

**0 1** Theme A: Relationships and families

**0 1 . 1** Some religious believers may use methods to prevent a pregnancy taking place.

Which one of the following describes that practice?

[1 mark]

- A Conception
- B Procreation
- C Contraception
- D Monogamy

**Target: AO1:1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and belief, including beliefs, practices and sources of authority**

Answer: C: Contraception

**0 1 . 2** Give two religious beliefs about same-sex marriage.

[2 marks]

**Target: AO1:1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and belief, including beliefs, practices and sources of authority**

One mark for each of two correct points.

Students may include two of the following points, but all other relevant points must be credited.

Marriage is seen as the right place for sex with the possibility of raising children. As same sex couples cannot have children some would ask why marry? / marriage is seen as the place of comfort and mutual support and the right place to express love between people so some religious believers support same-sex marriage / homosexual relationships are considered by some to be morally wrong so same-sex marriage would not be supported / some religious believers support same-sex marriage as it is part of a loving, caring relationship / some religions advise celibacy (within marriage) for same sex couples / God created everyone including homosexuals so same-sex marriage is acceptable / 'Lesbianism by women is adultery between them' (Hadith), etc.

Accept relevant religious teachings including about how the marriage should be conducted/lived, eg. keeping the marriage vows.

**0 1 . 3** Explain two contrasting religious beliefs about the roles of men and women.

In your answer you must refer to one or more religious traditions.

[4 marks]

**Target: AO1:3 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and belief, including similarities and differences within and/or between religions and beliefs**

**First contrasting belief**

Simple explanation of a relevant and accurate belief – 1 mark  
Detailed explanation of a relevant and accurate belief – 2 marks

**Second contrasting belief**

Simple explanation of a relevant and accurate belief – 1 mark  
Detailed explanation of a relevant and accurate belief – 2 marks

The contrast may refer to either the religious belief (s) used or the issue.

If similar beliefs are given only **one** of them may be credited up to 2 marks max.

1 mark if a relevant belief is not applied, eg. if the point is just about equality and no mention of roles.

Credit relevant responses about the roles of men and/or women.

Students may include some of the following points, but all other relevant points must be credited:

Most religions teach that male and female are of equal value / may have different roles and responsibilities in family and society.

Accept historical interpretations have given superiority to men eg. leading worship.

**Buddhism**

The practice of Buddhism is the same for men and women showing no inequality of demand on either side. 'The things which separate and divide people - race, religion, gender and social position are all illusory.' (Dhammapada 6)

In 2015 the Dalai Lama said that he saw no reason why a future Dalai Lama could not be a woman. The Lotus Sutra teaches that men and women are equal in their ability to practise Buddhism and attain enlightenment.

Mahayana Buddhism has had nuns for many centuries. However the tradition has died out in the Theravada tradition. Some Buddhists argue that women can therefore no longer be ordained within the Theravada tradition.

The Aparimitayur Sutra suggests that women must be reborn as men before they can achieve enlightenment, etc.

**Christianity**

Some traditional Christians believe that men are the head of the family and women should mainly stay at home and care for the children. 'Wives submit to your husbands as to the Lord, for the husband is head of the wife.' (Ephesians 5:22) Some traditional Christians believe that this difference in roles is not gender inequality but that men and women have different but complementary roles.

Many Christians today see marriage as an equal partnership where the different gifts of the couple strengthen family life.

Within the Church of England the first women bishops were appointed in 2015 however within the Roman Catholic church only men may be ordained. Many non-conformist traditions, such as Methodists, have had women ministers for many years.

Genesis 1:27 teaches that all humans were created in the image of God so all humans should be treated equally. Galatians 3:27 emphasises this, 'There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female for you are all one in Christ Jesus.'

Jesus treated women with respect and welcomed them as disciples, examples of Mary and Martha. Some of the earliest converts to Christianity were women and many became leaders for example, Dorcas in Joppa, Priscilla in Ephesus and Phoebe in Cenchraea, etc.

### **Hinduism**

Good treatment of women is seen as a blessing. Hindu scriptures say a woman passes through three stages in life, when she is supported by her father, when she is supported by her husband and when she is supported by her son. This would suggest inequality as the woman is dependent on the males in her family. Manusmirti says, 'Where women are honoured the gods are pleased.'

There is no difference between men and women on a spiritual level. The differences exist only at a physical level due to past lives.

'I look upon all creatures equally.' (Bhagavad Gita 9:29)

All Brahmin priests are male with the exception of in the Hare Krishna movement, etc.

### **Islam**

Qur'an 49:13 says, 'People we created you all from a single man and a single woman and made you into races and tribes so that you should recognise one another.'

