

Component 1 Revision Sheets

FAMILY

- Types: nuclear, extended, single parent, reconstituted
- In the past Christianity & Judaism held traditional views of roles of men and women (patriarchal- man as leader of family).
- **Pope Francis calls family an “essential cell of society and the Church”.** He sees that women “play a fundamental role in passing on faith”
- Now seen as a partnership with shared responsibilities. **2014 ONS reported ‘stay at home dads’ doubled since 1993**
- Law changing to reflect **this-2015 became possible for men & women to share parental leave**
- Family is where religious belief is ‘taught’ & ‘caught’- many see it as religious duty to share faith with children (take to place of worship, festivals, rites of passage, prayer, read holy books)
- **Rabbi Schneerson: “The home should be perceived as a microcosm of the universe...In the absence of harmony between one’s own family, we can hardly expect to find harmony between strangers”**
- Humanists think children should choose own beliefs
- Worldwide family- those who share faith are seen as extended family- people of God (**One in Christ**)

CONTRACEPTION

- **Jews:** accepted – pill (doesn’t waste seed), not accepted: condom (prevent bonding of bodies), vasectomy (mutilation of body), coil (spotting of blood = issue for sexual purity laws for orthodox-have to visit mikveh)
- **“A man shall not abstain from (increasing) the race unless he already has children” (Talmud)** –have kids before using it!
- **Roman Catholics:** Rhythm method only. Oppose artificial methods - **Pope in Humanae Vitae said they interfere with moral order.** Against **Aquinas’ Natural Law (primary precept to reproduce & preserve life).**
- More recently- **Pope said contraception could be responsible act** due to overpopulation, disease etc.
- Against God’s first instruction to man: **‘Go forth and multiply’**
- **Other Christians:** God gave conscience, intelligence, free will to decide what is right in situations
- Can be responsible as part of stewardship. Must be agreed between husband & wife
- **Humanists:** permissible in order to enjoy lives, limit size of families, stop spread of STIs. Science should be used to improve quality of life. Sex seen as expression of human affection – so sacred aspect.

SEX

- **Christians & Jews:** Should take place in marriage – chastity. Promiscuity devalues people. Concern children born out of stable environment. A gift from God-holy & sacred.
- **Song of Solomon** contains poems celebrating sexual desire
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- **Maimonides says sex shouldn’t happen without ketubah & kiddushin**
- **Christians:** True Love Waits Movement (to promote chastity- vow to parents-‘silver ring thing’)
- Sin inside the body considered worse: **“Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who dwells in you”**
- **Catechism of Catholic Church: “Sexuality is ordered to the conjugal (within marriage) love of man & woman”**
- **Humanists:** Ok, as long as causes no harm. Accepted in UK society

COHABITATION (living together before marriage)

- **Jews:** Most say it is important to marry
- **In the Torah it says to live as husband & wife, need blessings from God** – received when declare vows
- In practice, many do however, cohabit
- **Christians:** For many, chastity is important
- May see cohabitation as ‘living in sin’
- Devalues sacred nature of sex
- Catholics don’t accept cohabitation
- Baptists may refuse to marry them
- Liberal Christians may feel if living in committed relationship- it is fine

MARRIAGE

- Basis for family life, God given, stability for children, lifelong commitment, exclusive union

Christian beliefs:

- Sacrament of RC Church (an outward sign of an inner blessing – God is involved)
- In Eden, God made Adam for Eve because **“it is not good for man to be alone”**
- Jesus said: **“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united with his wife, and the two will become one flesh”** – They are spiritually tied
- In the service the vicar says: **“What God has joined together, let no man put asunder”** (lifelong union)
- Church of England willing to consider changing in response to society: **“The Church of England considers marriage to be a permanent and lifelong union, but the Church has always sought to combine long-held principles with a response to changes in society in a mature and responsible manner”**

Christianity Ceremony:

- Before wedding, banns read 3 times
- Vicar gives sermon on purpose of marriage (Bible readings e.g. **‘Love is patient’**).
- Vicar asks if there are any ‘lawful impediments’
- Vows exchanged e.g. **‘For better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness & in health, till death do us part’**
- Rings as sign of commitment. Hymns to focus on God
- Legal requirement to sign register (2 witnesses)

Orthodox Christian Ceremony:

- Priest gives couple candles as sign of their willingness to follow Christ & His light
- Priest blesses crowns– symbolises God crowning them with glory
- The ribbon joining the crowns represents unity of the couple.
- Don’t say ‘till death do us part’ because marriage is eternal and death has no power to separate their union

Jewish beliefs:

- Blessing from God. Basis for family life
- **“The mating of animals is a temporary and purely physical act. Through sanctification of marriage however, a husband and wife become the closest of relatives.”** (Maimonides)
- **‘A man without a wife is not complete’** (Proverbs)

Jewish Ceremony:

- Made up of two parts: kiddushin (betrothal – after this a Get would be needed if they separated) and nisuin
- Ketubah- contract stating husband will feed, clothe & care for wife
- Wedding conducted by rabbi under the huppah (representing home, sides open to welcome community support)
- Groom’s vow: **“Behold you are sanctified to me with this ring according to the law of Moses & Israel”**
- Blessing with shared cup of wine. Groom stamps on glass –reminder of destruction of Temple
- Ring on bride’s index finger (connected to heart)- symbol of eternity
- 7 Blessings said praising God for creating human race & bringing happiness to couple: **“We bless you, god, who brings bride & groom together to rejoice in each other”**

SAME SEX RELATIONSHIPS

- Only in 1967 was it decriminalised in UK
- Civil Partnership Act 2004 enabled the same legal rights as married couples
- 2013 Marriage (same-sex) Act legalised marriage in England & Wales – so now two routes same sex couples can take to be legally joined.
- C & Js have traditionally taught homosexuality is wrong but as society changes, there is some disagreement about teachings
- Many say the act of homosexuality is a sin, not the feelings (they hate the 'sin' but have compassion on the 'sinner' – many condemn homophobia & hate/discrimination of any kind
- Many believers make an effort to welcome gay couples into their church

