

To get a grade A...  
Read some everyday!

What relationships  
do you have with  
other people?

## Relationships!

### RELIGION AND RELATIONSHIPS KEY WORDS

**Vows**- promises made by the couple to be faithful to each other.

**Contract**- a formal agreement or legal bond.

**Marriage contract**- a contract between a bride and groom.

**Covenant**- an agreement.

**Responsibility**- the legal or moral duty which a person has.

**Heterosexual**- a human who is sexually attracted only to members of the opposite sex.

**Homosexual**- a human who is sexually attracted to members of the same sex.

**Age of consent**- the age at which someone can legally agree to have a sexual relationship.

**Contraception**- the artificial and chemical methods used to prevent pregnancy taking place.

**Parenting**- acting as a parent.

### Relationships

- Relationships connect us to other people.
- Children learn about relationships while growing up in a family.
- In school they learn to get along with other people from different backgrounds.
- Religions place emphasis on relationships, because through them people learn how to live responsibly in a community.
- Through human relationships religious people believe that people grow in their relationship with God.
- Commitment in marriage means making promises (vows) to be faithful to one's partner for life. Christians, Hindus and some Buddhists take vows at their wedding ceremonies.
- A contract is a formal agreement and a marriage contract is a legal bond between bride and groom.
- Hindus and Muslims regard the marriage ceremony itself as the legal and binding contract between the husband and wife.
- A covenant is a binding, lifelong agreement before God. Christians say God is a witness to their promises during the marriage ceremony.
- Responsibility means being accountable for one's own actions and doing one's duty. In marriage responsibilities are: to love and care for one another and their children.
- In Islam and Judaism it is the mother's responsibility to bring up the children.
- 

### CASE STUDY:

Covenant means solemn oath, contract or bond. In the Bible God made an everlasting covenant with Abraham and his descendants, he promised to make him the father of a great people and give them the land of Jerusalem. In return he and his people had to obey God's laws. Later Moses came along and God renewed the covenant saying that Moses and his people had to follow the 10 Commandments and that they would be God's chosen people.

# Sex, Marriage, Divorce

BE CLEAR  
ABOUT THE  
DIFFERENCE  
BETWEEN  
'SEX BEFORE  
MARRIAGE'



## THE CHANGING ATTITUDE TOWARDS SEX:

- Attitudes towards sex have changed over the past 20 years.
- There are more people who have sex before marriage, multiple sex partners and children outside marriage, affairs and open homosexual relationships.
- Sex is discussed in the media and viewed more as a deep commitment between two people.
- Contraception and legal abortion reduce the fear of pregnancy.
- Single mothers no longer have to give up their children.
- Gay couples can have civil ceremonies.
- UK has the highest rate of teenage pregnancy in Europe.
- The age of consent is 16 years for heterosexual and homosexual couples. This makes sex legal at this age.
- 2003 Sexual Offences Bill makes all sexual acts before 16 illegal. This is to protect children from abuse and exploitation.
- The age of consent varies across the world, due to religious or cultural differences.

### CASE STUDY:

Should the age of consent be lowered? Some argue that teenagers have sex before 16 and find it hard to seek advice and support about STIs and pregnancy, because it is illegal. Other people argue that if we lower the age of consent it might encourage younger people to have sex.

## Sex before Marriage

- Arab and Asian cultures strongly disagree with sex before marriage.
- No religion is in favour of it.
- Sex should be kept within marriage.
- Christians believe- sex is way of expressing deep love for someone.
  - You should be chaste (pure) before the marriage.
  - It is irresponsible to spread STIs or risk pregnancy.
  - ST PAUL URGED SEXUAL RESTRAINT AND CONTROL (Corinthians)
  - Some Christians accept that sex before marriage is an expression of their love for someone.
  - Roman Catholics are strongly against sex before marriage.
- Muslims- Sex is a sacred gift from Allah, an act of worship.
  - It is a strong instinct that must be controlled.
  - Muslims should dress modestly and not lead others into sexual temptation.
  - Sex before marriage is forbidden in the Qur'an and in some Muslim communities it is punishable by flogging.

## Religious Attitudes to contraception

- Types of contraception-
  - Natural (Rhythm) method - avoid having sex when the woman is most fertile.
  - Artificial method- the pill, the diaphragm, condoms, the coil.
  - Permanent method- sterilisation

## CHRISTIANS AND CONTRACEPTION

- Roman Catholics do not allow contraception as it goes against natural law.
- God's purpose for marriage is to have children.
- The rhythm method should be used to space the births.
- Some Catholics disagree as population explosion and the spread of AIDS means contraception is necessary.
- Other Christians, eg. Methodists and Anglicans allow contraception.

