

Welcome to the
BIG ISSUE

Module One: Believing in God

Being brought up in
Catholic family's
forces children to
believe in God!

The Catholic View

- Children who are brought up in Catholic families are more likely to believe in God because:
- Parents probably believe in God
- They have been baptised
- Will go to Catholic Schools
- Will pray in school and go to places like Bollington
- Make their First Holy Communion
- Get Confirmed
- Children are NOT forced to believe God but are brought up in an environment where most other people believe in God, so religious beliefs are natural.

Another View

- Children born into Catholic families have NO choice about being Catholic!
- They are baptised as Children!
- They are made to go to Catholic Schools, where they have to pray and learn RE.
- Catholic children are brain washed!

John Pridmore's story proves
that God exists?

The Catholic View

- John's 'Conversion Experience' Proves that God exists because:
- John was a wicked and evil man who completely change his life from Gangster to Preacher
- No human could have made John change
- God must have made John change his life and dedicate to helping young people
- So God must exist!

Another View

- John Pridmore was an evil and vile thug!
- He probably got scared of being killed so he decided to make up this 'silly' story that God spoke to him!
- We can not prove that God spoke to him, so we can not say that God exists!

God must have created the universe as it works so perfectly!

The Catholic View

- The universe is too complicated to have just popped up from nowhere so something as clever and powerful as God must have created it!
- God must have CAUSED the universe of with the Big Bang . . . Because everything must have a CAUSE!

Another View

- The universe does not work perfectly at all . . . If it did there would be no earthquakes and disasters!
- Science has proved that the universe was created by a HUGE explosion called the Big Bang . . . If God CAUSED the Big Bang to happen, then who CAUSED God?

If God existed he would not have
let Rhys Jones be killed!

The Catholic View

- God did not kill Rhys Jones
- God created human beings with 'FREE WILL'
- Sean Mercer choose to pick up a Gun and kill an innocent child!
- The Catholic Church teachers that Catholics should always fight against evil.
- Catholics must:
 1. Help those who suffer from Evil: Do Charity Work
 2. Pray for those who are suffering
 3. Follow the example of Jesus and treat everybody with respect!

Another View

- How can anybody believe in an: All Knowing, All Powerful and Loving God when He lets innocent children be killed by animals like Mercer!
- Either God:
- Is not All Powerful and so can not stop evil things happening!
- Is not all knowing and doesn't know that evil things are going to happen!
- Is not loving so DOES NOT CARE!

Evil means that God does not exist!

Matters of Life and Death

Heaven Exists?

The Catholic View

- When a person dies there soul can go to:
 1. Heaven – a a place of perfection where those who have died with no sin go!
 2. Purgatory – A place of waiting where those who have with some unforgiving sins go!
 3. HELL – A place of punishment where there is no God.

Catholics believe this because:

- Jesus rose from the Dead
- The Catechism and Creed say that Heaven exists.