Christian

- Legal same sex marriage can't take place in Christian Churches
- Many oppose it on biblical grounds: **"If a man has sexual relations with a man...both of them have done what is detestable. They are to be put to death"** (Lev. 20:13)
- However, some believe these verses reflect cultural & social values of the time they were written & don't apply today. They may argue there are lots of things condemned in the Bible that would be seen as acceptable now
- Conflict between compassion & Old Testament views: **Macklemore's song (Love is patient, love is kind – love over law), Golden Rule.**
- Some Anglican clergy might perform a church blessing. Some openly gay clergy members too
- Quakers will conduct a service but couple will still need civil ceremony to be legally married.
- United Reform Church recently decided to allow same sex marriages in their churches
- **Pope Francis (Catholic): "A marriage is not the same as the union of two people of the same sex. To distinguish is not to discriminate but to respect differences..."**
- Pope says father & mother needed for family: **"We cannot teach future generations that preparing yourself for planning a family based on the stable relationship between a man & woman is the same as living with a person of the same sex"**
- Catechism urges homosexual people to stay celibate but that they shouldn't face discrimination

Jews

- Orthodox rejects due to **Leviticus** verses
- **Story of Sodom** used against homosexuality by Jews and Christians- the city is destroyed after men demand sex with 2 male angels sent by God
- Reform support same sex – gay people can become rabbis too

REMARRIAGE

- **Catholics** may not remarry in RC church
- **CofE**- minister can make personal decision depending on circumstances of divorce. Some may prefer to do blessing after registry office instead
- **Judaism** marriage encouraged – **"It is not good for man to be alone"**
- Basically, teachings about marriage being sacred could lead someone to say it is the ideal state, even if divorced OR could lead people to say because they have divorced they have dishonoured this sacred union & shouldn't remarry

DIVORCE

CHRISTIAN

- **Jesus: "Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, commits adultery"** (Matt)
- **"What God has joined together, let no one separate"** (Mark)

Catholics

- Don't recognise divorce (believed joined as 'one flesh' in marriage)
- If cohabit after divorce-can't receive Holy Communion
- Marriage is a sacrament that can't be dissolved unless annulled due to special reasons

Other Christians

- Because allowed by law, others accept it – but differing opinions on remarriage
- Attempts to reconcile encouraged. Should be last resort. Accepts stresses of modern life can be a struggle
- Not believed to be God's intention- breaking of solemn vow to God

JUDAISM

- Divorce acceptable as the process is outlined in the Torah: **"When a man takes a wife & marries her, if then she finds no favour in his eyes because he has found some indecency in her, and he writes her a bill of divorce, and puts it in her hand..."** (Deut.)
- Couple apply to Bet Din (rabbinical court, where judges question witnesses). Man gives wife a divorce document (Get) & she receives it with open palms to show acceptance. Corners cut off.
- Must also get a civil divorce if live outside of Israel
- Reform community can issue woman the get if man refuses/disappears but orthodox women may become 'chained women' (agunot) & any children had with another man become 'mamzerim' – a black mark on their social status. Campaigns against this process take place today
- Woman allowed to remarry after 90 days (in case pregnant)
- Although accepted, it should be a last resort: **"Even the altar sheds a tear when a man divorces his wife"** (Talmud)

ADULTERY

CHRISTIANITY

- Marriage is sexually exclusive – they become **'one flesh'**. **"What God has joined together, let no man separate"**
- In vows they promise **"till death do us part"**
- Marriage is a sacrament-gift from God- adultery disrespects this
- Can harm children & destroy lives
- Sin inside body is worse: **"Temple of holy spirit"**
- Ten commandments: **"You shall not commit adultery"**

JUDAISM

- Sex only acceptable within marriage
- **Halakah** emphasises husband should be sexually considerate to wife
- Men & women most fulfilled through marriage, which is referred to as 'kiddushin' (sanctified)
- **Ten commandments forbid it**

INTER-FAITH MARRIAGE

- How can dietary rules be followed?
- Different expectations about gender roles
- Family/religious community might refuse the marriage
- Different beliefs about moral issues e.g. contraception
- Which festivals will they celebrate
- What religion should children be?
- What should children be told about afterlife?
- Mother must be Jewish for children to have Jewish identity

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ORIGIN OF WORLD

Jews & Christians

- See component 2&3 notes. Believe world created perfectly with purpose. Some take 6 day creation literally, some see it as metaphor
- Believe humans created with soul and have dominion over Earth.

Humanists:

- Evidence supports evolution (fossils, survival of fittest)
- Hawkings: The cosmos emerged from a singularity (a tiny point of hot dense matter) & is expanding at great rate –this can be traced back to the Big Bang. In his book 'Grand Design' he attempts to answer -'Why is there something rather than nothing?'- His answer '**M Theory**' – A law of nature capable of spontaneously creating universes. No God needed for origin: *"If the universe is really completely self-contained, having no boundary or edge, it would have neither beginning nor end: it would simply be. What place then, for a creator"*

GOD OR SCIENCE?

GOD: Faith in omnipotent creator, take Genesis literally. Design argument (**Paley's** watch) suggests God created world, not chance. **Aquinas** 1st Cause argument says God is omnipotent '1st mover' who is outside of time and space. **Hoyle** used e.g. of tornado in junk yard creating aircraft-order doesn't come from chaos.

SCIENCE: We know more about science (evolution, adaptation – now we know it is chance). **Hawkings**- more evidence for Big Bang, God isn't needed to explain origin (could be M-Theory), Genesis is scientifically impossible (plants before sun, 6 days but we have fossils created over millions of years, all humans from just Adam & Eve?). Weak design argument (**Bone cancer in children, how dare you!** **S.Fry**, natural disaster, suffering- if there is a God is he malevolent? **Epicurus inconsistent triad**)

BOTH: If don't take 6 days literally you can believe both- Could be 'theistic guided evolution'. **Maimonides** "The account of evolution is not to be taken literally"

STEWARDSHIP JEWS

- Believe they are responsible for Tikkun Olam 'repairing the world'
- Also includes Gemilut Hasidim (good deeds)
- We are interdependent-trees particularly important-millions planted in Israel. Tu b' Shevat festival (New Year for trees- trees planted).
- Bal tashchit ('do not destroy/waste') – original command in **Deut.** Saying don't cut down fruit trees in wartime. Now general waste of environment seen as wrong.
- Jewish Declaration on Nature, Assisi 1986: *"it is our Jewish responsibility to put the defence of the whole of nature at the very centre of our concern"*

