



# Topic on a Page for GCSE Edexcel B

Religion and Ethics: Marriage and  
the Family

*Christianity* (Short Course)

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# Teacher's Introduction

This resource covers the Religious Studies GCSE Edexcel B Short Course Specification for Paper 1, Section 2: Marriage and the Family.

Theme content is split into two sections and covers eight subtopics in total. The sections are as follows:

1. **A4 teacher information pages.**
2. **Two A3 revision posters\***, between them covering the eight subtopics. These are labelled: **1** to **2**. These posters are intended as a summary of all the material, focusing on the main points rather than the detail, so that all important areas are covered without going into too much depth.
3. **Eight A3 subtopic sheets with activities\***. Each of these sheets covers one subtopic and provides write-on activities for students to complete. Answers are provided in the A4 subtopic revision posters and the A4 answer pages. These are labelled with numbers inside white circles: **2.8**
4. **Eight A4 subtopic revision posters\***. These provide answers for the main activities given in the A3 subtopic activity sheets. As revision posters, these can be used as a summary for each area, and have enough space for teacher or student annotation. These are labelled with numbers inside black circles: **2.8**
5. **A4 answers to questions.** These pages provide answers to the questions not covered on the A4 subtopic revision posters.

\*All posters can be displayed on classroom walls, or given to students to learn in lessons or at home. All numbering refers to the Edexcel B specification references.

## Disclaimer

This resource contains some potentially offensive views; for example, religious views against homosexuality.

## Acknowledgements

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As a whole, the resource can be used to help students to revise at the end of a topic/subtopic, or before a test or an exam. Different styles and layouts are used to make the information interesting, and to help the students engage with the information in a productive way.

H Rich, June 2018

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\* resulting from minor specification changes, suggestions from teachers and peer reviews, or occasional errors reported by customers

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## Marriage and Family: Part 1

**Marriage** is a legal, and sometimes religious, union of two people. In Christianity, this is usually a man and a woman.

### Importance:

- \* A **sacrament** – it has **sanctity** (for some Christians), or is at least an important commitment to God
- \* Helps to maintain a stable society – the Catholic Church teaches that **marriage** and the family are the foundation for good society
- \* Given by God; taught in the Bible

2.1

## Marriage

### Purposes:

- **Procreation** and raising a family
- To have a sexual relationship
- To show one's spouse love, friendship and support
- To symbolise the relationship between Jesus and the Church

Christians have different opinions about **sexual relationships** – which ones are appropriate, and which are not.

Some Christians will accept **cohabitation** as a step towards marriage, but many think love is the most important thing (the 'love' model); this is the position of the Church of England.

### Alternative: cohabitation

**Humanists** and **atheists** might think that **cohabitation** is just as good as, or better than, **marriage** – this lacks importance.

- \* Christians have different opinions about **homosexuality**.
- \* Some who accept homosexual relationships still believe **marriage** should only be between a man and a woman.
- \* Sex is seen as important. Jesus said it bonded a married couple.

'Fornicators... adulterers... sodomites... – none of these will inherit the kingdom of God.' (1 Corinthians 6:9-10 NRSV)

### Premarital

Many Christians disagree about **marriage**, but most accept it in committed relationships or are even more strict.

"But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

(Mark 10:6-9 NRSV)

**Pros: Divorce** is messy and expensive. **Cohabitation** avoids this possibility and can still provide stability for children.

**Cons:** Many Christians believe that sex should only take place within **marriage**, and **cohabitation** may not be as stable for children. Some **atheists** may also agree that **marriage** provides stability.

**Humanists** and **atheists** may be much more relaxed about sexual relationships, as long as they are consensual and do not involve **contraception** and **divorce** and **remarriage**.

Some may object to **divorce** for personal or religious reasons.

In the exam you may be asked to evaluate ethical theories, and responses to non-religious views. You can use the views of different sections of this.

2.6

## Divorce

**Divorce** is the legal end of a **marriage**, when two people no longer wish to remain married.

### Why some Christians do not accept divorce:

They believe **marriage** is an important commitment to one's spouse, and, with God, does not want broken. In some **denominations** it is a **sacrament**.

e.g. the Catholic Church does not accept **divorce** as ending marriage and will not **remarry** divorcees without an **annulment**. It allows annulments – the cancelling of a **marriage** – in some circumstances.

### Remarriage:

If a Church accepts **divorce**, they normally allow **remarriage**, but it is at their discretion with each couple. Many Christians accept remarriage.

**Situation ethics** is an **ethical theory** which holds that people should do *the most loving thing in every situation*. Many people feel that allowing **contraception**, **divorce** and **remarriage** is loving.

### Reasons Christians may accept

- \* There is nothing forbidding it
- \* They think it may be better for people to be able to plan the timing and number of children, e.g. for health and financial reasons
- \* They think children may be better off if their parents have been able to plan their time

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## Marriage and Family: Part 2

A family is a unit of people living together, or who are related, normally involving parents and children.

Types of Family	
<b>Nuclear Family</b>	Two parents with their own biological or adopted children.
<b>Single-parent Family</b>	One parent with their own child/children. This could be due to bereavement, or the end of a relationship between the parents, for example.
<b>Same-sex Parents</b>	Parents of the same sex. They could have adopted, or one could be a biological parent and the other a step-parent.
<b>Extended Family</b>	A family unit which includes relatives such as grandparents, aunts, and uncles.
<b>Blended Family</b>	At least one member of the couple has at least one child from a previous relationship living with them.

### Purposes (Christian):

- \* To fulfil God's command to **procreate**
- \* To raise children in the Christian **faith**

### Purposes (Christian and non-religious):

- \* To educate children
- \* To fulfil the desire to have children
- \* To provide security, love and support for family members

### Important because: Christian:

- \* Families reflect the family of God (all Christians)
- \* Jesus took on human form, so the family is important to God

### Christian and non-religious:

- \* Families may contribute to a stable society

'Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner..."'

Some Christians think that the wife is to help her husband and the man is more important because of teaching in Genesis that the man is made before the woman.

Some Christians believe that husbands should be in charge of their wives because of biblical teaching such as Ephesians 5:21-33.

'And, fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.' (Ephesians 6:4 NRSV)

### Importance of parish support for Christians:

- \* Helps families with educating their children in the Christian **faith**
- \* Helps parents to commit to bringing their children up in the Christian faith, and to spend time with them
- \* Helps parents to teach their children about God and Christianity
- \* Provides practical considerations and problems

Most Christians are wrong because they love their families differently because they love God.

