# Cohabitation

## Roman Catholics:

Forbidden, devalues sex. You should remain chaste (practice chastity) before marriage.

# **Church of England:**

Accepted as part of a committed relationship. The couple should plan on marriage. Marriage is still the ideal.

Forbidden since sex before marriage is a sin.

Some Muslims might cohabit but according to the teachings of Islam this is wrong. 'Let no man be in privacy with a woman who he is not married to, or Satan will be the third.' Hadith

# **Unit 1: Issues of Relationships**

# **Key Words**

Patriarchal – a family or society controlled by men

Matriarchal a family or society controlled by women

Roles – status/function of a person in society and the social behaviour/ characteristics expected of them

Responsibilities – Duties/actions you are expected to carry out based on your position in society

#### Religious Most common type in community around the UK - 2 parents the world, e.g. and children, living **Natural** Ummah for together in one house Muslims, 'People of God' for Christians Worldwide Nuclear Remarried or co-habiting Types of adults and Family children – step When extended Extended Reconstituted family family (aunts, cousins etc) live Single together in one Parent house and share family roles The number of these families has risen, common post divorce

#### **Key Expectations of Religious Families**

- ► Are expected to take their children to a place of worship
- ▶ Teach them how to read and understand sacred texts
- ▶ Teach them how and when to pray
- ▶ Join in the celebration of festivals
- ▶ Understand the importance of rites of passage.

**Humanist Views on Religious Family** Roles – believe that children should be able to choose which religion they wish to be a part of.

# The Role of Women in Christianity



#### Roman Catholics

### Church of **England**

Some Christians, such as Roman Catholics do not support women becoming priests or having leadership roles in the Church. They argue men and women are equal but have different roles.



In a letter from St Paul to the Church at Corinth he said 'women should remain silent in the churches'



They also point to the fact that Jesus only had male disciples so did not choose women to lead.

Some Christians, such as the Church of England and nonconformists have no issue with women taking on leadership roles. They argue society has moved on since the time of the Bible and the Church should reflect this.

Society needs to treat



everyone equally and women make just as qualified to become church

leaders



The Church of England ordained the first woman bishop in January 2015

# Islam Teachings on the Status and Role of Women

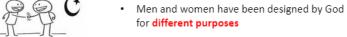
#### The status and role of women in Islam

Women are of equal value in the eyes of God



Women have different roles to men





Traditionally it is the mans job to provide for the family and a woman's duty is to look after the home and children.

Women don't have to attend daily prayers at the mosque. If they do, they pray in a separate

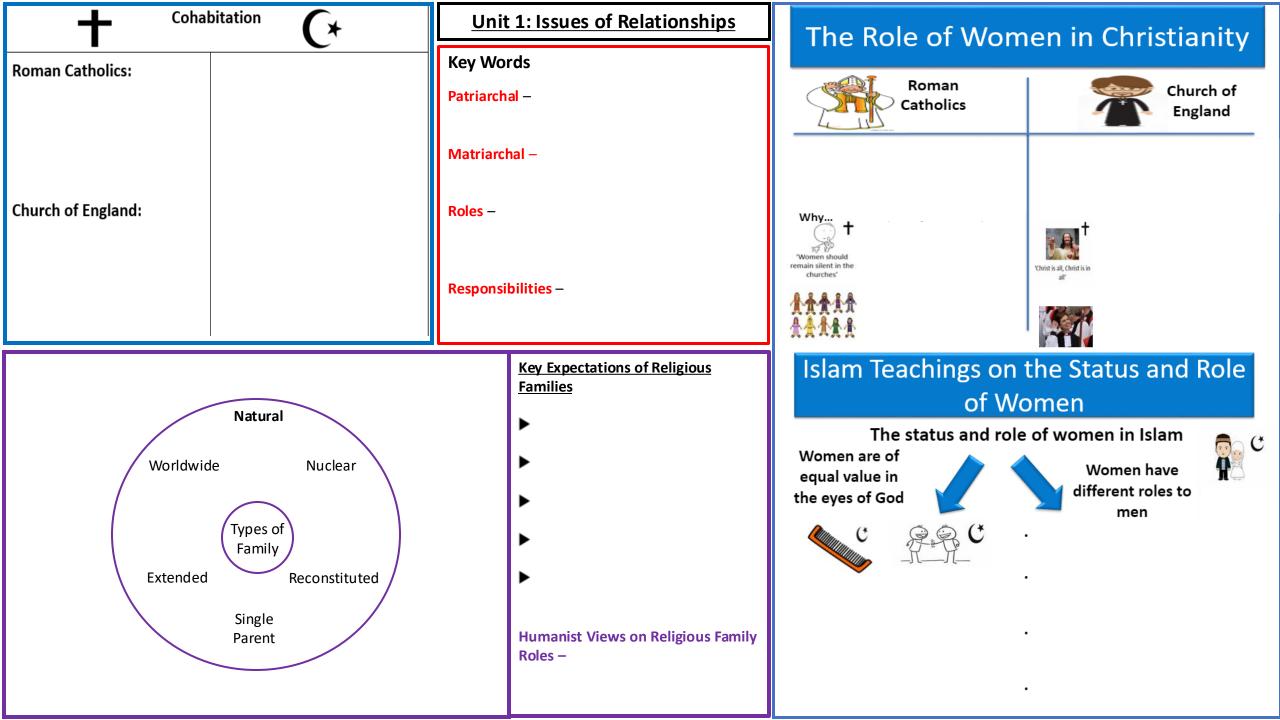
 In some Muslim societies there are restrictions on women's rights, e.g. Saudi Arabia