All people are created equal by Allah. Men and women have the same spiritual nature. Muhammad said, 'I command you to be kind to women.' Qur'an 3:195 'I shall not lose sight of the labour of any of you who labours in my way, be it man or woman, each of you is equal to the other.'

'Men are protectors and maintainers of women.' Qur'an 4:34

Men are expected to provide for their families. Women have an important role in looking after the home and raising children and making decisions about the household. A Muslim mother commands great respect and obedience from her children. 'Heaven is under the feet of the mothers.' (Hadith) In Islam all religious leaders are male and women do not pray at the front of the mosque, etc.

### **Judaism**

'So God created human beings, making them to be like himself. He created them male and female.' (Genesis 1:27)

Everyone created by God and in God's image so everyone is equal in God's sight. Tenakh tells stories of important women who are greatly respected for example, Deborah, Abigail, Ruth et al. Orthodox Judaism sees the roles of men and women as separate but equal. Men are expected to work to support the family; women are to care for the children and home. Mother's role is crucial in Judaism and Judaism passes down the maternal line. At the synagogue women do not play a part in the service and sit separately from the men.

In Reformed and Liberal Judaism women are able to be rabbis, sit with men in the synagogue and handle the Torah Scrolls, etc.

## Sikhism

'All men and women are equal. We are the children of one God'. (Guru Granth Sahib 611)  
 'Man is born of woman and woman is born woman; without women there would be no world at all.'  
 (GGS)

Waheguru is neither male nor female.

Sikh marriage is described as 'two bodies, one spirit' emphasising the equality of the partners.

Baptised Sikh women use the name 'Kaur' (meaning princess) which frees them from having to take their husband's name at marriage.

When a Sikh woman gives birth she usually takes on the main role of raising the child however the father will usually take on other household duties so that the family's work is shared evenly. Many married couples now both work to support their family and so will also share domestic responsibilities, etc.

**0 1 . 4 Explain two religious beliefs about divorce.**

**Refer to sacred writings or another source of religious belief and teaching in your answer.**

**[5 marks]**

**Target: AO1:1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and belief, including beliefs, practices and sources of authority**

### First belief

Simple explanation of a relevant and accurate belief – 1 mark

Detailed explanation of a relevant and accurate belief – 2 marks

### Second belief

Simple explanation of a relevant and accurate belief – 1 mark

Detailed explanation of a relevant and accurate belief – 2 marks

Relevant and accurate reference to sacred writings or another source of religious belief and teaching – 1 mark

Students may include some of the following points, but all other relevant points must be credited:

### Buddhism

The ideal is to remain married and faithful. Factors which lead to marital problems such as intolerance, lack of trust etc. are seen as hindrances to spiritual growth. Buddhists accept some marriages fail and believe it is more compassionate to allow divorce to limit suffering. To not divorce may lead to the breaking of the Five Precepts and will create bad karma which goes against the principles of compassion and ahimsa, etc.

### Christianity

The ideal is that marriage is a life-long commitment, 'To have and to hold from this day forward...till death do us part.' (Anglican wedding service.) Churches have to uphold the sanctity of marriage but need care and compassion for those who divorce. Teaching on forgiveness often

cited to support those who divorce. Recognition that sometimes divorce is the lesser of two evils or is a necessary evil. Roman Catholics do not believe in divorce and do not recognise civil divorce. Church of England do reluctantly accept divorce and will allow remarriage in church at the vicar's discretion. Eastern Orthodox church has the authority to end marriages and does grant divorces and allows remarriage but not usually for a third time. Protestant churches do allow divorce and allow remarriage in church provided the couple take the vows seriously. 'Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery...' (Mark 10:11). 'And a husband must not divorce his wife...she must not divorce him.' (1 Corinthians 7:11 & 13), etc.

### **Hinduism**

Marriage is viewed as a normal stage of life and an important way of handing down values. Divorce not actually forbidden but is frowned upon. Hindu scriptures do forbid divorce to the Brahman caste. Law of Manu says a woman should respect her husband even if he is unfaithful. Indian Civil Law allows divorce for cruelty, adultery, desertion or being unable to have children after fifteen years of marriage. Remarriage is rare as many feel divorce is shameful. The Manusmriti scriptures said that a man could replace any wife who was quarrelsome or difficult, etc.

### **Islam**

Divorce is 'Hateful to Allah' (Hadith) but is permitted as a last resort. 'Paradise shakes at the thought of divorce.' 'Divorce is the most hateful of all halal practices.' Couples should try to resolve their differences and must wait for three months to see if the wife is pregnant and to allow reconciliation attempts. A husband must return any dowry and support his wife until she remarries. A wife can divorce her husband but he does not have to support her unless he was at fault and she must repay the marriage gift. The husband must in all cases support any children, etc.

