

Last week a friend from the US told me something really funny. [Hi Sandy!]

She was leading a class full of Ecuadorian highschool students, and she asked them to hold hands, and when said that, they started laughing.

How do you think it happened?

Her pronunciation?

Nope. Her pronunciation is really good.

A silly grammar mistake?

Nice try but no. Her Spanish in general is really good.

So?

You see. There are some words you have to be careful with.

If you want to say “hold hands” in Spanish, you have two options:

1. tomarse de las manos
2. cogerse de las manos

And my friends used the second one.

What she didn't know is that that word, “coger,” also has a different meaning.

When she asked her supervisor why her students laughed, he used to funniest way to explain it to her:

*“By using that word, what you told your students is to f\*ck each other”.*

And of course, he laughed. And my friend laughed. And everybody else laughed.

You don't see a teacher saying something like that to her students everyday.

The good thing is, now she knows she shouldn't use that word, especially when she's working with teenagers.

It was an embarrassing moment, but it's fine.

Learning a new language will take you to embarrassing situations from time to time.

If you haven't made an embarrassing mistake yet, just wait, you will.

Once I told an American friend who was going on vacation “enjoy the bitch” instead of “enjoy the beach.”

And what happened?

Nothing.

She just corrected my English and we laughed.

Always remember that: If you want to learn and become fluent in Spanish, be ready to make mistakes. And don't worry, no one will judge you.

And if you want help to learn, practice and improve your Spanish:

[Online Spanish lessons.](#)

P.S. Have you even made a funny mistake in Spanish?

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