




Eduqas Religious Studies – Issues of Human Rights



Key Concepts			
Censorship	The practice of suppressing and limiting access to materials considered obscene, offensive or a threat to security. People may be restricted in their speech by censorship laws.	Relative Poverty	A standard of poverty measured in relation to the standards of a society in which a person lives, e.g. living on less than x percent of the average UK income
Discrimination	Acts of treating groups of people, or individuals differently, based on prejudice	Prejudice	Pre-judging; judging people to be inferior or superior without cause
Extremism	Believing in and supporting ideas that are very far from what most people consider correct or reasonable	Personal Conviction	Something a person strongly feels or believes in
Human Rights	The basic entitlements of all human beings, afforded to them simply because they are human, e.g. education	Absolute Poverty	An acute state of deprivation, whereby a person cannot access the most basic of their human needs
Social Justice	Promoting a fair society by challenging injustice and valuing diversity. Ensuring that everyone has equal access to provisions, equal opportunities and rights.		

Key Ideas		
<p>Social Justice</p> 	<p>Human Rights</p> <p>Human Rights are the fundamental rights to which all humans should have access – adopted by the UN in 1948 as part of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. They include the right to life, to security, to privacy, to an education and to a fair trial. Along with these humans also have responsibilities to act within the law and not infringe on others' rights. Christians believe we are all created in God's image therefore we all have worth and value.</p>	<p>Prejudice and Discrimination</p> <p>There are laws in place to prevent discrimination in the UK. Christians have a fundamental belief in equality, that all people are equal in front of God. <i>"You are one in Christ Jesus" Galatians 3:28</i></p> <p>Christianity has historically held a prejudice against women, but this is eroding recently with women now holding high positions in the CoE. Christians are heavily inspired by Martin Luther King Jr.</p>
<p>Extremism + Racism</p>	<p>Extremism</p> <p>For some people it is important to try and convince others to share their beliefs. There is a fine balance between freedom of speech and actions, and actions and speech that are considered extreme. These actions can cause harm to themselves and others. These actions can occur due to: interpretation of religious texts, influenced by others, believe they are doing God's work.</p>	<p>Racism</p> <p>Christians oppose racial prejudice and discrimination. Racism is illegal in the UK under the 1976 Race Relations Act. Dr Martin Luther King Jr. became the leader of the Civil Rights Movement which fought for equality for black people in the US, he was a committed Christian and inspired by the Bible and Jesus.</p>
<p>Poverty</p>	<p>Absolute/Relative</p> <p>Poverty is the term used for someone living in poor circumstances. Absolute = no access to basic needs e.g. food. Relative = below the majority of that country.</p> <p>Although the UK is wealthy, Oxfam estimate that there are 2 million malnourished people in the UK. Food poverty is on the rise.</p>	<p>Christian Aid</p> <p>Christian charity – working in partnership with local organisations in over 60 countries to prevent poverty. Based on the Christian values of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Love and solidarity • Dignity and respect • Justice and equality • Stewardship
<p>Censorship and Religious Freedom</p> 	<p>Censorship</p> <p>In the UK, people are free to express their views unless it is likely to incite violence or discrimination. Censorship can include preventing the publication or broadcast of certain content.</p>	<p>Religious Freedom</p> <p>Christians believe people of all religions should have the freedom to practice their faith, this is freedom of religion. In some parts of the world this freedom is threatened by oppressive governments. It can be part of a Christian mission to Evangelise to convert others to their religion.</p>
<p>Wealth</p> 	<p>Although Christians do not ordinarily have a problem with people earning money and becoming wealthy, they are wary of the dangers attached to this such as greed and selfishness. The Bible famously states that <i>"the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil" 1 Timothy 6:10</i>. Jesus taught that you cannot serve both God and money and that it is not possible for a rich person to enter heaven if they had not given away their wealth to those in need e.g. Rich Man and Lazarus. People may find themselves in poverty because of debt, exploitation, a corrupt government or a natural disaster. Many people in the UK are in poverty due to unemployment, illness or disability.</p>	