

Course: Advance

Impact Issues Level 1

Day №11

Beyond Borders

In your country, how do couples show their love?

Is it common to say “I love you”? What about holding hands or giving flowers?



Saying “I love you”

Maria is from Peru, but she lives in Japan with her husband, Satoru. They have a good relationship except for one thing. Listen to their problems.

**Maria:**

I love my husband, Satoru. He's kind, good with the children, and works hard. But I've got a problem. He never says, “I love you”! In Peru, if you never tell your wife you love her, you hurt her feelings. He says that it's too embarrassing. How can it be? I'm his wife!

I'm starting to have my doubts about him. He often comes home from work late and I sometimes wonder if he's having an affair. He often forgets to kiss me when he gets home. And he isn't even comfortable being affectionate with me in front of the children. They probably worry about it. “I love you” is just three little words. Why can't he say them? Does he really love me?

**Satoru:**

I met Maria when we were students. She was fun and adventurous and we got along so well. Since we have gotten married and had children, she seems less happy, I work hard, take care of the kids, work around the house, and give her freedom. She says I don't say “I love you.” But she's my wife, not my girlfriend! In Japan married couples don't do that. I would feel silly saying that to the mother of my children.

She says I'm not affectionate. But it makes me wonder..does she really love me? True love is when you accept someone. Can't she see I'm a dedicated husband? Why isn't she ever satisfied

1. I think it is not anybody's right to bother if they _____.
2. Some people find it _____ to talk about their relationships with others.
3. In some countries, couples are more _____ in public.
4. Would you prefer to lie than say the truth and _____?

- *Have an affair*
- *Affectionate*
- *Hurt one's feelings*
- *Embarrassing / feel silly*



Discussion

- What is/are the major difference(s) between Maria and Satoru?
- How do Maria and Satoru's cultural differences affect their marriage?
- Do you think this is a common problem among interracial couples?
- How should couples with similar problems sort this out?

More Than Words

Are you expressive or affectionate with your partner / husband / wife?



Is it important for a person to **say** “I love you” to his/her better half? Why?

What do you think?

Read the different opinions. With whom do you agree the most?



Iris:

If Satoru loves his wife, he should
Express it openly.

agree* or *disagree



Mark:

Romance and love are different
things. Maria should remember that.

agree* or *disagree



Anna:

If you truly love someone,
Words shouldn't be necessary.

agree* or *disagree

Your own opinion

I think _____ because _____.

I agree/disagree with _____ because _____.





Mark mentioned that
Romance and **Love** are
different things.

Do you agree?
Why or why not?

ROMANCE

LOVE

***Thank you for
today!***

***I'm looking forward to
seeing you again!***