Some Christians think that we should have different roles, e.g. focus on wives and the family, not be involved in politics because of which women should be protected.

Christians have worked with charities to improve the treatment of women worldwide, and politically campaigned for more **equal** treatment of women and men.

Many Christians accept all types of family. Some do not approve of **single-parent** or **blended** families if these have involved relationship breakdowns, or of **same-sex parents**, if they disapprove of

There may be a lot of support available to families from the local church and church community.

### Support for the Family in the Local Parish

#### How the local parish may support the family – it provides:

- \* Family worship
- \* Sunday schools
- \* Fun activities for children such as Messy Church
- \* Rites of passage, e.g. christenings/**baptism**, and **confirmation**
- \* Baby or toddler groups
- \* Help with childcare
- \* Parenting classes
- \* Family **counselling**

The church emphasises the importance of children. The church community wants to show love and care for fellow Christians.

- \* They want the children to grow up in the Christian **faith** and to maintain a positive relationship with God and the Church.
- \* The Bible teaches parents to love their children and teaches children to love and obey their parents, so they want to support this.

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1. What is marriage, in general and in Christianity?

Marriage is...



## Purposes:

- **Procreation** and raising a family
- To have a sexual relationship
- To show one's spouse love, friendship and support
- To symbolise the relationship between Jesus and the Church

4. What are your views on cohabitation?

## Marriage

### Importance:

- \* A **sacrament** – it has **spiritual** significance for some Christians, or is at least an important commitment to God
- \* Helps to maintain a stable society – the Catholic Church teaches that **marriage** and the family are the foundation for good society
- \* Given by God; taught in the Bible

Some Christians will accept **cohabitation** as a step towards marriage, as they think love is the most important thing (the Golden Rule); this is the position of the Church of England.

### Alternative: cohabitation

**Humanists** and **atheists** might think that **cohabitation** is just as good as, or better than, **marriage** – this lacks importance.

2. Fill in the Bible quote.

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(Mark 10:6-9 NRSV)

Pros:

1)

2)

Cons:

1)

2)

3. Give two religious or non-religious pros and cons for cohabitation.

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- \* Christians have different opinions on **homosexuality**.
- \* Some who accept homosexual relationships still believe that **marriage** should only be between a man and a woman.
- \* Sex is seen as important because Jesus said it bonded a heterosexual, married couple.

Homosexuality	
Why some Christians accept it	Why some Christians don't accept it
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <b>A</b> _____ said nothing against homosexuality.</li> <li>* Many Christians believe <b>B</b> _____ is the most important thing.</li> <li>* Some Christians feel that some of the commandments in the Old Testament (e.g. prohibitions of homosexuality) do not need to be followed, we should follow Jesus instead.</li> <li>* Jesus told people to love _____ others.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The Bible is clear that homosexuality is wrong.</li> <li>* Homosexuality is a sin.</li> <li>* <b>D</b> _____ for this reason.</li> <li>* If the <b>E</b> _____ society, homosexuality is wrong.</li> </ul>

What did St Paul teach about celibacy?

Celibacy:

St Paul taught...

## Sexual Relationships

'Fornicators... adulterers, male prostitutes, sodomites...—none of these will inherit the kingdom of God.' (1 Corinthians 6:9–10 NRSV)

### Premarital sex:

Many Christians disagree with sex before **marriage**, though some accept it in committed relationships, or are even more relaxed.

### Extramarital sex / adultery:

Most Christians disagree with someone **married** having sex with someone they are not married to, as it breaks marriage promises, and is hurtful to their spouse. It is forbidden in the **Ten Commandments**.

Some Christians remain **celibate**, e.g. as Catholic priests or as monks or nuns.

The Catholic Church only approves of sexual relationships which are open to the possibility of new life, so they disapprove of artificial **contraception**. This is taught in the **Decalogue** of the **Medical Humanae Vitae**.

3. Explain what these different groups of people may believe about sex before marriage.

The Catholic Church...

The Church of England...

Liberal Protestants...

Society...

4. Write a short part of 1 Corinthians 6:7–20 which is relevant to this topic and write it here: (not verses 9–10 which are already given.)

Reference:

5. Give your conclusion...

1)

2)

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# Marriage and the Family

A **family** is a unit of people living together, or who are related, normally involving parents and children.

1. Fill in the table with each type of family next to its correct definition.

Types of Family	
	Two parents with their own biological or adopted children.
	One parent with their own child/children. This could be due to bereavement or the end of a relationship between the parents.
	Parents of the same sex. They could have adopted, or one could be the biological parent of the child/children.
	A family unit where extra relatives such as grandparents also live.
	At least one member of the couple has at least one child from a previous relationship living with them.

Same-sex Parents  
Extended Family  
Blended Family  
Nuclear Family  
Single-parent Family



Purposes (Christian):  
?

?

Purposes (Christian and non-religious):

- \* To fulfil the desire to have children
- \* To provide security, love and support for family members

Important because:

Christian:  
?

Jesus took part in human family life, so the family is important to God

Christian and non-religious:  
?

Families

Many Christians accept all types of family. Some do not approve of **single-parent** or **blended** families if these have involved relationship breakdowns, or of **same-sex parents** if they disapprove of **homosexuality**.

3. Fill in the Bible quote.

4. Find another Bible quote that relates to family, e.g. their purpose or importance. Write it here: (Hint: try Genesis 1 or 1 Timothy 5.)

Reference:

5. Explain two reasons why Christians may (4 marks) (Exam Practice)

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## Marriage and the Family



There may be a lot of support available to families from the local church and church community.

### Support for the Family in the Local Parish

1. Give another three things which the local parish may provide to support the family.

How the local parish may support the family – it provides

?

?

?

- \* Family worship
- \* Baby or toddler groups
- \* Help with childcare
- \* Parenting classes
- \* Family **counselling**

### Importance of parish support for Christians:

- \* Helps families with \_\_\_\_\_ their children in the Christian **faith**
- \* Helps parents to \_\_\_\_\_ to bringing their children up in the time \_\_\_\_\_ their faith \_\_\_\_\_ children
- \* Helps parents keep their children \_\_\_\_\_ in God and Christianity
- \* Helps with \_\_\_\_\_ considerations and problems

3. Fill in the gaps! Use the words in the box below.

Give two reasons why the local parish supports the family.

