"Ask Me Anything: A Sex Therapist Answers the Most Important Questions for the '90s."

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Question #60 from "Ask Me Anything," page 41

60. How do you get a guy to use a condom?

Traditional methods include begging, whining, pleading, and threatening. The problem with these is that even when they work (which is only some of the time), nobody feels good about the process. This is a poor way to create an intimate encounter.

Condom use is not something a man does, it is something a couple does. It's simple: "We do this." We do it because it's the only way to make intercourse safe and healthy. We do it because intercourse requires contraception, and a condom is the form most compatible with my body.

We certainly don't use condoms because you could be a dirty, thoughtless person who might kill me with a disease. We use condoms because I want to feel relaxed and uninhibited when we make love, and condoms make that possible. That is the way you want me to be, isn't it?