STEWARDSHIP CHRISTIAN

- Christian Aid, Tearfund etc. put responsibility into action and pressure governments and industry to care for God's planet **Psalm 24** "The earth is the Lord's"
- Tithing, fasting, praying, harvest festivals, food banks
- Care for animals: *"It is contrary to human dignity to cause animals to suffer or die needlessly"* Catholic Catechism
- Chico Mendes e.g. of Christian rubber tapper who worked for sustainability
- Pope Benedict XVI: *"Care of water resources and attention to climate change are matters of grave importance for the entire human family"*

BOTH RELIGIONS

- They are stewards with dominion – **Gen.1:28, Psalm 8:6.**
- *"The righteous care for the needs of their animals"* (Proverbs)- although some say only human life is sacred/has soul, kindness to animals is part of stewardship
- Importance of global citizenship, promoting sustainability, recycling plastic etc. as a duty of stewardship.
- Teach sustainability- **Deuteronomy 22** says take young birds from nest but not the mother

HUMANISTS

- Human welfare & happiness is key - one life & world we have. It is only humans who can work for a better world- not God
- Involved in UNESCO, which has world-wide environmental responsibilities. Support **birth control** to reduce demands on environment (active in UN birth control programmes).
- Humanists for a Better World-group set up in 2010 to campaign for issues like climate change & global justice
- *"The humanist perspective places a strong emphasis on personal responsibility for our actions"* (**Copson, Chief Exec. Of BHA**)

SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE

BOTH RELIGIONS

- Believe humans created in God's image, with a soul-sacred -should be respected & protected.
- More special than animals? **SMILE:** Soul, morality, intelligence, language, empathy
- Gen.1:31 *"God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good"*
- Jer.1:5 *"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you"*
- Psalm *"You knit me together in my mother's womb"*

HUMANISM

- Special value in human life but not because created by God, but cause its our only life. No afterlife or souls. Respect life & make others happy
- Peter Singer-thinking we are more special than animals is a form of '**speciesism**'; *"a prejudice or bias in favour of the interests of members of one's own species and against those of members of other species"*. He said its just as wrong as racism

ABORTION

- Legal in 1967. Up to 24 weeks. 2 docs must agree pregnancy is more damaging to woman's physical or mental health than the abortion.
- Embryology Act 1990 said abortion permitted after 24 wks in case of severe disability or to save woman's life (links to debates about ethics of aborting disabled children)
- Diverse attitudes because of 'personhood'- when does a foetus become a person?: *"To kill a human adult is murder...Yet there is no obvious sharp line which marks the zygote from the adult. Hence the problem"* (Singer)
- Pro-life & Pro-choice debate

CHRISTIAN- CATHOLICS

- Ensoulment at conception. Abortion forbidden in all circumstances - life is sacred and God given
- Against God's Natural Law (Primary Precept to '**Preserve innocent life**")
- Abortion is murder and against the 10 Commandments *"Do not kill"* (Exodus)
- Catholic Church condemned abortion as early as the 2nd Century: *"You shall not kill the embryo by abortion and shall not cause the unborn to perish"* (**Didache**)

CHURCH OF ENGLAND

- *"The Church of England combines strong opposition to abortion with recognition that there can be-strictly limited-conditions under which it may be morally preferable to any available alternative"* (Synod)
- Not allowed for social reasons- believe that law in Britain has encouraged a very liberal & excessive approach
- If mother's life is in danger, abortion permitted but not encouraged
- For quality of life reasons & out of compassion in case of rape, it is permitted
- Some are pro-choice because God gave us free will

ABORTION cont. JUDAISM

- Opposed by Orthodox- Life is God's greatest gift and should be preserved. God is creator. He alone can take life
- Breaks God's first mitzvot : **"Go forth and multiply"**
- Judaism as whole doesn't forbid it, but does not permit abortion on demand- only serious reasons. Only after discussion with rabbi
- Some Jews more lenient before 40 days (ensoulment) and in special circumstances (rape, incest)
- Unborn foetus not considered a 'person' in Jewish law (halacha) until born, and Pikuach Nefesh allows for the life of the mother to be saved. Mishnah: **"Whoever destroys one life is as if he had destroyed the whole world"**

HUMANISM

- Quality of life important. Happiness of mother & potential life of child considered. Diverse opinions (more utilitarian – what will bring about most happiness in each situation? No absolute rules/commandments-ethics based on specific situations). No need to consider 'playing God', eternal punishment, sin

EUTHANASIA

- Active euthanasia illegal in UK- max. 14 yrs prison. Unlikely to get this sentence. Again- a complex issue due to 'personhood'-when do we cease to be people? When we lose quality of life? PVS/Coma? Disability?

CHRISTIANITY

- Most against : Sanctity of life; gift created by God. **"Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's spirit lives within you?" (1 Corinthians)**. Murder against 10 commandments.
- Suffering has purpose, a test, spiritual development, leads to salvation. **Job: "Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble"**. Suffering should be endured (Consequence of Fall). God wont give us more suffering than we can cope with
- Hospices - pain managed, dignity maintained –in line with Jesus' teaching (care for sick)
- Death is 'highly spiritual' – a time to make peace with God. God may heal a person to demonstrate power – miracles
- Some are for euthanasia due to free will. Feel it is the most compassionate response
- Some use 2 cases of euthanasia in Bible to justify it: **Abimelech** (death with dignity in war) and **Saul** (release from suffering)

CHRISTIANITY CATHOLIC

- Always against. **Aquinas' Natural Law** teaches human life is sacred & above animal life- should be protected. Primary precept of preserving innocent life is key again. Catechism: **"(euthanasia is) a murder gravely contrary to the dignity of the human person and the respect due to the living God, his creator"**

JUDAISM

- Generally opposed –use sanctity of life quotes- pikuach nefesh. Against **10 commandments** (murder)
- Ethics of the Father 4:22 – **"He is God, He is the maker...Let not your heart convince you that the grave is your escape; for against your will you are formed, against your will you are born, against your will you live, against your will you die"**
- Purpose to suffering – **Job** (test), **Genesis** (result of Fall)
- Community and rabbi can offer support. It is acceptable to pray for suffering to come to an end
- Many reform agree with withholding treatment to speed up death. Orthodox strongly disagree.
- **Rabbi Isserles: "If there is anything which causes hindrance to the departure of the soul...then it is permissible to remove it"** (some use this to argue in favour of switching off life support)
- Some agree due to Abimelech & Saul

HUMANISM

- **Peter Singer**, humanist & utilitarian believes: Legalising euthanasia would bring more pleasure than pain overall; Quality of life more important than sanctity of life- People must possess the qualities of being a person (personhood) to count as being fully alive – if they have no ability to think, experience life or relate to others then euthanasia is acceptable; A person who is fully conscious has freedom to choose death –wishes should be respected
- Many support Dignity in Dying org in UK: give expert info. On end of life options, good quality palliative care, give people control over how they die/plan own death. They want euthanasia to be legalised. Lobbies for choice, access and control.