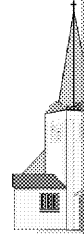
Why the local parish supports the family:

?

?

- \* They want the children to grow up in the Christian **faith** and to maintain a positive relationship with God and the Church.
- \* The Bible teaches parents to love their children and teaches children to love and obey their parents, so they want to support this.

‘... Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them...”’  
(Matthew 19:14 NRSV)



5. Do you think it would be harder for parents to bring their children up as Christians without the support of the local parish? Why / why not?

4. Why do you think that family worship is important for families?



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## Marriage and the Family

### 1. What is contraception? What are its uses?

**Humanists** and **atheists** are likely to be much more relaxed about **contraception**.

In the exam you may need to give ethical theories, and Christian responses to non-religious views. You can use the views in the main sections of this poster.

**Situation ethics** is an **ethical theory** which holds that people should do the right thing in every situation. Many people think that using contraception is loving.



Many people plan the size and timing of their family. Contraception is...



The Catholic Church only approves of sexual relationships which are open to the possibility of new life, so they disapprove of artificial **contraception**. This is taught in the encyclical *Humanae Vitae*.

3. What do you think about this?

☐  
☐  
☐  
☐  
☐

### Family Planning

### Methods of contraception and family planning

**A** approved of by many Christians if it is thought-through.

**D** Some Catholics use this as it is less fertile to try to limit the number of children.

**C** e.g. condoms: approved of by many Christians. Some Christians approve of artificial **contraception**.

**B** e.g. the pill: approved of by many Christians. They may not approve if there is a possibility they could cause a miscarriage.

### 2. Give three reasons why some Christians accept contraception. (Hint: consider the Bible, parents and children.)

Reasons Christians may accept contraception:

1)

2)

3)



### 4. Discuss your views on contraception and types of contraception with a partner. Make some notes.

### 5. Do you think it is helpful when people use contraception?

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## Marriage and the Family

"'But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.'"

(Mark 10:6-9 NRSV)

1. Give a definition of divorce.

Divorce is...



Divorce

3. Fill in the gaps! Use the words in the box below. Use one three times.

**Why some Christians do not accept divorce:**

They believe marriage is an important \_\_\_\_\_ to one's spouse and God, which God does not want broken. In some denominations it is a \_\_\_\_\_.

e.g. the \_\_\_\_\_ Church does not accept divorce as ending marriage and will not remarry divorcees without an \_\_\_\_\_. It allows annulments – the cancelling of a marriage – in some circumstances.

annulment  
Catholic  
sacrament  
loving  
commitment  
adultery  
remarriage

4. What do you think of divorce? Do you think there is a good reason for not allowing divorce? Why / why not?



**Divorce** is messy and expensive. **Cohabitation** avoids this possibility and can still provide stability for children.

2. Fill in the Bible quote.

(Matthew 19:9 NRSV)

**Why some Christians accept divorce:**

- \* Jesus allowed divorce for \_\_\_\_\_.
- \* They believe God forgives sins and mistakes.
- \* They think it is more \_\_\_\_\_ to allow people to end an unhappy marriage.

\_\_\_\_\_: If a Church accepts divorce, they normally allow \_\_\_\_\_, but it is at their discretion with each church.

Many Christians accept \_\_\_\_\_.

5. Explain two reasons why some Christians accept divorce. (4 marks) (Practice)

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1. Fill in the Bible quote:

(Genesis 2:18 NRSV)

Some Christians think that \_\_\_\_\_ the wife is to \_\_\_\_\_ her husband, and \_\_\_\_\_ man is more \_\_\_\_\_ than the woman because of teaching in Genesis 2, where man is made before woman.

2. Fill in the gaps!  
Use the words in the box below.

biblical  
important  
tempted  
help  
husbands



Why men and women should have different roles in the family

Some Christians think a husband should lead his wife, and a wife should not lead her husband, because Eve led Adam astray when \_\_\_\_\_ by the serpent in Genesis 3.

'Wives, be subject to your husbands as you are to the Lord. From \_\_\_\_\_ head of the church, \_\_\_\_\_ (Ephesians 5:22-23 NRSV)

Some Christians believe that \_\_\_\_\_ should be in charge of their wives because of \_\_\_\_\_ teaching such as Ephesians 5:21-33.

Christians have different opinions about **gender equality** and **gender roles** in the family – whether men and women have been created for different purposes by God. **Equality** is about having the same opportunities and rights, and being treated fairly. This does not necessarily mean being treated in the same way.

Equality of Men and Women in the Family

Why men and women should not have different roles in the family

4. Do you think Christians

3. Give three reasons why women are equal and should have different roles in the family.

1)

'So God created \_\_\_\_\_ in the image \_\_\_\_\_ male and \_\_\_\_\_ (Genesis 1:26-27)

5. Do you think

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## Marriage and the Family

1. Give definitions of gender prejudice and gender discrimination.

Most Christians think it is **A** \_\_\_\_\_ to treat people differently in any unfair way because they believe God loves everyone equally.

Gender prejudice is...

Gender discrimination is...

The \_\_\_\_\_ of disadvantage women, but can

### Gender Prejudice and Discrimination

Some Christians think that

A \_\_\_\_\_ of the

e.g. focusing on being wives

and mothers in the family,

and should not be allowed

to become **D** \_\_\_\_\_,

because of Bible quotes

which indicate that women

should not lead.

Other Christians, e.g. Quakers, may see such

**E** \_\_\_\_\_ as unfair. Many Churches allow

women to become priests/ministers, and

women have been able to become bishops in the

Church of England since **F** \_\_\_\_\_; so they

can now hold all the same roles as men.

Christians have worked with  
charities to improve the  
treatment of women  
worldwide, and have  
campaigns **B** \_\_\_\_\_ for  
more equal treatment of  
women and men.

2. Write the correct multiple-choice answers in the gaps.

- A** – legal illegal wrong  
**B** – spiritually politically ritually  
**C** – worth religions roles  
**D** – priests teachers athletes  
**E** – difference discrimination prejudice  
**F** – 1994 2004 2014

4. Do you think that \_\_\_\_\_ be \_\_\_\_\_ grounds for any type of gender discrimination? \_\_\_\_\_ not:

5. Do you think religion has done \_\_\_\_\_ gender prejudice and discrimination?

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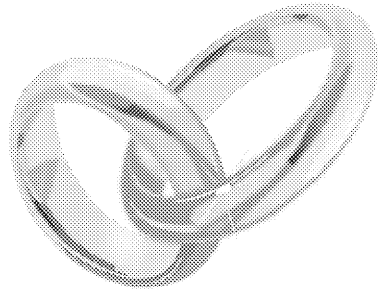


# Marriage and the Family

**Marriage** is a legal, and sometimes religious, union of two people.  
In Christianity, this is usually a man and a woman.

