

# will.i.am: Women Need Permission to Have Condoms

April 11, 2012 By [Oriol R. Gutierrez Jr.](#)

---

Rapper will.i.am of the Black Eyed Peas was [interviewed](#) in 2011 by Elle magazine, which I just saw. He shares various quirks and pet peeves, but this one stopped me cold:

*ELLE: If you walked into a woman's house, what one ✕ item would convince you that you weren't compatible?*

*W: If she had condoms in her house, that would just fuckin' throw me off. That's just tacky.*

*ELLE: Well, okay, I could see if she had a candy bowl full of them on the coffee table. But if she's got a few in a drawer, wouldn't that simply suggest she's health-conscious?*

*W: I just think, like, if you're into someone and you guys get to that level, then that's something you should*

*converse about together and say, “Hey, maybe we should get some.”*

Did will.i.am just say that women need permission from men before they can have condoms? Y’all let me know if I’m wrong. Needless to say, I couldn’t disagree more. Having condoms is healthy and sexy. Having condoms is not immoral.

I can’t speak for women, but I can certainly speak for myself. As a gay man with HIV, I use condoms. Using condoms does not make me a slut or a pervert. And I don’t need permission to use condoms to protect others and myself from harm.

*(Hat tip to [Lifebeat](#) on Twitter.)*

---

© 2026 Smart + Strong All Rights Reserved.

<http://beta.docker.poz.com/blog/condoms-tacky>