



Korean's love hotels started to spring up in the 1980s, and they've always been the subject to controversy. Similar to flop houses, love hotels are easily recognized by the plastic curtains that hang at the entrances of their parking lots. The plastic curtains are there so that the people going inside to carry on their secret love affair can't be seen from the road when they get in or out of their cars. The rooms are usually rented per hour.

One of the problems was that many of the love hotels had been built near public school.irate residents demanded that the hotels be removed from their areas to prevent the unethical contamination of their children. The demonstration succeeded in calling attention to the problem all across the country, and some towns even passed laws prohibiting love hotels from being opened in their areas.

Realizing that something had to be done, the Seoul city government came up with an ingenious plan whereby they could kill two birds with one stone. With the 2002 World Cup just two years away, they decided to turn hundreds of the motels into lodging places called "World Inns" for World Cup visitors.

Most people expected that even after the World Cup was over, many World Inns would remain as affordable lodging for visitors rather than revert back to their shady beginnings.

Questions for discussions:

1. What is your opinion about the love hotels?
@: They're okay. Some people needs them
@: They are terrible. They should be closed down.
@: They should be built only in some places.
(Tell which areas)
2. What do you think about the Seoul city government's decision to turn love hotels into World Inns?
3. Do you think there should be limitations on where love hotels can be built, or should owners be free to build them any place they like? Why do you think so?
4. What do you think of postings pictures of license plates and faces of people who go into the places in the internet? Do you think it's a good idea to stop people from using the love hotels?
5. In your country, are there lots of love hotels? Is your government bothered about this? Are you? Why? why not?