## Importance:

- \* A **sacrament** – it has **sanctity** (for Christians), at least an important commitment to God
- \* Helps to maintain a stable society – the Catholic Church teaches that **marriage** and the family are the foundation for good society
- \* Given by God; taught in the Bible



“‘But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female.’ For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

(Mark 10:6–9 NRSV)

## Marriage

### Purpose

- To
- To
- To
- To

Humanists and a  
be

### Pros:

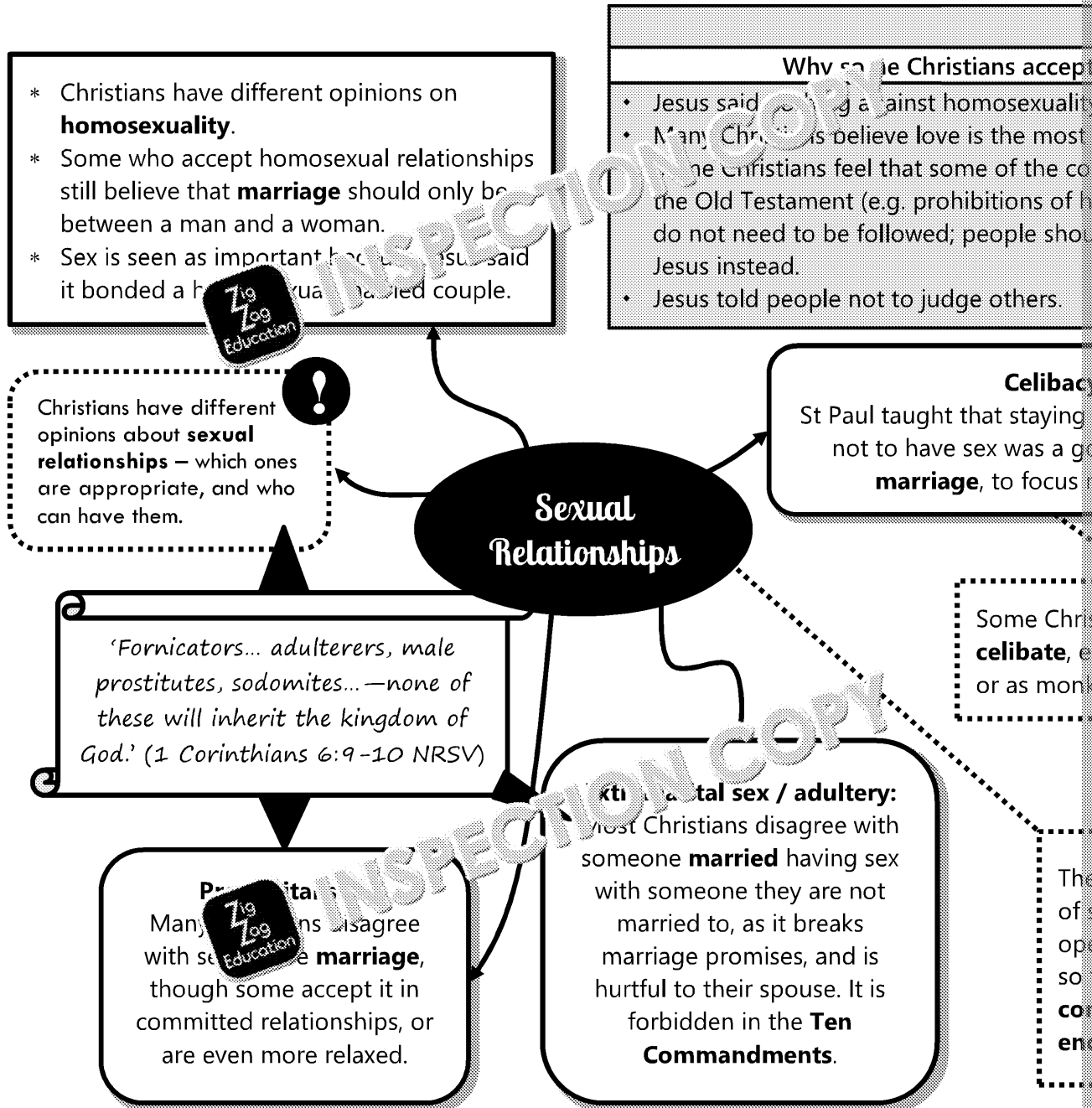
**Divorce** is mes  
expensive. **Coha**  
avoids this possi  
can still provide st  
children

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## Marriage and the Family



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# Marriage and the Family

A **family** is a unit of people living together, or who are related, normally involving parents and children.

## Types of Family

<b>Nuclear Family</b>	Two parents with their own biological or adopted children.
<b>Single-parent Family</b>	One parent with their own child/children. This could be due to bereavement or the end of a relationship between the parents, for example.
<b>Same-sex Parents</b>	Parents of the same sex. They could have adopted, or one could be the biological parent of the child/children.
<b>Extended Family</b>	A family unit where extra relatives such as grandparents also live.
<b>Blended Family</b>	At least one member of the couple has at least one child from a previous relationship living with them.