Everyone is equal like the teeth of a comb'

does good works and is a believer will enter paradise'

- Men and women are of equal value to God
- Men and women are equally accountable for their actions and will both be judged on the Day of Judgement





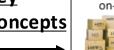
Key Concepts

on-

to live together in a sexual relationship without being in a marriage or civil partnership



a sense of dedication





Cohabitati

and obligation to someone or something

Contraception,

Which religion should

children be raised in?

How can religious rules be

followed in the home?

Abortion etc.

Dietary,

clothing etc.

# **Christian Marriage Ceremony**

Vicar welcomes the Takes place in a couple and gives a Church – House of Sermon on the God Purpose of Marriage

Hymns may be sung and prayers said for the couples, to bless the marriage

The couple exchanges vows as a sign of commitment and promises made in 'eyes of God'

Rings are exchanged as a sign of the promise of everlasting love

The couple sign the marriage register to make the marriage legal



# Examples of Vows (use as quotes)

'Till death do us part' – the commitment made is life long

'According to God's Holy Law' – the marriage is overseen and agreed by God (Sacrament for Catholics)

#### The Purpose of Marriage

**Procreation** – To have children "go forth and multiply"

**Union** – To bring two people/families together

Raise children – To bring up children as Christians/Muslims

Pattern for society – To create family units

One flesh - To have a sexual relationship - "And they shall become one flesh"

Sacrament – it is a gift from God – to ensure that God is part of the marriage (Christians)

**Everlasting/Eternal** – To stay together forever - "Until death do us part"

# **Muslim Marriage Ceremony**

- Nikkah Simple ceremony of commitment in a Mosque or the bride's house.
- The Wali (bride's guardian closest male relative) offers the bride to the groom to show acceptance of the marriage
- Mahr (dowry or marriage gift) paid by the groom to the bride to give her security.
- A marriage contract is signed to legalise the marriage with 2 witnesses present to confirm the marriage is not forced
- The wedding ceremony ends with prayers for the bride and groom, their families, the local Muslim community and the worldwide Muslim community.
- A Walima (feast) is held to celebrate with the community and give thanks to Allah.

# **Attitudes to Arranged Marriage**

What should children

be told about death and the afterlife?

What if the families and

religious communities

refuse to accept the

marriage?

Which festivals should

the family celebrate?

Interfaith Marriage: marriage between people from different religions or faiths

Possible issues

Interfaith

Marriage

What if partners have different beliefs about

moral issues?

- Some Muslims may decide to have an arranged marriage. This is where parents choose a suitable partner for their daughter or son.
- In a strict Muslim society where women and men do not freely mix, arranged marriages are regularly used to match Muslim partners.
- Matches will be made based on the wisdom of parents to select a suitable partner for their daughter or son.
- No Muslim should be made to marry someone against their will.

#### **Pros**

#### Can create a harmonious family situation

- Can remove cultural barriers

#### Cons

Beliefs in Heaven and

Hell, reincarnation etc.