## ISLAM AND CONTRACEPTION

- Some oppose contraception as Allah will give couples strength to cope with however many children they have.
- Most Muslims accept it if both partners agree, as long as it doesn't stop them having children altogether.
- They oppose methods that cause abortion and only allow sterilisation if the mothers life is at risk.

REMEMBER THAT RELIGIONS DO NOT APPROVE OF SEX OUTSIDE OR BEFORE MARRIAGE SO WHEN WE TALK ABOUT THE USE OF CONTRACEPTION THEY MEAN WITHIN A MARRIAGE.

## The purpose and character of marriage

- It's a legal contract.
- Religions believe marriage is the perfect place to express sexuality, develop companionship, and bring up children.
- Christians believe marriage is God's gift of a spiritual bond of trust. It's a sacrament that reflects the love of Jesus. The couple must be together until death. Their physical intimacy expresses their love.
- Muslims are expected to marry. It gives husband and wife equal rights under Allah. They have arranged marriages. The Qur'an says that husbands and wives are like garments for each other, they should care for each other.

## Religious Weddings

### CHRISTIAN-

- They make vows to be faithful until death.
- Rings are exchanged as sign of unending love and fidelity with the words:  
"With my body I honour you, all that I am I give to you, all that I have I share with you."
  - Roman Catholics have Holy Communion as part of the wedding service.

### ISLAM-

- Simple ceremony.
- Two witnesses.
- Sign a contract and the groom gives the bride an agreed amount of money.
- Readings from the Qur'an, vows and exchange of rings. Then a large feast to join the two families.

## Choices- what affects who you choose to marry?

- Love
- Parents
- Religion
- Race

### Alternatives to getting married:

- Civil partnerships
- Celibacy
- Vocation to religious life

### Being a good parent and the changing nature of the family

- Love, care for and raise children to know right from wrong.
- If religious, to raise the children within your faith.
- Family life is still considered the best environment for raising children (nuclear family).
- 25% of UK children live in single parent families.
- Same sex couples can legally adopt.
- Religions see the family as the perfect environment to raise children.
- Christians see children as 'a gift from God' and honour the commandment 'Honour your father and mother.'
- Muslims see the extended family as the basis of Islamic society and part of Allah's plan. The family shapes the moral values of the children.

### Sex outside Marriage

#### CHRISTIAN VIEW-

1. Adultery destroys trust and breaks promises made before God.
2. Commandment - "You shall not commit adultery."
3. Jesus taught lust is wrong.
4. Jesus forgave a woman who was caught in adultery.
5. Marriage is an unbreakable bond and sex is a sacrament.

#### MUSLIMS VIEW-

1. Adultery is a serious sin.
2. Qur'an teaches against it.
3. It is shameful and opens the way to other evils.
4. The Qur'an teaches that men and women found guilty of adultery should be flogged with a hundred stripes?

### Divorce

- One third of UK marriages end in divorce.
- It is allowed after one year of marriage if the marriage cannot be saved.
- People can re-marry as many times as they wish.

#### CHRISTIAN VIEW-

1. Jesus said anyone who divorced and re-married committed adultery.
2. The church helps divorced people.
3. Vows made before God should be kept sacred.
4. Roman Catholics can separate but can not marry someone else while their partner is still alive.
5. Divorced Anglicans can marry someone else in the church with the Bishop's permission.
6. Protestant churches accept divorce and allow re-marriage in the church as long as the couple take the vows seriously.
7. Roman Catholics allow annulment.

#### MUSLIM VIEWS-

1. Divorce is 'Hateful to Allah' but allowed as a last resort.
2. The couple have to wait 3 months to see if the wife is pregnant and give it another try.
3. Husband must support his wife until she re-marries, but only if it is not the wife's fault.

# RE, Sport and Leisure!

## RE, SPORT AND LEISURE

### RELIGION, SPORT AND LEISURE KEY WORDS

**Stress**- the mental or physical distress caused by pressure or difficult circumstances

**Relaxation**- the act of relaxing the body and/ or the mind in order to become less stressed

**Stress relief**- the reduction or removal of mental or physical stress

**Healthy living**- living a life which is good for the body, both physically and mentally

**Pilgrimage**- a physical journey to a special place. It can also be a person's inner spiritual journey.

**Inspiration**- the stimulation of the mind that leads a person to do something creative

**Gambling**- playing games of chance for money

**Binge drinking**- consuming an excessive amount of alcohol in a short amount of time

**Casino**- a place where people play games of chance, such as roulette, blackjack and poker

**Sabbath**- a day of rest and worship

**Fair competition**- where the contestants have a more-or-less equal chance of winning

**Performance-enhancing drugs**- substances used by those involved in sport to improve their performance. This practice is illegal and is a form of cheating

