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Pope: Condoms okay in some circumstances

VATICAN CITY: Pope Benedict XVI says in a new book that the use of condoms can be justified in some cases, such as for male prostitutes seeking to prevent the spread of HIV. He made the comments in a book-length interview with a German journalist, *Light of the World: The Pope, the Church and the Signs of the Times*. The Vatican newspaper ran excerpts of the book yesterday. Church teaching has long opposed condoms since they're a form of artificial contraception. The Vatican has been harshly criticised for its position given the AIDS crisis. Benedict said that for male prostitutes — for whom contraception isn't a central issue — condoms were not a moral solution.