters across social media platforms. To join our WhatsApp Hangout, send 'BSH' to **08105504664** on WhatsApp.

*Sai Anjima!*



**Joseph 'Brojid' Dinwoke** is a University of Nigeria trained Biochemist with a Post Graduate Diploma in Mass Communication from Bayero University, Kano. He was a Radio Producer/Presenter at Radio Nigeria's Voice FM, Nsukka; Reporter & presenter at Raypower FM, Kano. At present, he works as the *Chief Content Officer* at **@BrojidWorld** and *Lead Media Strategist* at **@FrateeMedia**. At Brojid World, he creates blog, podcast and book contents that will inspire you for peak performance in life and work. He is madly in love with **Chidinma Eberechukwu**