No support with

the children etc

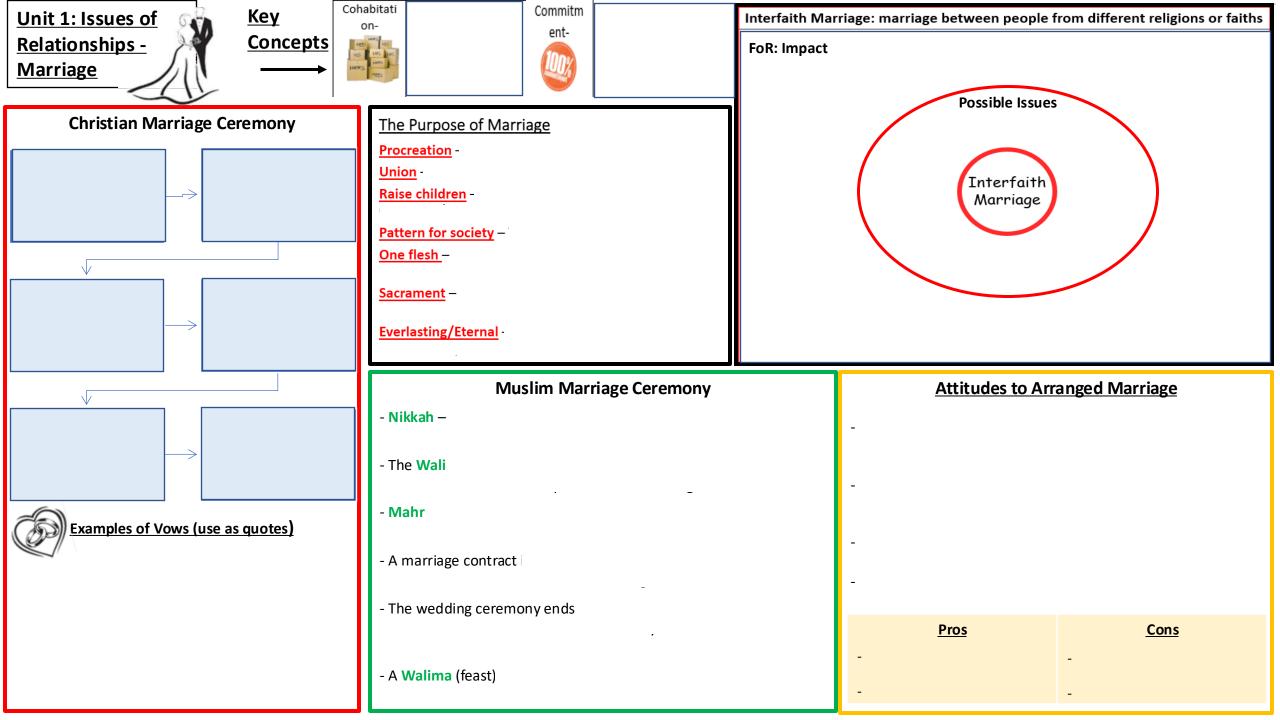
Christmas,

Eid,

Hannukah

etc.

- A person may feel trapped in a loveless relationship
  - Can cause trust issues





#### **Muslim Attitudes to Divorce**

The couple must seek help from family and the community to try and reconcile if facing problems

If reconciliation fails the husband must state 3 times that the marriage is over in front of witnesses

The couple must live together in a non-sexual relationship for 3 months to check for pregnancy

If final attempts at reconciliation fail the couple must divorce in both the Shari'ah and law courts

#### **Key Views**

'Of all things permitted...divorce is most hated by Allah' – Shows divorce should not be taken lightly.

Whilst divorce is permitted it is only as a **last resort** when every attempt at reconciliation has failed.

When a divorce is finalised the last part of the **Mahr** is given to the wife to start again.

Remarriage is permitted.



voluntary sexual intercourse between a married person and a person who is not their spouse (husband/wife)

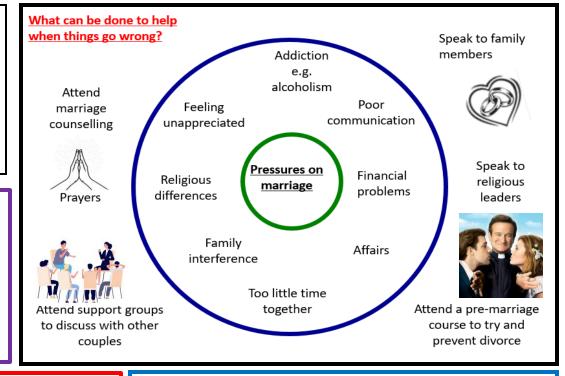
Divorce-

to legally end a marriage

#### **Humanist Attitudes to Divorce**

Divorce is acceptable if a couple is unhappy – we only have one life and should be happy.