SHOULD EUTHANASIA BE LEGAL?

Yes: Quality of life, personal autonomy & human dignity, Dignitas clinic offers compassionate response, Free will given by God, No hope of cure, Expensive life-support treatment, Pain – only victim understands this, We don't let animals suffer (**Hawking** said this), Baby RB, **Peter Singer's** views – personhood

No: Sanctity of life, It's murder, Less motivation to find cures, Elderly feel like a burden, Hospices more compassionate response **"you matter to the last moment of your life"** **Dame Saunders**
Slippery Slope argument, Could be abused by individuals (Harold Shipman) & institutions (NHS budget cuts?), Against Hippocratic Oath – too much pressure on doctors

LIFE AFTER DEATH

- Learn J and C beliefs from Component 2 & 3
- Learn how funeral rites reflect beliefs in afterlife e.g. candles lit to show Jesus is light of world because He defeated sin so we have eternal life.

HUMANIST BELIEFS

- No God, afterlife, soul, judgement – we go on through our achievements, ideas, creations, children, atoms form other things
- We should not fear death: **"Death involves neither pleasure nor pain. The only thing that is bad for us is pain. Therefore, death is not bad for us."** (Epicurus)
- If life was eternal, it would lose its value – we have one life so must treasure it. Belief in afterlife is a distraction from this life: **"Do not act as if you were going to live for a thousand years... while you are alive, while it is still possible, become a good person."** (Aurelius)

HUMANIST FUNERALS

- Conducted by a 'celebrant' – about celebrating the life of the person, no mention of God
- Non-religious readings and music – to reflect the character of the person
- Include eulogy – speech about the person's life, loves, achievements

CRIME & PUNISHMENT

Morality

- C & Js say **Free Will** given in Eden to make decisions
- Ways to make moral decisions: conscience, law, experience, religious elders/community, holy books, reason/logic, ethical codes like utilitarianism.
- Absolute morality e.g. **'Do not kill'** rigidly followed
- Relative morality – prepared to adapt morals e.g. Just War/to reduce suffering

Crime

- Offence punishable by law e.g. stealing
- Sin – breaking religious rules e.g. lust
- UK – **30k crimes each day** – mostly anti-social behaviour
- Causes: parenting, poverty, mental health, alcohol, media, poor education

Punishment

- Aims: protection, retribution (revenge), deterrence, reparation (repair damage), vindication (show law deserves respect), reformation (change criminal)
- **Humanists**: Prison = **utilitarian principle (Bentham)** – protects the majority. Justice – fairness.

Christian Views

- For reform, not retribution. See **forgiveness quotes**
- For justice-forgiveness & justice go together **"Let justice roll like a river"** (Amos)
- Jesus showed compassion & forgiveness: **Parable Good Samaritan = "Love your neighbour"**
- Tackle causes of crime e.g. poverty so social justice is restored

Judaism

- Free Will given so take responsibility for actions
- Punishment should deter, protect, provide retribution and promote justice
- Judges should be fair and honest
- Torah says how they should punish
- Only victim can forgive. Offenders should repent, give to charity (tzedekah) and fast (especially at R.Hashanah & Yom Kippur)

PRISON REFORMERS & CHAPLAINS

- **Reformer: Elizabeth Fry** 19th Century Quaker- visited Newgate Prison & became advocate of education & reform in prison. Taught women to read.
- **Quaker** and chaplain said: **"Most offenders are also victims"**
- Christians encouraged by **Parable of Sheep & Goats** – the sheep are those who visit prisoners etc.
- Today 53% of prison population have formal education (compared to 85% of working age population). Government recently announced plans for prisoners to be viewed as **"potential assets, not liabilities"**

Chaplains – minister attached to non-religious institutions e.g. prison

- Provide pastoral care/counselling, support through rehab. And complex emotions (guilt, loneliness), help to work with parole officers so they can re-enter community)
- **32% prison population have no faith** so since 2011 **British Humanist Society** run project with volunteers at Winchester prison to support these inmates

DEATH PENALTY

- Mainly legal in African & Asian countries but USA is exception where **31/50 states** allow it
- Less humane ways are stoning (Sudan), decapitation (N.Korea & S. Arabia)

Against

- It is state-sanctioned murder, evidence of innocent people dying, doesn't deter murderers, only God can kill, 2 wrongs don't make a right, state should be the moral example, forgiveness is important, disproportionate racial ethnic & religious minorities and the poor are killed

For

- Some such as criminally insane can't be reformed
- Life imprisonment is expensive – 40 000/year
- Gives closure for victims
- Life is only 15 years which isn't harsh enough
- Only way to protect society from worst criminals
- **47% who leave prison reoffend within the year**
- In UK **Vass** murdered ex-girlfriend when released on bail for raping her. **Williams** murdered girlfriend after being released on bail for dragging her through street.

Christians

Different attitudes due to different interpretations of Old Testament (justice/harsher) and Jesus (compassion/forgiveness)

Most believe...

- Only God has right to kill (**sanctity quotes e.g. Made imago Dei and our 'body is a temple of the Holy Spirit'**)
- Jesus' – quotes on compassion & forgiveness: **"Forgive 70 x7"**, **"Turn the other cheek"**, Golden Rule: **"Treat others as you wish to be treated"**
- Jesus: **"You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbour and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you"**
- Jesus pleaded for **adulterous woman** to be spared from stoning to death, he pleaded for his own executioners: **"Father, forgive them, they do not know what they do"**
- Favour reform
- **Quakers** - have campaigned against death penalty since 1818

Some are stricter...

- Some agree with OT **"An eye for an eye"..."Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed"**
- OT lists **36 capital offences** including idol worship, blasphemy and murder
- **Catholics** – **1997 Vatican issued statement saying it is acceptable to protect society but only when guilt is absolutely confirmed. But other types punishment better for "the common good and dignity of the human person"**

Judaism

- **Torah** lists several offences where it is allowed: **"One who takes a human life must be put to death, a life for a life" (Lev.)**. But it should be used with caution
- **Mishnah**: allowed only after trial by a Sanhedrin (Jewish council) with 23 judges and 4 types mentioned – stoning, burning, slaying (sword) & strangling
- Israel allows it for genocide, treason & murder but rarely used in practice (last to be killed was Eichman, Nazi war criminal 1962)
- Since **1959 Union of Reform Judaism** formally opposed it **"both in concept & practice, Jewish tradition has found capital punishment repugnant"**
- 'Goes against **Do not kill**" one of 10 Sayings (Commandments)

FORGIVENESS

Possible to forgive?