**Memorabilia**- a collection of memorable things linked to a particular person or sport

**Chaplain**- a priest, pastor, or rabbi, imam or other member of the clergy who advises on moral, ethical and spiritual matters

**Superstar**- a widely acclaimed celebrity, such as a film star or sports star, who has great popular appeal

**Sponsorship**- the provision of financial or material assistance by a private enterprise or business in return for publicity

**Amateur**- a person who performs or takes part in an activity as an unpaid pastime, rather than as a profession

### Stress

- The result of excessive pressure
- Signs of stress are: unable to concentrate; overworking; behaviour changes; loss of self-confidence; increased smoking or drinking; increased absence at work.

### Relaxation

- Form of stress relief
- Keeps stress levels low
- Improves health
- Benefits are that it reduces the risk of heart attacks, improves memory, and helps immune system, protection from mental health problems.
- Ways of relaxing- listening to music, yoga, massage, meditating, exercise.

Meditation- Buddhists have practised meditating for thousands of years. It frees the mind, gets you in touch with deep feelings, and frees emotions such as hatred, anger. People use it as a form of stress relief.

### Leisure (free time) The Benefits and how it allows people to live fulfilled lives

- The purpose of leisure is to: get rid of boredom; refresh a person physically and mentally; encourage social relationships; give a feeling of belonging; encourage development of new skills; stimulate creativity.
- **Benefits of leisure**
  - relax the mind, e.g. Watching a movie, reading a book
  - stretch the mind, e.g. learning another language
  - socialise and meet new people, e.g. Dancing, joining a club

- obtain peace, e.g. sitting quietly
  - serve others, e.g. support a charity
  - improve fitness, e.g. go to the gym
  - replenish energy after a long day, e.g. watch TV
  - pursue spiritual activities, e.g. prayer or meditation
- Leisure time allows people to be creative and develop their talents. Music is a vital part of the leisure industry.
  - Religious believers think that natural ability is a gift from God and leisure time allows people to use this gift.

### **Religious attitudes to leisure**

- It is valuable and important as it renews and refreshes the body, mind and spirit.
- Gives believers time to practise their faith.
- Time can be spent in worship, prayer or meditation at home or in a place of worship.
- Jesus left crowds of people to spend time alone with God.

### **Religious people believe the benefits of leisure are:**

- It allows believers to fully participate in the life of their faith community.
- Young people take part in activities run by believers, youth clubs, sports teams, summer camps.

### **Pilgrimage**

- Leisure time allows time for pilgrimage.
- Christians and Jews go to Israel, Muslims go on the Hajj.

### **The Parable of the Rich Young Fool (Video on VLE)**

Jesus told the story of a young man who grew an enormous crop of corn on his land. He pulled down his barns to make bigger ones so that he could get every last grain stored. He worked very hard and never took time for leisure. He said that he would work really hard and then when he was older and had finished he would take time for leisure. God spoke to him and told him that he was going to die and so would not have time to enjoy his riches. He had wasted his life working.

### **Misuse of Leisure time**

- Gambling
- Binge drinking- costs the NHS 20 billion per year, leads to absence from work, crime and violence. 40% of people who come into Casualty come in because of alcohol related problems.

### **Casinos (Religious views)**

- They are against gambling
- Cheat people out of money the odds are too high
- Leads to Selfishness and greed
- People become addicted which leads to poverty for them and their families
- There are better ways to spend money

### **Binge Drinking (Religious views)**

- Causes harm to the body which is God's temple
- Leads to ill-treatment of children and marriage problems
- Loss of moral integrity
- All religions condemn excessive consumption of alcohol.

### **Benefits of sport:**

- a. Improves stamina and concentration

- b. Helps fight anxiety and depression
- c. Improves physical skills
- d. Gives sense of belonging and chance to work as team
- e. Provides opportunities to socialise

Teamwork- Give peoples a sense of belonging, purpose, an appreciation of the value of working together to achieve a common goal.

### Christianity and Sport

- Sport is good, but shouldn't become more important than God or an idol.
- Keeps the God-given body healthy

### Muslims and sport

- It is encouraged
- Modesty must be protected so this stops women from taking part in certain sports
- Muhammad took part in wrestling, racing, archery and horse racing

### Holy days and sport

- Some religious believers think the Sabbath should be kept Holy as it is a day of rest
- There are lots of other days sport could be played
- Ball games and cycle rides are allowed
- If sports events were not allowed on Holy days this would stop it being played on Fridays for Muslims, Saturdays for Jews, Sundays for Christians.

