

The third question of Fatwa no. 16342

**Q 3: Is it permissible for a person to sit in private with his fiancée or to shake hands with her?**

**A:** It is not permissible for a man to sit in private with a woman that is not from his Mahrams (spouses or unmarriageable relatives) even if this woman is his fiancée as long as he has not concluded the marriage contract yet.

The Prophet (peace be upon him) forbade men to sit in private or shake hands with women who are not from their Mahrams; because this opens the avenues of temptation. Moreover, the Prophet (peace be upon him) did not shake hands with non-Mahram women.

May Allah grant us success. May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and Companions.

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