- In 2005 Rev. Nicholson's daughter died in 7/7 suicide bombings & she resigned: "Its very difficult to stand behind an altar...and lead people in words of peace and reconciliation and forgiveness when I feel very far from that myself". She believes there are some things the human spirit cannot forgive
- God gives strength to forgive?
- Forgiveness is a process – its not immediate
- No one can tell you to forgive – it is your choice. **C.S Lewis: "Everyone says forgiveness is a lovely idea, until they have something to forgive"**
- After destruction of Coventry cathedral during German bombing in 1940, a commitment was made to not seek revenge. On the altar stands a cross made from burnt wood saying 'father forgive'. The cathedral houses the Centre for Reconciliation.

Christian

- Jesus died so humans could be forgiven, we must do the same
- **"Forgive & you will be forgiven" (Luke)**
- Lord's Prayer emphasises forgiveness: **"forgive their sins, as they forgive those who sin against them"**
- Jesus in the Beatitudes: **"Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy"**
- His words on cross about his executioners **"Father forgive them"**
- Jesus enabled **Zacchaeus** to reform despite his cheating and selfishness
- Jesus forgave the **adulterous woman: "Go and sin no more"**
- Story of **Prodigal Son** teaches forgiveness
- Parable of **Unmerciful Servant** teaches if we forgive limitless times, God will do the same
- Catholics say confession, acts of atonement e.g. prayers needed for forgiveness
- Evangelical Christians say we are forgiven by God's grace and we must believe in God and repent our sins – confession is not a means to forgiveness.
- Jesus – **"forgive 70 x7, turn the other cheek"**

Judaism

- It is a mitzvah to forgive
- Torah forbids Jews from taking revenge or bearing grudges: **"Do not hate your brother in your heart" (Lev)**
- Humans are responsible for their actions – they must regret it, admit it to the one who was mistreated and ask for forgiveness. Only the victim can forgive.
- **Even without an apology, forgiveness is considered a good act (Deut.)**
- Repentance (teshuva) is a way of atoning with God
- Yom Kippur – Jews strive to perform teshuva. They fast, pray, attend synagogue, don't work, have sex, bathe for 25 hours
- God forgives **"He does not maintain His anger forever, for He desires loving-kindness" (Micah)**

Humanism

- Forgiveness needed for relationships.
- Existence of human compassion and common sense compels us to forgive
- Sometimes forgiveness isn't possible so we can only strive to make sure it doesn't happen again
- **Utilitarianism (Bentham)** would it cause more pain if didn't forgive & conflict continued?

EXAMPLES OF FORGIVENESS

- **Gee Walker:** Practising Christian. Mother of Anthony Walker, who was murdered in racially motivated attack in Liverpool 2005. "Unforgiveness makes you a victim and why should I be a victim? Anthony spent his life forgiving. His life stood for peace, love & forgiveness and I brought them all up that way...I have to forgive them. I cannot hate. Hate is what killed Anthony"
- **MLK:** "Forgiveness is not an occasional act, it is a constant attitude" – Despite the way blacks were treated in USA in 60s, he had this attitude due to Christian beliefs.
- **Jewish Holocaust survivor, Eva Kor** – subjected to human experimentation at Auschwitz. Both parents and older sisters killed. **"My forgives...has nothing to do with the perpetrator, has nothing to do with any religion, it is my act of self-healing, self-liberation and self-empowerment. I had no power over my life up to the time that I discovered that I could forgive...I forgave the Nazis not because they deserve it but because I deserve it"**

PROBLEM OF EVIL & SUFFERING

GOOD

- Good = that which is considered morally right, beneficial and to our advantage. It is a relative term that means different things to different people. Some say it is just when there is no evil/badness. Can be linked to compassion, charity, kindness, selfless, loving
- Are we born good? Are we innately good? Or are we good due to our actions, virtues (e.g. patience, justice), parenting, choices, use of free will? Do we have free will or is it that we have to follow God or we will face punishment and hell? Do we really have a choice?

(Jews & Christians):

- **Genesis says God made the world and "it was good"** but God gave people Free Will – humanity's battle with good and evil is told in story of **Adam and Eve (Fall of Man)**.
- God has shown people how they should live a good life through **Ten Commandments** and rules given to Moses on Sinai

Jews:

- **"Without your consent you were born, and without your consent you live, and without your consent you die" (Sayings of the Fathers)** – are we free to make good choices? Limited free will?
- Try to restore goodness by healing the world (Tikkun Olam)- they perform mitzvot to bring about a peaceful age
- Do not teach we are born sinful but that we are born with the inclination to do good & impulse to do wrong (yetzer ha ra & yetzer ha tov). Evil doesn't come from God, it comes from our choices. There is no belief in evil beings i.e. the devil – it is the yetzer ha ra within people that creates evil
- Every person is judged separately by God on the Ten Days of Repentance between RH and YK. Sins can be atoned through repentance, prayer and charity – all of which are seen to be 'good'.

Christians

- As well as the Old Testament commandments, also follow Jesus' example of goodness & virtue
- **Parable of Good Samaritan – 2 Main commands from Jesus – Love God, Love Neighbour**
- Jesus -perfect e.g. of good : **'No greater love has one than this, to give up his life for his friends'** – sacrifice.

EVIL

- Natural evil - suffering caused by events that have nothing to do with humans, and which are to do with the way the world is (tsunamis)
- Moral (or human) evil - suffering caused by humans acting in a way that is considered morally wrong- abusing their free will
- Many question why God allows evil if he is omnibenevolent, omniscient & omnipotent (**Epicurus' Inconsistent Triad**)
- Some argue that the world can't possibly have been created by an omnibenevolent God due to suffering: Flawed design is evident (**Mill mentioned the caterpillar's severe suffering** as wasp larvae ate their way out of its skin. **Stephen Fry 'bone cancer in children, how dare you?!'**), Natural Disaster, suffering of innocent children...
- Theodicy: An attempt to defend God despite the existence of evil & suffering.