### CASE STUDY

'The Flying Scotsman' Eric Liddell was meant to run the 100 metres race in the Paris Olympics but this race was on a Sunday which meant he couldn't race because it would have meant breaking the Commandment (Keep the Sabbath Holy). Instead he ran the 400 metres on a different day and he won and broke the world record as well!

### Morality in Sport

- Religious believers think honesty is essential in sport
- There are ways people try to cheat in sport, eg, trick the referee, in rugby try to injure the opponents.
- Religious believers encourage sportsmanship and fair competition

### Money in sport

- The use of money causes problems, e.g. in football some teams have more money than others and can buy better players and equipment.
- Some countries have more money to spend on facilities than others.

### Technology and sport

- Science and technology are used to give an advantage over others
  1. special clothing
  2. Designers design faster equipment, e.g. faster cars in formula one.
  3. athletes train overseas at higher altitude
  4. special diets

### Modesty

- Shari'ah law says that Muslims are not allowed to uncover certain parts of their body in public. For men this is the area between the knees and belly button.
- Women are not allowed to reveal the shape of their bodies as this is seen as obscene and a disgrace.
- In the past Iranian women have competed in pistol and rifle shooting and women in Saudi Arabia were not allowed to take part in any sports.

- Sporting activities where men and women compete together are not allowed in Islam.
- Susi Susanti, a Muslim, was the first Olympic athlete to win a gold medal for Indonesia in badminton
- Algeria's Hassiba Boulmerka won the 15, 00 metres in 1992 wearing running shorts, so some Muslims are not so strict.

### Performance- enhancing drugs

#### **The Risks**

1. Caught and banned from the sport
2. Shamed
3. Side effects- jaundice, liver damage, mood swings, depressions. In women it causes hair growth, deepening of the voice.

#### **Why do people take the risk?**

1. to gain an advantage
2. for fame and fortune

### Religious Views

- all 6 major religions are against it
- it is cheating
- dishonourable
- stealing (if prize money is won)
- illegal
- dangerous

### What should the punishments be?

- Dwaine Chambers- British Athlete failed a drug test in 2003 because he took anabolic steroid THG. He was banned from taking part in the British Olympics for life and all athletic competitions for 2 years. He had to repay the £180,000 prize money and they took away his gold medal. He returned to running after his ban and in the 2008 he won the Olympic trials but the courts refused to lift his Olympic ban.

### How sports fans show devotion to their team and how sport is becoming like a religion

- Devotion of fans
- Songs sung at matches and hymns sung at church
- Memorabilia - eg. Autographs
- Mementos
- Pilgrimage - sports fans travel to away matches, religious believers go on pilgrimages
- Symbols- clubs have logos, special colours. Etc.

### Christians in sport

- Set up in 1980
- It aims to:
  1. encourage Christians in sport to represent their faith
  2. support churches in preparing sportspeople to represent Christ
  3. train leaders

### Chaplains in sport

- Provide pastoral care and spiritual support
- They are mainly Christian
- SCORE set up in 1991 by the Baptist Church which encourages and trains ministers to help sportspeople.

### Money and sport

- Sports stars are paid huge amount of money



- Sports stadiums, e.g. Wembley costs millions of pounds.

### Sponsorship

- **Advantages for the sponsors:**
  1. the company providing the sponsorship gains publicity
  2. advertising opportunities
  3. reduction in their tax bill
- **Advantages for the sports**
  1. extra finance
  2. higher profile

### Issues of Equality:

#### Gender differences

- There is inequality in the pay of top female sports stars compared to men
- In football the gap is enormous
- Sometimes there are no professional leagues for one gender, e.g. Rugby Union.
- In most sports men and women compete separately except e.g. show jumping
- In the past some sports were only practised by men or women

#### Amateur or professional

- Amateurs do not get paid and do the sport during their leisure time
- They take part for fun, social reasons or to improve a skill

#### The Paralympics Games

- Began in 1960 in Rome
- Takes place every 4 years
- There are different categories depending on the seriousness of the disability
- Technology has helped make this possible

#### Super-athletes

Swimmer Natalie du Tioit lost her left leg but continued to swim. In 2004 Athens Paralympics she won 5 golds and a silver medal. She qualified for the Olympics also and raced in the 10 kilometre race.

### CHRISTIANITY AND ISSUES OF INEQUALITY AND SPORT

"There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Jesus Christ" Galatians.  
Most religions teach that men and women are equal and this should therefore be the same in sport.