## Purposes (Christian):

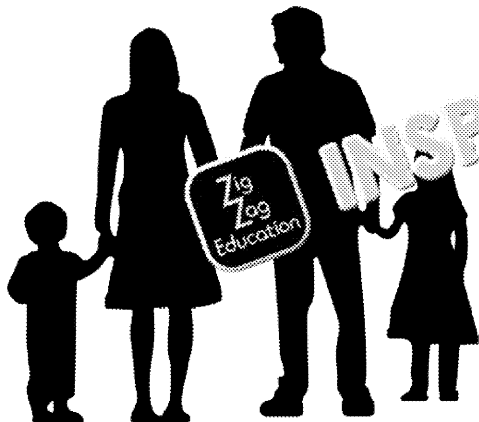
- \* To fulfil God's commandments
- \* To raise children in the faith

## Purposes (Christian and secular):

- \* To educate children
- \* To fulfil the desire to have children
- \* To provide security and love for family members

## Families

Many Christians accept all types of family. Some do not, as these have involved relationship breakdowns, or of



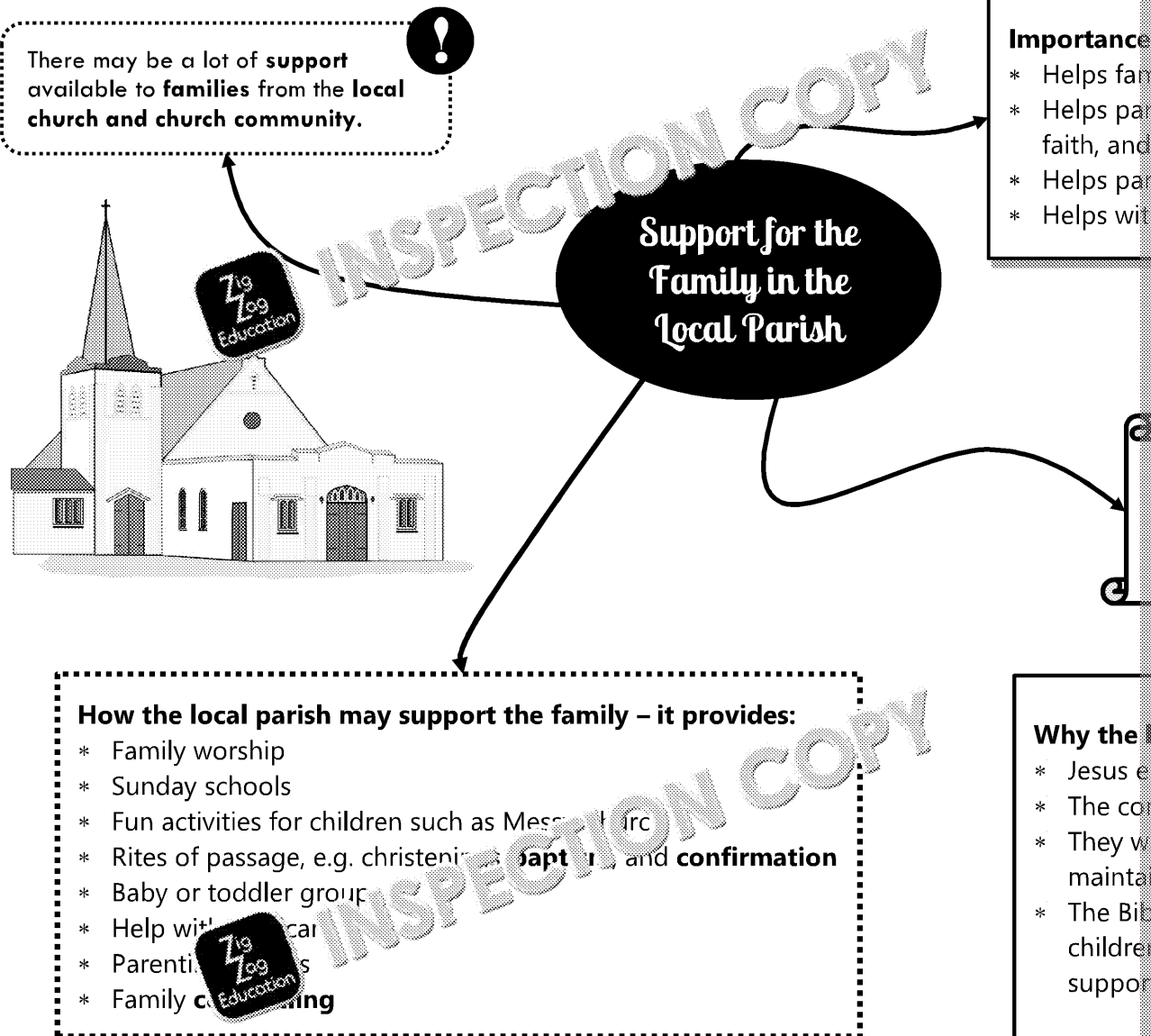
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## Marriage and the Family



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## Marriage and the Family

**Humanists** and **atheists** are likely to be much more relaxed about **contraception**.

In the exam you may need to give ethical theories, and Christian responses to non-religious views. You can use the views in the main sections of this booklet.

Many people plan the size and timing of their families. **Contraception** is something that stops someone becoming pregnant. Some forms of contraception also stop the spread of certain diseases.

**Situation ethics** is an **ethical theory** which holds that people should do *the most loving thing in every situation*. Many people feel that allowing contraception is loving.

### Family Planning

#### Methods of contraception

#### Reasons Christians may accept contraception:

- \* There is nothing forbidding it in the Bible.
- \* They think it may be better for the parents to be able to plan the timing and number of their children. e.g. for health and financial reasons.
- \* They think children may be better off if their parents have been able to plan their timing and number.

**Sterilisation** is a permanent method of contraception. It is approved by many Christians if it is thought-through.

**Hormonal methods**, e.g. the Pill, are approved of by many Christians. Some may not approve if there is a risk they could cause a miscarriage.

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## Marriage and the Family

“‘But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

(Mark 10:6-9 NRSV)

**Divorce** is messy and expensive.  
Possibility and this can still prove

### Divorce

**Divorce** is the legal end of a **marriage**, when two people no longer wish to remain married.

#### Why some Christians accept divorce:

- \* Jesus allowed
- \* They believe God
- \* They think it is

#### Why some Christians do not accept divorce:

They believe **marriage** is an important commitment to one's spouse and God, which God does not allow to be broken. In some **denominations** it is a **sacrament**.

#### Remarriage:

If a Church accepts **divorce**, they normally allow **remarriage**, but it is at their discretion with each couple.

Many Christians accept remarriage.

#### Situation

**ethical** to  
holds that  
should do  
loving the  
situation  
people feel  
allowing  
remarriage

e.g. the Catholic Church does not accept **divorce** as ending marriage and will not **remarry** divorcees without an **annulment**. It allows annulments – the cancelling of a **marriage** – in some circumstances.

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## Marriage and the Family

'Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner."' (Genesis 2:18 NRSV)

Christians have different views on whether men and women should have the same opportunities. This may mean being treated in the same way.

Some Christians think that the role of a wife is to help her husband and that a man is more important than a woman because of teaching in Genesis 2, where man is made before woman.