CHRISTIANITY

- Some say God is good because he gave humans free will – it wouldn't be just or loving for him to force us to obey – but, the result is that evil comes into the world due to disobedience/sin.
- Some say God allows evil to exist to help us develop moral souls – “soul-making” – we need to learn virtues. We are not born with innate goodness – we must learn to be in God's likeness. Suffering is a lesson & a test to work towards salvation
- **Irenaeus' Theodicy**: We are not born perfect-we require growth to be spiritually perfect. God doesn't intervene to stop suffering as it would mean interfering with free will
- **Hick**: agrees with Irenaeus. Adds that humans are born with a huge distance between them & God – uncertainty about God's existence gives us opportunity to develop faith. The process of soul making involves the struggle to know God and have faith
- **Augustine's Theodicy**: Born with original sin due to Fall of Man. God is justified in not intervening because suffering is a consequence of human action.
- Many believe life is a test of faith. How we react to suffering determines if we go to heaven. **Story of Job** – he maintains his faith & is rewarded when suffering ends
- Some say evil & suffering is beyond our understanding – we have to accept God has a purpose and he won't give us more suffering than we can handle
- Suffering helps humans understand Jesus who suffered for the greater good. His death brought an end to suffering forever.
- Some say evil comes from Satan, some say it is just the absence of good and it is a natural happening, some say its due to God punishing us to force us to return to him
- Jesus told people to expect suffering if they followed him **“Do not be surprised, brothers, if they hate you”** – expect persecution.
- It is the duty of Christians to help those who are suffering

JUDAISM

- Evil exists due to presence of free will (**Genesis** – as above)
- Evil is allowed by God to test our faith (story of **Job**)
- Allowed by God to punish wrong-doings – feel there are times in history when God showed his wrath on enemies of Jews or they feel they have suffered due to not keeping the covenant
- God is merciful & holy so it is wrong to question him: **“A person is obligated to bless upon the bad just as he blesses upon the good. As it says, ‘And you shall love the Lord your God, with all your heart and all your soul and with all that you have’”** – they must follow the **Shema**, even when times are hard. Good and evil have purpose
- Punishment for being tempted by evil is death & destruction. Reward for resisting temptation is protection & eternal life: **“See! Today I have set before you (a free choice) between life and good (on one side), and death and evil (on the other)”** (**Deut**)
- **Talmud** says that idol worship is the same as denying God, & is therefore viewed as an outright evil
- Many Jews have been persecuted for their beliefs and suffered greatly – Holocaust: **“After the Holocaust I did not lose faith in God. I lost faith in mankind”** (Elie Wiesel) – Other survivors felt quite differently and lost their faith

HUMANIST

- Don't see suffering as a test or punishment as don't believe in God or divine judgement & afterlife. See the concept of original sin as cruel & unjust. Don't believe humans are innately bad/sinful – it is up to humans to fight evil & suffering in the world. Seek to reduce suffering & increase pleasure by applying **utilitarianism – Bentham**.
- They seek to make the most of the **'one life we have'** and rid the world of suffering: **“We place human welfare and happiness a the centre of our ethical decision making”** (**British Humanist Association**)
- Humans have a choice & must take responsibility for their actions. Some evils, e.g. war, famine are made worse by human greed. Some is just down to chance/natural world

ARE WE FREE TO MAKE MORAL CHOICES?

YES

- God gave us free will in Genesis and gave us intelligence to use it wisely
- Yes but we have limited free will because our human character is flawed due to the Fall of Man
- Human rights give us equal opportunities and promotes freedom
- We have common sense, intelligence and the ability to reason about our moral decisions
- Yes - in democratic countries where we are able to vote, where women have freedom and equal rights

NO

- Not really free as we have threat of eternal damnation and God's wrath if we don't obey (Job)
- Not free because we are predestined to heaven and hell before we are born according to some
- Not free because even the genes from our parents determine illnesses we might have, character traits, etc.
- Not free because so many authorities rule over us – government, law, parents, social expectations of us, gender stereotypes
- Financial restrictions on what we do
- Class barriers to what we do
- Some people are literally not free as they are prisoners, persecuted, enslaved etc.

CONFLICT BETWEEN PERSONAL CONVICTION & LAW

- Personal Conviction (strong beliefs) can conflict with laws of country e.g. sanctity of life belief versus law on abortion/euthanasia/capital punishment. E.g. belief that homosexuality is a sin and campaigning against same sex marriage.
- **Oscar Romero (Christian)**: Archbishop of El Salvador in 60s. Believed in liberation theology. Huge gap between rich & poor, lots of crime & corruption. He openly criticised government when his friend was murdered. Held meetings banned by the gov. Protestors in Church became targets of violence. Gov. slogans included "Be a patriot- kill a priest". After many threats in 1980 soldiers gunned him down in chapel while he celebrated mass.
- **MLK (Christian)**: Baptist minister influenced by Jesus' teaching on love & equality – 'turn the other cheek'. Campaign against racism 60s USA- non-violent protest, bus boycott, sit-ins, marches, 'I have a dream' speech. "I submit that an individual who breaks a law that conscience tells him is unjust, and who willingly accepts the penalty of imprisonment in order to arouse the conscience of the community over its injustice, is in reality expressing the highest respect for the law"
- **Elie Weisel (Judaism)**: Holocaust survivor who went on to defend HR & peace worldwide. Won Nobel Peace Prize. Author of many books incl. 'Night'. Founded Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity, an organization to fight indifference, intolerance and injustice: "What hurts the victim the most is not the cruelty of the oppressor, but the silence of the bystander"

CHRISTIANS BELIEFS ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS

- UDHRs reflects main principles-equality, justice.
- All are children of God, created imago Dei, characteristics of God are reflected in humans so each life valued (sanctity quotes)
- **Agape in Action**: each person treated with unconditional love -agape, the foundation of all Christian teaching & campaigns for social justice- follows e.g. of Jesus
- Many have risked their lives/become martyrs to promote equality, HRs & social justice
- "How can it be that it is not a news item when an elderly homeless person dies of exposure, but it is news when the stock market loses two points?" (Pope Francis)
- **Liberation Theology**: The idea that God has the power to change unjust situations. Jesus' actions helped to liberate (free) people from unjust economic/social conditions. So it is just to stand up against governments that oppress people