# RE and the Multicultural Society!

## MULTICULTURALISM KEY WORDS

**Immigration**- moving to another country to live there

**Multicultural**- consisting of many cultures, races and religions

**Diversity**- differences in customs, religious beliefs or opinion

**Culture**- the customs and way of life of a group or people, including religious beliefs

**Politics**- the activities and affairs involved in managing a government, and the making of decisions that affect other's lives

**State religion**- the official religion of a country

**Freedom of choice**- the idea that people can choose whatever they wish

**Blasphemy laws**- the laws that prevent talk or behaviour that insults God or the gods

**Emigration**- people leaving their home country to go and live in another country

**Tolerance**- the permitting of social, cultural and religious differences without protest, discrimination or interference

**Asylum seeker**- a person who is seeking to be recognised as a refugee and requests permission to live in safety in another country

**Segregation**- the separation of people according to their race or religion

**Integration**- different communities starting to live and work together and see each other as equals

**Political correctness**- describes languages, ideas, policies or behaviour seen as trying to minimise offence to racial, cultural or other identity groups

**Faith community**- a group of people belonging to the same religion

**Custom**- accepted or habitual practice, usually of long standing

**Eid**- a Muslim festival

**Pesach**- festival celebrating the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt

## Why has Britain become multicultural?

### Reasons why people have settled in Britain:

- Invasion
- Citizenship of a country that was formerly part of the British Empire, allowing people to settle in Britain
- Escape from political persecution
- Economic opportunities

## SEE TIMELINE OF THE HISTORY OF IMMIGRATION!

### Multicultural Britain - the Benefits

- Greater choice of food: Indian, Chinese, Mexican
- Music: African, Caribbean,
- Fashion: ethnic styles
- Events and religion: cultural festivals and religious celebrations, eg. The Chinese new year, Ramadan, Notting Hill Carnival, etc.
- Media: special TV programmes for minority groups
- Sport: men and women from minority groups have enhanced Britain's success in sports

### Religion in Britain

- Christianity has the most followers, 71% of religious people are Christian
- Religious diversity occurs in Britain, e.g. in politics, e.g. the Islamic Party of Britain, schools, there are Jewish schools and Muslim schools.

## CASE STUDY

London is one of the most cosmopolitan cities in the world. A survey showed that over 250 languages are spoken as a first language in London. After English the most popular language is Bengali and Silheti, Punjabi, Gujarati, and Hindi. There are around 40 Hindu temples, 25 Sikh, temples, and 150 mosques in London. Tower Hamlets has the highest proportion of Muslim residents.

### Advantages:

- Diversity of culture and lifestyles
- Different traditions, customs, etc.
- Variety of cuisine
- Opportunities for learning about cultures
- Music
- Dynamic economy with more jobs
- Access to new skills and ideas
- Better public services

### Religion and Politics - should they mix?

#### **Christian views**

- Many Christians are involved in politics
- They hold an annual Westminster Carol Service to encourage Christians into politics
- Some Christians do not think it should mix. Jesus said 'Give to Caesar what is Caesar's and give to God what is God's. (Caesar was a political ruler)

#### **Muslim views**

- Muslims are activity engaged in politics
- The Islam Party of Britain has been formed

### Arguments for and against

#### Against-

- Politics is a struggle for power and religion is more concerned with the spiritual aspect
- Members of other faiths (or none) may take offence if religion influences politics
- Political beliefs and religious beliefs may not agree e.g. the issue of abortion
- It might lead to laws that do not reflect what most people believe.

#### For-

- Religious believers feel it is right to influence people on moral issues
- Religious people would not be in it for their own benefit, they would look after the interests of the public
- It is important to protect religious freedom
- Politicians need divine guidance
- It might stop terrorism



### State Religion

- In the UK state religion is Christianity and the Church of England is the main denomination.
- The Pope was in charge of the Church of England, but he refused to annul Henry VIII marriage so Henry VIII declared himself as Supreme Head of the Church of England. The Queen is now Head of State.
- The Queen has to approve the appointment of archbishops and bishops
- The Church of England is also involved in making laws.
- Two archbishops sit in the House of Lords and are called the 'Lord's Spiritual.'
- Some people argue that we shouldn't have a state religion because we are multi-faith.

### Blasphemy Laws

- Protects the beliefs of the Church of England- it is a publication about God, Christ, the Christian religion or the Bible that vilified Christianity and used words which were scurrilous, abusive or offensive.
- It only applies to Christianity.
- Other faiths, e.g. Muslims, take great offence at insults against the Prophet Muhammad and so want the law to cover Islam.
- Others want to see the law abolished as it goes against Freedom of Speech.

### Immigration and emigration

- In 2007 860 immigrants were legally coming to Britain each day
- They come for economic reasons, jobs, respect, to escape war.
- We need immigrants for essential skills, contribution to the economy, motivation.