However family breakdown is best avoided and couples should try to reconcile, especially if children are involved.



#### **Christian Attitudes to Divorce**

**6** 

#### Church of England;

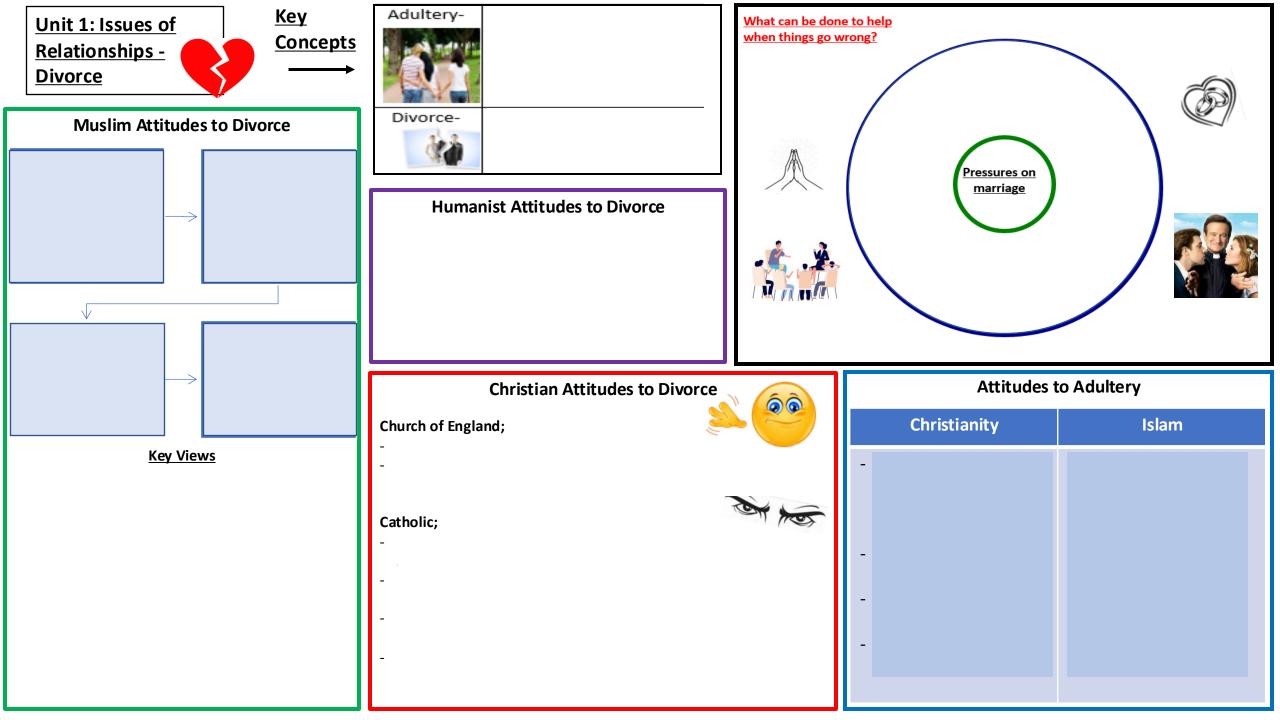
- Permitted as a last resort
- 'Obey the law as God put it there' divorce is legal so should be permitted

#### Catholic;

- Forbidden in all cases 'what God has joined together let no man separate'
- Will permit annulment if can prove marriage was not valid, e.g. if marriage was forced.
- Even if divorced, they believe a couple will remain married in the eyes of God 'till death do us part'
- Remarriage is forbidden and any new relationship is considered adultery.

# Attitudes to Adultery

	Christianity	Islam
-	Against 10 Commandments 'Thou shall not commit adultery' Breaks the sacrament Destroys special relationship Can harm the family unit.	<ul> <li>Seen as 'worst kind of theft'</li> <li>Harmful to society – against unity and peace</li> <li>Qur'an teaches it is wrong</li> <li>Marriage is life long union based on trust, morality and devotion</li> </ul>



# Unit 1: Issues of Relationships – Sexual Relationships

# **Useful Vocabulary**

<u>Fidelity-</u>2 people being sexually faithful to each other

<u>Procreation-</u>Having children-reproduction <u>Chastity-</u>Not having sexual relations until marriage <u>Celibacy-</u>Never having a sexual relationship

