Purpose:
To practice having conversations about family planning, fertility, birth spacing, and life choices with friends, family and members of the community.

Materials:
Character Cards (Cards 32-39) - Gray
These include an unmarried woman or daughter, a mother-in-law, a male friend, a newly married husband, a female friend, a health provider, a faith leader, and a married woman.

Take Away Messages:
• Families and friends should help young men and women learn about family planning and fertility.
• Couples should discuss their desired number and timing of pregnancies and how to avoid getting pregnant.

Introduction:
Today we are going to play a game where you can practice talking about family planning with different kinds of people in your community through role play. By having these conversations, families and friends can help each other learn about family planning and discuss how to avoid getting pregnant when they do not want more children.

Discuss:
• What makes it difficult to talk about family planning with different people? Why?
• What might be some benefits to talking about family planning with others?

How to Play:
• Choose a few characters (maybe 4) from the character cards (Cards 32-39), based on which ones you think are most suitable for your district.
• Hold up the character cards you have selected, one by one. As you introduce each character, ask participants to think about what they would say to this person if they had a chance to talk to them about family planning or their life choices.
• Distribute the character cards to different participants. Have participants with cards find a partner who does not have a card. Line up facing each other in pairs: each participant who has a character card should be facing one participant who does not have a character card.
Explain:

• “Each person with a character card will pretend to be the person on their card. Each person without a character card will pretend to be a woman who wants to talk about family planning. People who are not paired up should observe the conversation so you can share your observations during discussion.

• The woman who wants to talk about family planning should start a conversation with the person who is playing a character about why it is important to know about and be able to use family planning. You have two minutes to discuss family planning.”

Discuss:

? Was it strange to talk about family planning with your character? Why?
? What might make it easier to talk about family planning?

Explain:

• The pairs should now rotate. The person with the character card should give the card to the person who played the woman. This person should then find a NEW partner who will now play a woman who wants to discuss family planning. Others will observe.

• Each pair now has 2 more minutes to discuss family planning.

Discuss:

? Now was it easier to talk about family planning? Why?
? Are there some characters harder to talk to than others? Why?

Explain:

• The pairs should now rotate one more time. The person with the character card should give the card to the person who played the woman. This person should then find a NEW partner who will now play a woman who wants to discuss family planning. Others will observe.

• Each pair now has 2 more minutes to discuss family planning.

Discuss:

? Would anyone like to share an experience of having these kinds of conversations in real life? Were they easier or harder? Why?

• What is one thing you learned today that you would share with a friend or family member?

• Please talk with your health provider if you have questions or are interested in family planning.