### Problems with immigration

- Prejudice
- Seen as a threat
- Racial tension
- Political parties want to stop all non-white immigration
- Lack of housing and services to cover everyone.

### Asylum Seekers

- Seeking refuge or safety in a country.
- 2007 23,430 applications by asylum seekers
- If their application is not successful they have to leave and go back to their country
- Most religious believers allow them to stay.
- Sometimes segregation occurs- people separate into communities
- Integration is needed to help people to mix.
- The government has encouraged Political Correctness to avoid groups being offended.

### Faith Communities

- Immigrants tend to live in neighbourhoods where there are people of their own race and faith and in time faith communities are created.
- The largest British Buddhist community is Soka Gakkai International. It offers teaching to the community and campaigns for peace.
- Large Hindu communities in Britain are found in Harrow and Wembley in London.
- Hope 2008 is a Christian faith group. It aims to help all Christians work together to serve the whole community by giving support to non-religious organisations and doing acts of kindness.
- The Islamic Cultural Centre in London provides services for the Muslim community, such as Health care and advice on many topics.
- Some faith groups work to benefit their community or help people in poverty in Britain and abroad.
- Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim, Christian and Jewish leaders met in Assisi in 1986 and issued the Assisi Declarations. This was to protect the environment.
- Summit on Religions and Conservation in 1995 in Japan.
- A meeting in 2002 at Windsor Castle involved lots of faiths encouraging people of faith locally, nationally and internationally to take part in environmental projects.
- Interfaith group 'Religions for Peace' campaigns for action on violent conflict and climate change- a recent example of their work has been against the war in Iraq.

]

### RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS

## 1. Wesak

- Buddhist festival
- Celebrates the birthday of the Buddha
- Joyful and colourful celebration, homes are cleaned and decorated.
- Buddhists visit the temples for services, to chant and pray.
- Offerings of food, candles and flowers are given to the monks
- Bathing the Buddha takes place
- Lanterns are made
- Birds are released
- Gifts are given

## 2. Diwali

- Hindu festival
- Festival of Light
- Lights are a symbol of good over evil.
- Fireworks, lights, flowers, are used.
- Gifts of sweets are given.
- Goddess of wealth is thanked
- Homes are cleaned and decorated with candles and lamps
- Sikhs also celebrate Diwali but for them it remembers their struggle for freedom.
- Leicester has one of the biggest celebrations outside of India

## Eid-ul-Fitr

- Muslim festival to mark the end of Ramadan.
- They give thanks to Allah for their strength and self-control
- New or best clothes are worn
- Homes are decorated
- Eid cards are sent
- Children get presents and money is given to the Mosque
- A Special meal is eaten during the daytime and the religious services are held outside and in mosques
- It is not a national holiday in Britain but in areas with large numbers of Muslims, schools and businesses often allow the Muslim community to have the day off.

# RE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

## RELIGION AND HUMAN RIGHTS KEY WORDS

Rights- entitlements that all people should have

Responsibility- the legal or moral duty which a person has

Law- a system of rules enforced by a country's legal system with consequences for those who break them

Human rights- the basic rights and freedoms to which all human beings should be entitled

United Declaration of Human Rights- document produced by the United Nations setting out the rights that all people should be entitled to

Human Rights Act- an act of parliament passed in 1998 which says that all organisations have a duty to protect the rights of all individuals in the UK

Legal rights- rights that are laid down as an entitlement by law

Pressure group- an organised collection of people who seek to influence political decisions or promote a particular issue

Abortion- the deliberate termination (ending) of a pregnancy, usually before the foetus is twenty-four week old

Minority- a small group differing from others

**Minority rights-** the rights of a racial, ethnic, religious, linguistic or sexual minority group in a community

**Protest-** a statement or action as a reaction to events or situations. Usually it is against something, although occasionally it can be in support

**Amnesty-** a pardon for crimes committed (usually against the state)

### Rights Abuses

- Being treated differently
- Bullying
- Persecution of minority groups

### Development of rights

- Magna Carta 1215
- Bill of Rights 1689
- 1833 Slavery Abolition Act
- 1819 Cotton Mills and Factories Act - protected children when working
- Factory Act 1878 - protected children
- 2000 Human Rights Act
- 1991- The Rights of the Child



**Responsibilities** go hand in hand with rights. The responsibilities of being a citizen include respecting the rights of everyone and obeying the law.

Religions also have their own laws and rules, in addition to state laws, which have an impact on the rights and responsibilities of citizens who belong to faith groups.

### Christianity and Rights

- Laws- The 10 Commandments
- "There is no authority except that which God has established."
- The law should be obeyed because it is right.
- Sometimes the law needs to be changed to protect the rights of humans and justice.
- The crucifixion of Jesus was legal but it was not just.
- Human beings have rights because God loves them and created man in his own image.
- Respect for all human beings is needed.