### Equality of Men and Women in the Family

#### Why men and women should have different roles in the family

Some Christians think a husband should lead his wife, and a wife should not lead her husband, because Eve led Adam astray when tempted by the serpent in Genesis 3.

Some Christians believe that husbands should be in charge of their wives because of biblical teaching such as Ephesians 5:21-33.

'Wives, be subject to your husband as you are to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife...' (Ephesians 5:22-23 NRSV)

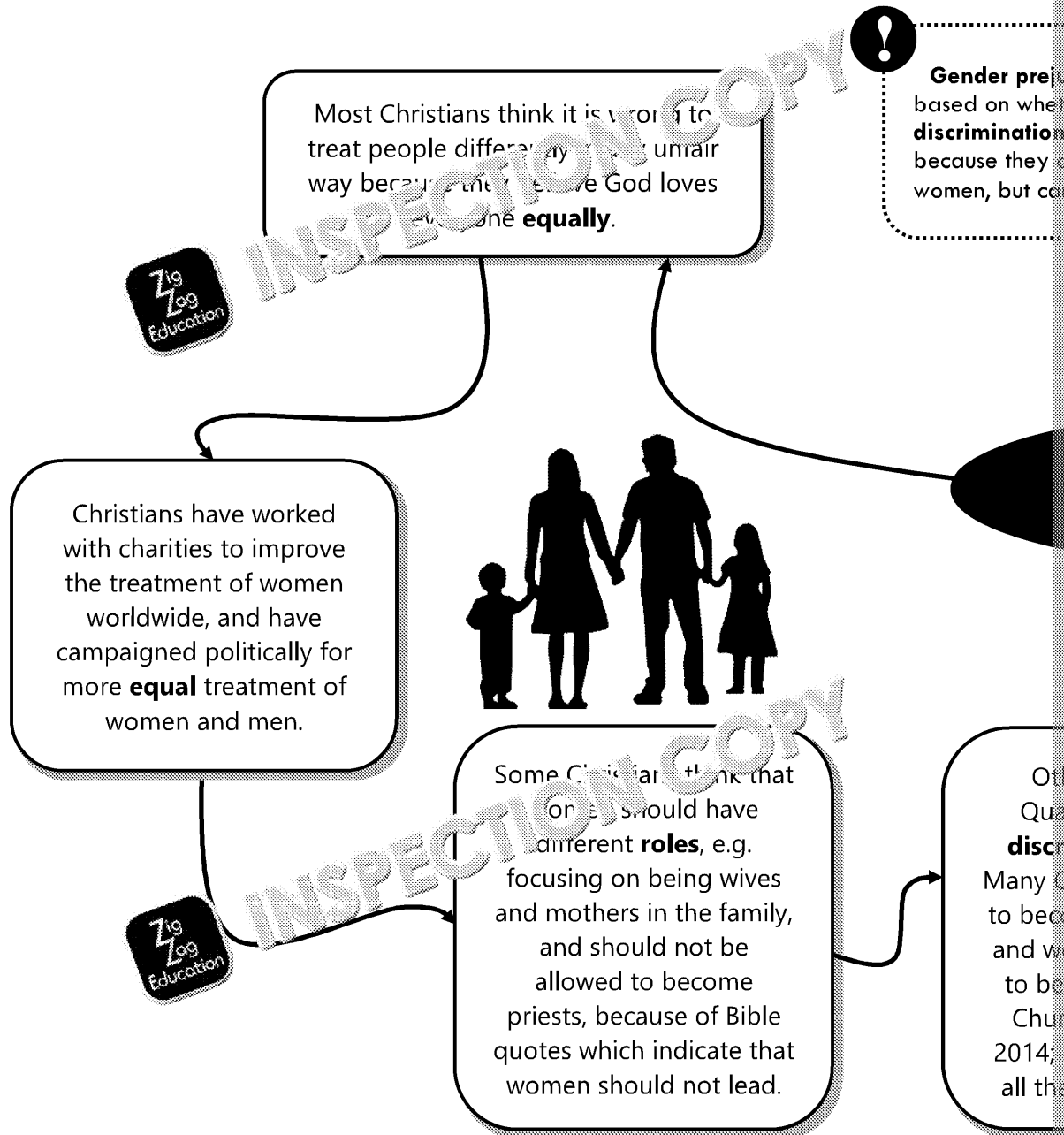
Inflammatory Bible teachings

Christians who think men and women are **equal**. They may think it is fair to treat men and women differently but disagree with different gender **roles** or **unequal** treatment if women do not have the same opportunities as men.

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## Edexcel B Religion and Ethics Topic on a Page

Exam-style questions here are not exactly the same as they would be in an exam. For example, some have more or less clarification, and 12-mark questions may ask for different points to be included than would be asked for in an exam. This is to allow students to practise the ideas taught in this resource.

Always check  
information  
specification

### Marriage

- 1) See summary sheet.
- 2) See summary sheet.
- 3) See summary sheet.
- 4) For example: I think that marriage is important – it is good to make a commitment. However, I think getting married before marriage is sensible, to check that you are ready before committing to marriage.
- 5) For example:  
'To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is well for them to remain unmarried if they are practising self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to be single' (1 Corinthians 7:8–9 NRSV)
- 6) For example:
  - Many Christians believe that marriage is important because it is a gift from God, part of his plan for them. This also allows a Christian to have a sexual relationship and so deepen their relationship.
  - 'But from the beginning of creation, "God made them male and female." They leave their father and mother and are joined to their wife, and the two shall become one flesh' (Mark 10:6–8 NRSV)
  - Christians also believe that marriage is important because it is a lifelong commitment and should not end in divorce. Some Christians emphasise this by classifying marriage as a sacrament.
  - Jesus taught: 'Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate' (Matthew 19:6)

1 mark per simple point, 1 mark per development (maximum 4), 1 mark for a conclusion and authority.

One development cannot be credited twice. Each development must be relevant to the question asked, as must the reference to a source of wisdom and authority.

- 7) For example: I do not think that marriage is a sacrament, just a very important commitment. I think it is holy and cannot be broken. I also do not think that marriage *has to* be a sacrament because two people can have a loving relationship and not want to have children.