Promiscuity-having a number of casual sexual relationships

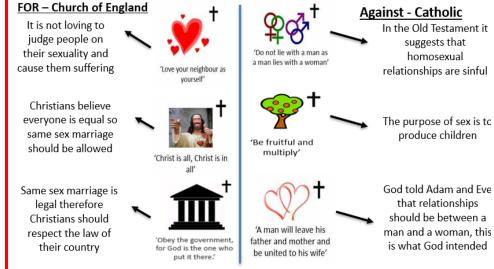
<u>Contraception</u>-Methods used to prevent a pregnancy

# Natural law - A Christian View of Contraception

- Ethical Theory created by St Thomas Aquinas
- Catholics believe it should always be followed and use it as an argument against contraception
- Some other Christians believe God gave humans intelligence and creativity to decide what is right in a situation e.g. contraception may be a responsible choice
- The 5 rules/considerations that should be used in every decision are;
- 1 Self-preservation/preservation of the innocent
- 2 Continuation of the species through reproduction 3 Education of children
- 4 To live in society
- 5 To worship God

#### Purpose of Sex **Christian Views Muslim Views** Sex should happen within Sex is sacred and a gift from God marriage – sex outside Should only be done with marriage is wrong someone vou love -Married partners must ideally within marriage meet each others' sexual Promiscuity devalues sex needs Children should be born Sex is seen as an act of within a stable home worship environment. Sex outside marriage may Catholics see any sex lead to promiscuity outside marriage as Children should be raised in the faith, being born forbidden. outside marriage may Sex is to procreate and 'Go forth and multiply' threaten this

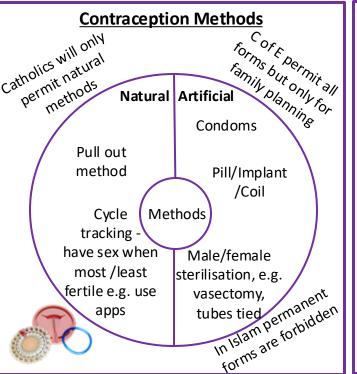
## **Christian Attitudes to Same-Sex Relationships**

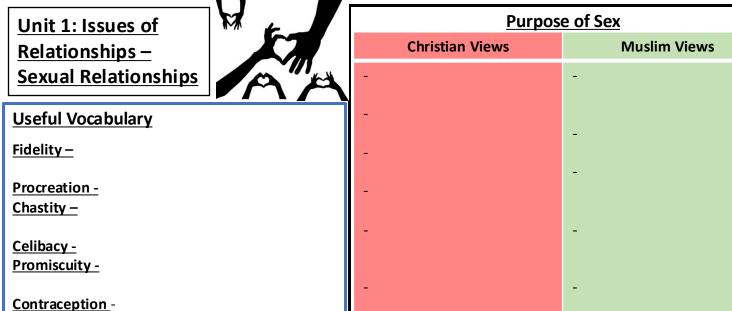


- There is much disagreement between denominations (branches) of Christianity surrounding same-sex marriage and relationships.
- Catholics forbid same sex marriage sex should only be to procreate within marriage, same-sex couples cannot naturally do this
- Quakers and the United Reform Church do permit same-sex marriages but it is up to the choice of the Vicar who would lead the service

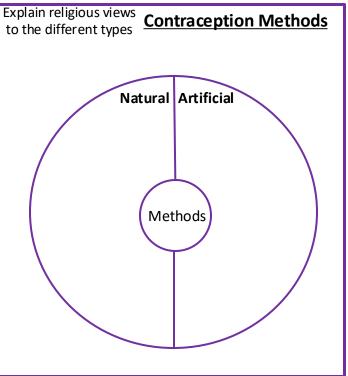
## Muslim Attitudes to Same-Sex Relationships

- Islam forbids same-sex marriages and homosexual and lesbian relationships
- Believe that sex should only take place between a husband and wife.
- Marriage is a sacred contract between only a man and a woman.
  - The quotation to the right from the Qur'an is used by Muslims who view homosexuality as immoral.
- The Qur'an says "Do you commit such immorality....? Indeed, you approach men with desire, instead of women." Muslims interpret this to mean that same-sex relationships are wrong.





# **Christian Attitudes to Same-Sex Relationships** FOR - Church of England Against - Catholic a man lies with a woman' father and mother and for God is the one who be united to his wife' put it there.'



Natural law - A Christian View of Contraception

The 5 rules/considerations that should be used in every decision are;

# **Muslim Attitudes to Same-Sex Relationships**