### Islam and Rights

- Muslim law is based on four sources; the Qur'an, the Sunnah, the agreed view of Islamic scholars and new case law. ( The Shari'ah Law)
- All laws must agree with the Qur'an and only if the Qur'an does not deal with that subject would Muslims look somewhere else for advice.
- Shari'ah Law protects some human rights, e.g life and property of all citizens in an Islamic country is considered sacred and insulting or making fun of others is forbidden (Haram).

### Human Rights Legislation

#### Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)

- Contains 30 articles/ rights
- Aim was to agree minimum rights for every human being in every country so that everyone could enjoy freedom, justice and peace.
- All member countries of the UN signed the declaration but some countries do not follow the rules.

- Religious believers were in favour of the declaration. Pope Paul VI expressed the need for such a declaration after WW2.
- 1943 Protestants in the USA began working to get religious freedom and the following year other churches got involved.
- Jews began drafting a declaration of human rights after WW2
- The UN built on this work by setting up a Commission on Human Rights

✓ **RESEACH THE 30 ARTICLES FROM THE UDHR**

**The Human Rights Act**

- UK act set up in 1998
- Aim was to add human rights to the law so the UK courts could deal with any breach of a right without going to the European courts.
- The rights set out in the HRA include the right to life, liberty, security, privacy, marriage, family life, free elections, education, fair trial, not to be tortured, etc.
- In some circumstance one person's right might not be defended if they took away another person's right.

**Children's Rights**

- 1989 UN set up the Convention on the Rights of the Child which has 54 articles.
- The aims of these were to help young people have the best opportunities to develop their potential, participate in family, cultural and social life and to protect them from harmful influences.

**Examples-**

1. The right to have a say in matters that affect them
2. The right to be cared for and protected from violence
3. the right to relax and play

UNICEF works to uphold these rights

**Support for Children**

- Childline- confidential support; trained listeners; help from faith communities (if they belong to one); 24 hours a day. Phone, email, text.
- Set up in 1980

**Citizens Advice**

- Began in Second World War
- One of the UK biggest voluntary organisations
- Run by volunteers and paid staff
- It is free
- They give advice by phone, email, centres for people to go to
- Funded by grants
- **Aims are**
  1. Help individuals to know their rights and responsibilities, to be aware of the services available to them and to ensure that their needs are expressed effectively.
  2. To influence the development of local and national social policies and services to benefit all citizens.



**The Samaritans**

- 4,000 people commit suicide each year
- The Samaritans work to help people who feel depressed or have problems.
- Set up in 1953 by a C of E vicar although it is not a religious organisation.
- Work includes a drop in service, text and email service and phone line.

These services aim to give citizens JUSTICE and EMPOWERMENT. They do this by informing them of their rights and what action they can take if their rights are being violated. They provide support, advice and guidance. They empower them with knowledge and help to restore justice.

**Pressure Groups- organisations that work to influence political decisions.**

- Involved in local, national or international politics
- Examples of causes - closing of a residential home, building of a dual carriageway, the level of pensions, global warming.
- They force politicians to take certain issues seriously.
- Some religious people do not support them because they think too much pressure might result in the wrong decisions being made.
- Examples of pressure groups- Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, National Farmers Union, Friends of the Earth, Abortion Rights, SPUC.

**Abortion Rights**

- Campaign for abortion. They are a pro-choice organisation.
- Women should have control over their own bodies.
- Against attempts to lower the abortion limit.
- Against two doctors having to agree to the abortion.

**SPUC**

- 1960s, fights for the protection of the unborn child.
- Promotes understanding of the value of human rights from the moment of conception.
- Acts as a pro-life pressure group and represents the unborn child.
- Many members are religious.

**Protest**

- Examples include Muslims protesting against Blasphemy Laws not taking into account their beliefs.
- Most people choose non-violent means of protest:
  1. writing letters
  2. petitions
  3. marches
  4. involving the media
  5. leaflets and flyers
  6. setting up websites
  7. strikes

**The UDHR allows:**

1. The right to freedom of opinion and expression
2. The right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association

**Religious believers might:**

8. pray
9. discuss the issues in faith groups
10. passive resistance
11. religious parades

**Greenpeace - it is an organisation that conducts worldwide, non-violent campaigns to protect the environment.**

- Founded in Canada in 1971
- Actively involved in
  1. promoting clean renewable and efficient energy
  2. seeking to end the destruction of important forests
  3. campaigning to protect the oceans from radioactive and industrial waste
  4. prevent commercial whale fishing and large-scale driftnet fishing
  5. protesting to ban the testing of nuclear weapons
  6. campaigning to protect mineral resources in Antarctica
  7. preventing the release of genetically-modified organisms into the environment