### Sexual Relationships

- 1) See summary sheet.
- 2) See summary sheet.
- 3) For example:
  - The Catholic Church disagrees with sex before marriage, believing that a sexual relationship should only take place within a heterosexual married relationship.
  - The Church of England teaches that sex should take place within marriage, committed relationships, seeing this as a step towards marriage.
  - Liberal Protestants may accept sex before marriage as the norm, either within committed relationships or within more casual relationships. (However, this does not mean that they do not want to get married at some point.)
  - Modern society increasingly accepts premarital sex, whether it is casual or committed.

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- 4) For example:  
'... The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.'
- 5) For example:
- Those who engage in homosexual sexual relationships will never be in God's relationship with God.
  - Or: Those in immoral relationships will not be in God's favour / be able to have eternal life; however, homosexual relationships are not necessarily immoral; for example, the Bible does not mention homosexuality.
- 6) For example:

Connections	Judgement
A few shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. <b>Very</b> narrow understanding of religion.	Points not well supported. Does not follow from the question.
Many shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. No good understanding of religion.	Some attempt at support and evaluation, though not fully follow.
Good critical reasoning, and different viewpoints considered. <b>Partially</b> answers the question. Good understanding of religion.	<b>Most</b> points are well supported. Reasonable evaluation and conclusion which is supported.
Good critical reasoning, and different viewpoints considered. <b>Fully</b> answers the question. <b>Consistently</b> good understanding of religion.	<b>All</b> points are well supported. Comprehensive evaluation and conclusion which is fully supported.

#### Points and justification for

- Jesus did not say anything against homosexuality.
- Christians do not keep many of the commandments in the Old Testament, including ones forbidding homosexuality.
- Jesus taught people to love others, and not to judge them, so Christians should not judge them – liberal Christians, such as Quakers, feel this is more important.
- Attitudes against homosexuality may stem in part from an outdated culture of people who wrote the Bible, rather than from God, and so should be discarded.

#### Points and justification against

- There are teachings against homosexuality in the Old Testament of the Bible: 'You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination.' (Leviticus 18:22)
  - There are teachings in the New Testament which imply that homosexuality is wrong: 'Do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, male prostitutes, sodomites, thieves, the drunkard, the glutton, robbers—none of these will inherit the kingdom of God.' (1 Corinthians 6:9-10)
  - Jesus talks about marriage being between a man and a woman, rather than the same sex, implying that this is the only correct type of relationship.
  - Homosexual sex cannot produce children, and the Catholic Church feels that life should be open to the possibility of new life.
  - The Catholic Church believes that heterosexual nuclear families are the best environment for children.
- Accept any relevant point or justification.

- 7) For example, many religions think that religion is helpful in giving people guidance about the right relationships, and the dangers of hurting people in casual or extramarital relationships. Religion is helpful in making decisions about sexuality, as many religions teach love and respect, and are beneficial if people apply these religious principles and treat people who are different with love and respect.

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## Families

- 1) See summary sheet.
- 2) See summary sheet.
- 3) See summary sheet.
- 4) For example:  
'God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth' (Genesis 1:28 NRSV)  
'If a widow has children or grandchildren, they should first learn their religion and make some repayment to their parents; for this is pleasing in God's sight.' (1 Timothy 5:4)
- 5) For example:
  - God told humanity to go forth and multiply. Christians want to follow God's command that there are humans to steward the earth, and also so they can create more humans.
  - Christians may also choose to have children to educate and nurture them. Parents want their children and to have their children to be there to support them.

1 mark per point, 2 marks per developed point (maximum 4)  
One development cannot be credited twice. Each development must be relevant to the question asked.
- 6) For example:
  - Some Christians will disapprove of single parents if this situation has arisen because many Christians believe that people should marry before they have children for their whole life.
  - Some Christians will disapprove of blended families because they believe children with their spouse, should have one partner for life, should not divorce and have a new partner.
  - Some Christians will disapprove of same-sex parents because they believe because of biblical teaching, such as in Leviticus. Also, they may believe that people should have children – for example, the Catholic Church believes that heterosexual marriage is the basis for a stable society.
- 7) For example: I think there must be some religious practices involved in raising children. Children will not learn about the religion and how to practise it. Therefore, these practices are necessary in enabling a child to decide whether they want to follow the faith. Religious practices such as infant baptism are necessary, as parents can raise their children as Christians. Having them baptised as an infant – these practices will be important to some children.

## Support for the Family in the Local Parish

- 1) See summary sheet.
- 2) See summary sheet.
- 3) See summary sheet.
- 4) For example: I think that family worship is important for families because it allows families to engage in worship together – family community is very important in the Christian faith. Children can worship with their parents, and remain engaged, and parents can engage with their children. It is also important for children to learn about Christianity from their parents.
- 5) For example:
  - I think it would be harder for parents to bring their children up as Christians in the local parish because this provides them with so many opportunities, such as family worship, and parents would not be able to create equivalents to these on their own. Parents would start with bringing their children up as Christians, and people in the local parish would support them.
  - I do not think it would be harder for parents to bring their children up as Christians from the local parish because I think parents are still able to read their children the Bible, set them a good Christian example, and other important aspects of raising children. Parents do not need external support.

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- 6) For example:
- Children are important within the local parish because they are important to God, and adults do not always have.
  - '... Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them."
  - Children are important within the local parish because they are the future of the Church. The local parish needs children to be enthusiastic about Christianity so that they grow up about Christianity. The local parish wants to involve children in the Church, and in turn will want to raise their families in the Church.

1 mark per simple point, 1 mark per development (maximum 4), 1 mark for a conclusion and authority.

One development cannot be credited twice. Each development must be relevant to the question asked, as must the conclusion be a source of wisdom and authority.

- 7) For example: I think that Jesus is saying that Christians need to be humble, like the relationship with God. Not believing that they are entitled to God's help, but a means to a end. It is important for children to develop their faith, as it is children who will carry on their faith.