JEWISH BELIEFS ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS

- All are children of God, created with a soul/part of God within (sanctity/pikuach nefesh teaching)
- Former Chief Rabbi Sacks said social justice is central to Judaism. He says concepts of simcha (gladness), tzedakah (charity), chesed (kind deeds) & tikkun olam (healing world) all allow for social justice.
- While Tzedakah translates to 'charity' it can be thought of as 'giving' justice – tzedakah is a mitzvah- includes giving money, time & energy to supporting those in need of HR & soc.just.
- E.G. of Tzedakah in action = Mitzvah Day, a day of social action- take part in charity projects to build stronger communities: "Our mission is to reduce hardship & poverty...hands-on" (Mitzvah Day UK)
- "Tzedakah & acts of kindness are equivalent to all mitzot in the Torah" (Talmud)

HUMANIST BELIEFS ABOUT HRs

- Seek to live good lives without religion, using reason & respect for others to make moral decisions.
- Respect all humans as worthy of equality
- Support freedom of belief & expression
- Tolerance for all ways of life as long as they don't harm others
- Oppose racism, sexism, torture, unfair imprisonment, inequalities of wealth/education
- Campaign for HRs- founders of UN
- International Humanist & Ethical Union active in supporting empowerment of oppressed people

CENSORSHIP, FREEDOM OF RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION & EXTREMISM

- **Censorship**: limiting access to materials considered to be threat to security/offensive. Expression may be restricted by censorship laws.
- **Article 19 of UNDHR**: "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion & expression"
- **Voltaire**: "I disagree with what you say but will defend to the death your right to say it".
- **Rowan Atkinson** said there was a 'fundamental difference' between criticising someone's faith and criticising their race.
- But where does this right stop? If expression limited, it takes away rights but certain expression takes away rights of others (blasphemy e.g. 'Piss Christ', Charlie Hebdo, inciting hatred, extremism e.g. Westboro Baptist Church, racist protests by EDL/UAF)
- Should believers evangelise? Some see it as part of mission – Jesus' 'Great Commission' to 'make disciples in every nation' – to convert.
- Is religious dress a right of expression? Many rules/duties surrounding dress (Jewish kippah, Muslim veil). Veil ban in France moral? Rosary banned in some schools as related to gangs. **BA employee, Nadia Eweida** won right to wear crucifix
- **EXTREMISM**: Believing & supporting ideas that are very far from what most people consider reasonable. Some feel justified in extreme/harmful action to uphold the belief. They may interpret scripture differently to most, believe they will gain salvation, be influenced by family
- Fine line between freedom of speech and extremism – how do we decide?
- E.g. anti-abortionist **Robert Lewis Dear 2015 killed 3 people at abortion clinic.**

HUMAN RIGHTS & SOCIAL JUSTICE

- **Social Justice** = Promoting a fair society by challenging injustice and valuing diversity. Ensuring everyone in society has equal access to opportunities & rights
- United Nations: "Social justice is an underlying principle for peaceful & prosperous coexistence...we advance social justice when we remove barriers people face because of gender, age..."
- Ways to promote Social Justice: reduce divide between rich & poor, clean environments so not effected by pollution/poor housing, improve education.
- "Circumstances such as where a person is born...or their gender...should never determine their income or opportunities for quality education, basic healthcare..." (Ban Ki-Moon, 8th Secretary of UN)
- **Human Rights** = Basic entitlements of all humans, given to them simply because they are human. They protect everyone, even prisoners.
- HRs have been fought for over many years by activists such as suffragettes campaigning for women to vote, those campaigning against slavery, civil rights movement in USA
- During World Wars dictators committed atrocities against HRs – so democracies got together to create UNDHR to protect rights
- Contains 30 rights e.g. right to life, free speech, freedom of religious expression. All rights are based on the first article: "All humans are born free and equal in dignity and rights"
- **1998 in UK parliament passed HRs Act** making our HRs part of UK Law so schools hospitals- must respect our HRs or taken to court
- Not everyone as lucky e.g. HRs atrocities in S.Arabia, North Korea (work of Open Doors works with persecuted Christians there)
- Amnesty International monitor HRs abuses & intervene through letters to governments, protest marches, petitions & programmes to educate about HR.

RACIAL PREJUDICE

- Show Racism the Red Card: anti-racist charity –combats racism through high profile sports stars working with young people. Works with schools, providing resources to educate & contribute towards integration

CHRISTIANITY

- Promote equality of races: **Story of Good Samaritan, Galatians – “all one in Christ”**
- Church of England’s Committee for Minority & Ethnic Anglican Concerns (**CMEAC**): Encourage minority groups to become part of ministry of the Church, supports race awareness initiatives in society, creates links with other faiths & cultures via interfaith dialogue
- Catholic Church works to oppose racism & raise awareness of importance of cultural diversity. This led to **CARJ** – Catholic Association for Racial Justice who seek to **“value, respect & celebrate the equality & dignity of all God’s people”**
- **MLK**: **“I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character”.**
- **MLK**: **“We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools”**

JUDAISM

- Everyone descended from **Adam & Eve** so are equally created
- Tzedakah translated as justice
- Many Jews took active roles in civil rights movement in USA and campaign against apartheid in South Africa

JCORE – The Jewish Council for Racial Equality campaigns against racism in UK. Focus on social justice as an important part of Jewish identity. Run activities to combat racism – activities below:

- Muslim Jewish task force: set up to provide common voice on anti-Semitism & Islamophobia- so not alone & feel responsibility towards each other
- Young Neighbours: Brings together young Muslims and Jews to campaign for asylum seekers to UK
- Working with refugees: campaign for their rights & gives practical support e.g. donating clothes, running charity events & befriending new arrivals to UK

PREJUDICE & DISCRIMINATION

- Prejudice = pre-judging someone without knowing them. Discrimination is treating people differently due to this prejudice. Governments have discriminated e.g. preventing them from marrying who they want, attending places of worship, voting, driving cars.
- In UK many laws protect against discrimination
- But some say it still exists e.g. not providing equal access to buildings, ‘glass ceilings’ in business-not allowing women to become managers, role of women in worship due to interpretation of texts

