



## Questions to Ask Cohabiting Partners or Participants

1. Have you talked with family and friends about this? What do they say?
2. How did you decide to live together? What other factors were involved?
3. Do you have an agreement to remain exclusive, just the two of you?
  - a. What keeps either of you from dating others?
  - b. If either of you did date others, what is likely to happen in your relationship?
4. Men don't typically take cohabitation as a step toward marriage. Have you talked about that?
5. Are there children involved? How is that working?
6. What grade would you give your relationship so far?
7. What long term commitments do you have with each other?
8. Tell me what household duties you share?
9. Do you have an understanding about sharing expenses?
10. What issues would likely cause a breakup? What would that be like?
11. What is the best part of living together?
12. What has been the biggest challenge so far?
13. What would it take for you to decide to leave?
14. If you should ever have another serious relationship with another person, what would you do differently?
15. Cohabitation is a pretty ambiguous arrangement. Marriage is well defined. What keeps you from getting married and making a clear statement about your relationship to yourselves, friends and family?
16. Cohabitation is most often a relationship on a man's terms. Marriage is a relationship on the woman's terms. How do these ideas relate to your situation?