## Family Planning

- See summary sheet.
- See summary sheet.
- See summary sheet.
- For example: I think using contraception is sensible – unwanted pregnancies can be prevented wherever possible. I think it is a sensible idea to use hormonal methods to be extra safe.
- For example: I do not think religious views are helpful when considering whether to use contraception because if people do not use contraception because of religious teachings, but unwanted pregnancies and STIs, and this could damage their health and their lives. Religious texts such as the Bible do not deal with artificial contraception, it is hard to know what contraception *should* be. On the other hand, religious views may help people to consider the spiritual implications of using contraception, and may be helpful in this way.
- For example:

Connections	Judgement
A few shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. <b>Very</b> narrow understanding of religion.	Points not well supported. Points do not follow from argument.
Many shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. <b>Narrow</b> understanding of religion.	Some attempt at supporting points, but evaluation, though correct, does not fully follow.
Good reasoning, and different viewpoints considered. <b>Partially</b> answers the question. Good understanding of religion.	<b>Most</b> points are well supported. A reasonable evaluation, but conclusion which is somewhat weak.
Good critical reasoning, and different viewpoints considered. <b>Fully</b> answers the question. <b>Consistently</b> good understanding of religion.	<b>All</b> points are well supported. A comprehensive evaluation, and a conclusion which is fully justified.

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### Points and justification for

- Christianity teaches that people should not be having sex outside marriage. Sex outside marriage will automatically be wrong.  
'But from the beginning of creation, "God made them male and female." ... they were joined together by their father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.'
- There is nothing forbidding married couples from using contraception in the churches teach that it is acceptable.
- It is sensible to limit the number of one's children and have them at appropriate intervals so that parents and children have a good quality of life.

### Points and justification against

- The Catholic Church believes that using artificial contraception is always wrong. It is always open to the possibility of new life.  
'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it...' (Genesis 1:28)
- Even if people should not have sex outside marriage, if they are having sex within marriage, the most loving thing for them to use contraception to prevent unwanted pregnancies.
- There is no good reason in the twenty-first century for people not to have sex without contraception, if this is consensual and they know what they are doing. The contrary are outdated.

Accept any relevant point or justification.

7) For example:

- Utilitarianism may approve of condom use, as this should help to prevent unwanted pregnancies, which bring pain rather than pleasure.
- Utilitarianism may disapprove of condom use because this may mean that people have a more cautious approach to sex, rather than just having sex with their life partner – this could lead to break-ups, and devalue sex within marriage.

## Divorce

- 1) See summary sheet.
- 2) See summary sheet.
- 3) See summary sheet.
- 4) For example: I think divorce is unfortunate, and marriage should not be taken lightly. If there is a good case for **not** allowing divorce – once a marriage has failed, it is too late to prevent divorce – and I think that even if there is a God who dislikes divorce, he will not prevent it.
- 5) For example:
  - Christians may disagree with divorce because they feel that this breaks the bond between God and one's spouse, and that they should not take the commitment lightly.
  - Christians may disagree with divorce because Jesus spoke out strongly against divorce, saying that humans could not break a bond such as marriage which had been created by God.

1 mark per simple point, 2 marks per developed point (maximum 4)

One development can be marked twice. Each development must be relevant to the question and to the issues involved.

- 6) For example:
  - Pope Francis has been seen to relax Catholic teaching against divorce and remarriage. In his paper *Amoris Laetitia* (*The Joy of Love*) he suggested that people who have remarried (outside of the Catholic Church) may be allowed to receive the Eucharist. Previously, remarried divorcees (who are seen as sinners) were not allowed to receive the Eucharist because they are seen to be sinning. Some are trying to be more tolerant, though still maintaining that divorce and remarriage are wrong.
  - One report suggests that nearly one sixth of married Catholics in the UK have remarried (without receiving a Catholic annulment first). This shows that many Catholics disagree with the Church's strict teaching on divorce and remarriage.

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- 7) For example: I think divorce rates may fall, as fewer people are getting married. There are many reasons in the modern world for high numbers of divorces. Many people feel able to divorce. Some people do not take marriage very seriously, and many people have their marriages, such as financial worries. The declining influence of religion means that people may not feel there are any relevant reasons not to get a divorce.

## Equality of Men and Women in the Family

- 1) See summary sheet.
- 2) See summary sheet.
- 3) See summary sheet.
- 4) For example: I do think Christians are justified in giving women different roles in the Bible and taught by churches such as the Catholic Church – these are important for Christians.
- 5) For example: I do not think it is reasonable for people to have to conform to different roles, because making people perform different roles indicates that they are not equal. They are not performing the same roles, so they are unequal.
- 6) For example: I think it is reasonable for people to have to conform to different roles, because making people perform different roles indicates that they are not equal. They are not performing the same roles, so they are unequal.

Connections	Judgements
<b>A few</b> shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. <b>Very narrow</b> understanding of religion.	Points not well supported. Conclusion does not follow from arguments.
<b>Many</b> shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. <b>Narrow</b> understanding of religion.	Some attempt at supporting arguments, but evaluation, though concluded, does not follow.
Good reasoning, and different viewpoints considered. <b>Partially</b> answers the question. Good understanding of religion.	<b>Most</b> points are well supported. Some reasonable evaluation, leading to a conclusion which is <b>some</b> justified.
Good critical reasoning, and different viewpoints considered. <b>Fully</b> answers the question. <b>Consistently</b> good understanding of religion.	<b>All</b> points are well supported. Comprehensive evaluation leading to a conclusion which is <b>fully</b> justified.

### Points and justification for

- Some Christians, such as liberal Protestants, e.g. Quakers, believe that men and women should have the same roles in the family because they believe that men and women were created in the image of God. 'So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them.' (Genesis 1:27 NRSV)
- Such Christians do not feel that God commanded men and women to fulfil different roles in the family; they are worth the same, and should be treated the same; therefore, they should have the same roles. 'There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; all of you are one in Christ Jesus.' (Galatians 3:28 NRSV)
- They feel that Jesus demonstrated gender equality by treating women with the same respect as men, and by teaching along with his male disciples rather than expecting her to follow him.

### Points and justification against

- Some Christians feel that men and women should fulfil different roles in the family. Evangelical Christians believe that men should have authority over their families, and women should follow them. This is supported by some biblical teaching. 'I permit no woman to teach or to have authority over a man' (1 Timothy 2:12 NRSV)
- The Catholic Church believes that the Church can promote gender equality by encouraging men and women to fulfil different roles in the family. They believe that this does not treat women as less than men, but that it respects the different strengths and weaknesses of men and women. They want women to have different roles in the marriage relationship and in the family.
- Christians should not promote gender equality because Eve was tempted by the devil, and the Bible teaches that the woman is weaker and should fulfil a different role in the family.

Accept any relevant point or justification.

- 7) For example: Women could be ordained in the Methodist Church from 1974, in the Church of England from 1993, and women could become bishops in the Church of Scotland from 1990.

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