CHRISTIAN ATTITUDES

- Sanctity of all human life (**sanctity quotes**)
- **10 Commandments** received by Moses give guidance for living in harmony with others
- **Jesus’ e.g. he healed/taught/socialised with outcasts (women, lepers, sinners). Befriended Zacchaeus** (hated tax collector).
- **“There is neither Jew nor Gentile, slave nor free, male and female, for you are all one in Christ” (Galatians)**
- But Catholic women can’t become priests – stems from verses saying women should ‘remain silent in church’ and they **can’t have authority over a man (1 Tim.)**. **“I declare that the Church has no authority whatsoever to confer priestly ordination on women” (Pope 1994)**
- **Golden Rule (treat others how you wish to be treated). Good Samaritan (Love your neighbour). “Let justice roll like rivers” (Amos)**

JEWISH ATTITUDES

- God created all equally – **pikuach nefesh/sanctity quotes**.
- **10 Commandments** = harmony, fair treatment
- **“Whoever destroys a single life, it is as if they destroy a full world” (Mishnah)** = bond between all humans
- Reform women can be rabbis but still can’t lead parts of the service, be a judge on a Bet Din, be counted in a minyan.
- Orthodox women sit separately in synagogue. Divorce process & sexual purity laws (mikveh) can be viewed as discriminatory.
- Some say gender roles given by God & are different but of equal worth – a woman is **“more precious than rubies”**

HUMANISTS

- Believe in evolution- part of same species-we have common bond.
- Treat people as individuals & don’t discriminate. **Stephen Fry campaigned to counter prejudice existing in society about mental illness** – he believes key to this is via education.
- Avoid harm to others – **Principle of Utility (Bentham)**

WEALTH & POVERTY

- Gap between rich & poor growing. **2017 Oxfam estimated 8 richest people in world had more wealth than poorest ½ of world (3.6 billion)**
- Relative Poverty: standard of poverty measured in relation to standards of society where person lives. Absolute: Person can't access most basic human needs.
- Causes: 0 hours contracts, low wages, unemployment, debt, consumerism/advertisements, war, overpopulation, natural disasters, exploitation. **"Poverty is no an accident. Like slavery and apartheid, it is man-made and can be removed by the actions of human beings"** (Nelson Mandela)
- **Stewardship justice equality quotes** can be used to say why we should help poor

CHRISTIANS

- Charity important. Tithing 10%. – **Love your neighbour (G.Samaritan)**
- Give in way so can help themselves- **parable of the talents** says those who make most of what they have are rewarded
- No gambling – encourages greed/shows dissatisfaction with what God provides
- Give without boasting: **"when you give to needy, do not announce it with trumpets"**
- How much you give isn't important-Jesus taught a poor woman giving all she had was more virtuous than rich giving lots
- Many involved in Fairtrade & Foodbanks. **10th Commandment** (don't crave neighbour's possessions) & **no work on Sabbath**
- **Parable of Rich Man** who asked what he had to do to get to heaven: **"sell everything you have & give to the poor, & you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me"**
- Monks & nuns take this literally & take vows of poverty
- Some take it to mean- don't become too obsessed with money: **"The love of money is the root of evil"**
- **"It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter heaven"**
- Spiritual wealth more important than material: **"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven"**
- Make money in honest ways: **"A fortune made by a lying tongue is a fleeting vapour and a deadly snare."**
- Bible says **"don't worry about what you will eat or what you will wear"** because God will provide for you
- **Sheep & goats** – duty to care for poor in order to go to heaven. (Also **Lazarus & rich man**)

WEALTH & POVERTY: JEWS

- Not wrong to be rich but how use/earn it important: **"When you sell...or buy from your neighbour, do not cheat one another"** (Lev.)
- Work important to provide for family. **Maimonides: "Great is work"** – said God's presence only rested on Jews when they worked
- No work on Shabbat (**no manna was collected in exile on Shabbat & God provided**) No Gambling or greed
- Pushke box for charity. Tzedakah is a duty & source of justice (10% of income)
- **Maimonides 8 levels of charity: e.g. Level 1: Giving a little unwillingly, L6: Giving anonymously & knowing the recipient, L8: finding employment for someone** (again showing it is better to help someone to be self-sufficient long-term)
- Gemilut Hasidim is form of charity – acts of loving-kindness: so **"the fatherless, the widows who live in your towns may come and eat"** (Deut.)
- All possessions belong to God (don't chase or reject them). **10 Commandments** – don't crave neighbour's goods
- **"Don't wear yourself out trying to get rich. Be wise enough to control yourself. Wealth can vanish in the wink of an eye"** (Proverbs 23:5)
- **"Just as God visits the sick, feeds the hungry and clothes the naked, so you do the same."** Talmud
- Don't forget God: **"your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, then your heart will become proud and you will forget the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery"**
- Don't lend money for profit to other Jews : **"You may charge a foreigner interest, but not a fellow Israelite"** (Deut.)

HUMANISM WEALTH/POVERTY:

- Important to care about poverty because of shared humanity. Golden Rule-'treat others the way you want to be treated'. Don't believe suffering & poverty is caused by divine punishment – important to find root causes of punishment and create a world that is socially just through active campaigns
- **"The oceans are already rising. Either we sink, separately, or swim, together."** (Colin Blakemore, Patron of Humanists UK & Humanists for a Better World)

CHRISTIAN AID

- Partnerships with local organisations in over 60 countries. Aim to stop poverty & challenge systems that discriminate poor.
- Christian values: love, respect human dignity, justice, equality, stewardship, partnership
- Disaster relief (war/famine/disease)- immediate food/medical supplies & long-term support
- Work to eliminate gender inequality
- Encourage donations & prayer for needy e.g. **East Africa appeal** given clean water, cash, food, animal feed, fishing materials & mosquito nets- all to combat hunger & poverty
- Campaigns to call UK government to help displaced & poor around the globe

TZEDEK

- Began in UK 1990. Aim to reduce poverty & care for victims of natural disasters
- Provide funds & volunteers to empower communities to earn sustainable income & improve educational outcomes for children
- Seek donations & social justice (because poverty seen to be man-made problem)
- **E.G.: Sustainability in Nigeria:** Turtle & egg hunting provides only income for poor/unskilled. Extraction of natural resources = mangroves/forests being permanently destroyed-leaving them prone to coastal erosion, floods & loss of farms. Tzedek are finding alternative employment such as bee keeping & raise awareness of conservation.
- **Values reflected:**
- **"When a man leaves the world, neither silver nor gold...accompany him, only the Torah & good works carried out"** (Mishnah)
- Ahavtah et HaGer (love strangers)
- Naaseh v'nishma (do & understand)- awareness leads to deeper commitment & actions hence lots of education programmes delivered