### **Judaism**

'I hate divorce,' says the Lord' (Malachi 2:16). Deuteronomy 24:10 gives 'shameful conduct' of the woman as a reason for divorce but today divorce is often allowed by mutual consent since marriage is a voluntary agreement between two people. Civil divorce is not sufficient and so a husband must begin a religious divorce (get) to break the marriage contract by contacting the bet din. The wife can divorce her husband for infidelity, impotence, financial deprivation, cruelty, irreligiousness. There has to be a three month wait after the divorce before remarriage is permitted to ensure the woman is not pregnant. Jews regret divorce but do encourage people to remarry, etc.

### **Sikhism**

Divorce is rare and against the principles of the Sikh religion, 'one spirit, two bodies.' Sikhs will accept civil divorce but the couple's families will try everything they can to prevent the separation. Grounds for divorce include adultery, cruelty, desertion, insanity, male impotence, change of religion. Remarriage can occur and is permitted in the gurdwara. 'If the husband and wife dispute, their concern for their children should reunite them.' (Adi Granth), etc.

**0 1 . 5** ‘For religious believers, sexual relationships should take place only within marriage.’

**Evaluate this statement.**

**In your answer you:**

- **should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement**
- **should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view**
- **should refer to religious arguments**
- **may refer to non-religious arguments**
- **should reach a justified conclusion.**

**[12 marks]**  
**[Plus SPaG 3 marks]**

**Target: AO2 Analyse and evaluate aspects of religion and belief, including significance and influence**

<b>Level</b>	<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Marks</b>
4	A well-argued response, reasoned consideration of different points of view. Logical chains of reasoning leading to judgement(s) supported by knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence and information. <b>References to religion applied to the issue.</b>	10–12
3	Reasoned consideration of different points of view. Logical chains of reasoning that draw on knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence and information. <b>Clear reference to religion.</b>	7–9
2	Reasoned consideration of a point of view. A logical chain of reasoning drawing on knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence and information. OR Recognition of different points of view, each supported by relevant reasons / evidence. <b>Maximum of Level 2 if there is no reference to religion.</b>	4–6
1	Point of view with reason(s) stated in support.	1–3
0	Nothing worthy of credit.	0

Students may include some of the following evidence and arguments, but all relevant evidence and arguments must be credited:

**Arguments in support**

- Most religions traditionally teach that all sex outside of marriage as wrong.
- Sex is seen as an expression of what should be a deep, life-long commitment and loving union.
- Sex is seen by many religious believers as a gift of God.
- Sex is a complete self-giving of a husband and wife to each other.
- Adultery is a betrayal of trust and breaks the marriage contract. Adultery causes pain between couples.
- Married couples may provide a more stable environment for raising children.

- Sex outside of marriage may have unwanted consequences.
- Sex outside of marriage may undermine self-respect.

### **Arguments in support of other views**

- If the couple are in a long-term relationship, why should they not be able to show their love for each other?
- Couple may be homosexual and not able to have a religious marriage ceremony
- Expense of wedding may mean couple cannot afford to marry
- There is a difference between a committed faithful relationship and casual sex
- Given free will so able to make own decisions
- Many couples are not married and provide a stable environment for raising children
- Couple may not see need for a 'bit of paper', etc.

### **Buddhism**

Buddhists see sex outside of marriage as a cause of suffering as it is based on a desire for pleasure rather than based in love. Sex drive needs to be controlled. (Third Precept), etc.

### **Christianity**

Christianity teaches that 'the body is a Temple of the Holy Spirit' (1 Corinthians 6) so is worthy of respect. 'For this reason a man will leave his mother and father and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh' (Genesis 2:24). 'Flee from immorality' (1 Corinthians 6), etc.

### **Hinduism**

Hinduism sees sex outside marriage as damaging to spiritual development. Sex should only take place during the second stage of life, the married householder stage. For the other three stages the man should remain celibate. This means that women should only have sexual relationships within marriage. Emphasis is put on fidelity within marriage with examples of faithfulness and loyalty in many stories such as Rama and Sita, etc.

### **Islam**

Islam expressly forbids any sexual activity outside of marriage. Sex is a gift of Allah and needs to be controlled. 'Do not go anywhere near adultery: it is an outrage and an evil path.' Qur'an 17:32, etc.

### **Judaism**

'Do not covet another man's wife.' (Exodus 20) 'You shall not commit adultery' (Exodus 20) The Torah lists punishments for sex before marriage and adultery, which in the past included the death penalty, etc.

### **Sikhism**

Sees the ideal for a person if to be in a faithful, loving and loyal marriage. It is intended by God and believed to be a man and woman's natural state. Therefore sex outside of marriage is wrong. 'By the affair of this marriage, truth, contentment, mercy and faith are produced.' (Guru Granth Sahib 351.), etc.

**[Plus SPaG 3 marks]**