8. seeking to eliminate persistent, toxic, chemicals from being used in the world

### **Religious Believers and Pressure Groups**

- Religious believers are often involved in protesting against what they see as injustice if they believe article 18 of the UDHR is being broken "Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion."
- Christians in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century campaigned for free education for young people; abolish slavery, child labour and abortion.
- Christians believe in the sanctity of life and they follow the Bible teaching 'Love your neighbour,' and they will campaign to protect these teachings.
- Most religious people choose peaceful means, with the exception of extremists.
- Throughout history however religious extremists have committed acts of violence.

### **Religions and Human Rights**

- Some religions have their own set of human rights e.g. Islam is based on the idea that "Truly, God loves those who are just."
- After the Islamic Declaration of Human Rights, the Cairo Declaration of Human Rights was adopted in 1990.
- Christian Solidarity International was set up to support persecuted Christians. The founder believed that people should have the right to choose their faith.

The **GOLDEN RULE** of treating others as you wish to be treated was seen as the common thread through all religions.

### **Religious protests and support for non-religious campaigning organisations**

#### **Religious Protests**

- Believers protest against disrespect
- They use peaceful means
- An American play was shown in Britain which showed Jesus as a hard-drinking homosexual. This was seen as an insult and Christians protested.
- When cartoons drawn of Muhammad were published in a Danish newspaper Muslims were furious. It is illegal under Shari'ah Law to create pictures of Allah or the prophet Muhammad. This cartoon showed Muhammad wearing a turban shaped like a bomb. Muslims joined demonstrations against the cartoon.

#### **Amnesty International**

- Non-religious organisation
- Many religious people support this organisation which campaigns for the release of people who have been imprisoned solely because of their political, religious or ethical beliefs are in opposition to those who rule the country.
- Religious believers support Amnesty International because the more allies they have the higher the chance of success, also because they are doing good and supporting human rights.

### **Religious Campaigners who Supported Human Rights**

#### **Martin Luther King**

- Leader of civil rights movement which fought to gain equal rights for black people in the USA
- He made the famous speech 'I have a dream...'
- He was awarded a Noble Peace Prize for his campaign to end racial segregation and discrimination by using non-violent methods.
- He was assassinated 4 years after he won the award in 1968

#### **Mohandas Gandhi**

- Political and spiritual leader in India
- Believed in non-violent means of protest

- He led peaceful protests to ease poverty, give women equal rights and religious tolerance, but above all helped to end British control of India.
- Regarded as the father of India



**Groups that campaign for Human Rights:**

1. Christian Solidarity Worldwide
2. The British Muslim Human Rights Centre
3. The Buddhist Tibetan Centre for Human Rights

**Examiner's tips!**

- Before you start to write, take a moment to read all parts of the question a couple of times. This will help if you have a tendency to panic, as it will reassure you that you can do what's being asked.
- Look carefully at how many marks are available for each part of the question and plan your time to make sure you can fit everything in.
- Don't write too much or too little. For 1 mark, you will only need to write a line at most. For 8 marks, you will probably need to write nearly a side of A4 (depending on how big your writing is).
- 1 mark = 1 minute.
- Look for the key words that tell you what the question is asking.  
**GIVE or NAME = give a fact or a statement**  
**DESCRIBE = tell the examiner about something**  
**EXPLAIN = give reasons and examples to show detailed information about something**
- For EXPLAIN questions, use specific religious beliefs and teachings to back up what you say. These do not have to be quoted word for word but you need to show that you understand what the religions are saying. Be specific, not general.
- For "Give your opinion" questions, there are 3 marks available. You don't have to give anyone else's view, but you do have to explain what you think and why you think it. Always use examples to help you. When the question asks for your opinions, you do not get marks for your opinions, you get marks for explaining it, but without your opinion the examiner does not know what you are explaining!!
- For 6 mark evaluation questions, the best way to approach them is with this formula:  
**On the one hand... because...**  
**On the other hand... because...**  
**My view is... because...**
- To get 5 or 6 marks, you need to give reasons for everything you write. Use specific religious examples and be prepared to write in quite a lot of detail. Try not to repeat yourself.
- Use what you know. Include lots of examples and detail is a good way to impress the examiner and access the high grades.
- Remember opinions vary within religions so use the words, **SOME**, and **MOST**...
- Try to use specialist vocabulary like, 'commitment,' 'responsibility,' 'contract,' in your answer as it shows a higher level of skill.
- **DON'T WORRY.** Practice makes perfect.