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Youths told to keep light on condoms

CAIRO (Reuter) Youths attending the U.N. population conference were urged by their peers to keep the lights on while making love to ensure their condoms fit properly.

"Condoms unroll only one way; make sure that your partner is wearing it correctly before having sex. We urge all young couples to keep the lights on at all times," an African teenager said in a film shown at a youth workshop on Thursday.

The film, made by the non-government Population and Quality of Life Independent Commission, dealt with some of the crucial issues being debated at the conference such as abortion, family planning, education and contraception.

Educating people under 25, who make up more than half the world, is seen as vital to slowing population growth — the purpose of the U.N. International Conference on Population and Development being held in Cairo.

James P. Grant, executive director of the United Nations International Children's Fund, said youngsters should be allowed to decide their future.

"Youth are neither simply big children nor are they small adults. In order to make the necessary changes, young people's ideas and participation are critical," he told the workshop, held on the fringes of the main conference.

A play presented to the youth workshop dealt with teenage pregnancy.

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