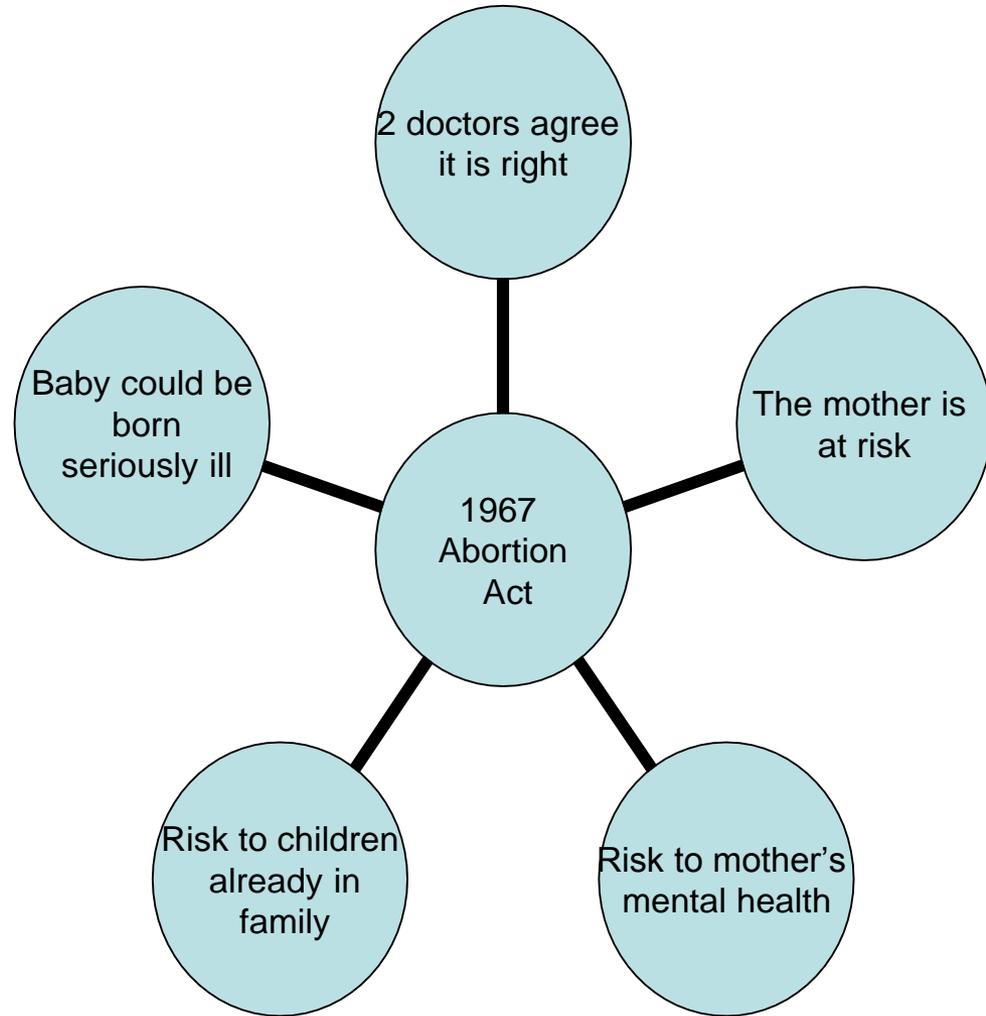
Another View

- When you are dead you are dead!
- There is no such place as Heaven as no one has ever been there to prove that it exists!
- Scientists have not been able to find it!

And Another View

- Ghosts, Mediums and NDE prove that there is life after death!

Abortion is legal murder?



The Catholic View

- Abortion is **wrong** it is **murder!**
- Abortion is 'Intrinsically Evil'!
- A women can only have an abortion if she has an Ectopic Pregnancy or she has Cancer.
- In these cases the treatment to save her life will mean that the foetus will die, this is called 'Double Effect'.

The Church of England View

- Abortion is acceptable in the case of Rape and disability!

Another View

- Every women SHOULD have the RIGHT to do what she wants with her body!
- A embryo and foetus is not really a human being!
- Life does not begin until birth!
- The Abortion Law in the UK is too strict! Abortion should be available on request like it is in Holland!

Euthanasia should be legal!

The Catholic View

- Catholic Church is TOTAL against Euthanasia, it believe it to be MURDER!
- The Church teaches that life is SACRED (holy) and that only God can end life!
- The Bible says 'Thou Shall Not Kill!' and Euthanasia is killing.
- The Catechism says that euthanasia is evil.
- Pain killers can be used to keep a sick person out of pain . . . These may shorten their life . . . This is called 'Double Effect'.

The Church of England View

- Is basically the same as the Catholic view!

Another View

- Its not fair to keep a seriously ill person alive and in pain!
- Each individual should be able to decided when they die if they have not quality of life.
- We do not allow animals to suffer!

It's our responsibility to help the
poor in LEDC's!

The Catholic View

- Those who have money to spare should help those less fortunate than themselves.
- Jesus taught that we have a responsibility to help the poor.
- Catholics SHOULD support charities such as CAFOD who Offer:
 - Long Term Aid – helping the poor to work themselves out of poverty.
 - Short Term Relief – Helping in times of disaster!
 - Education: Teaching those with money about the poor so that they can help end poverty

Another View

- Helping the poor is the Government's problem not mine! I pay my taxes so I should not have to pay any more money out!
- The Catholic Church is rich so it should give all of its wealth to the poor.
- There are enough poor people in Liverpool who need my help without having to give money to people in LEDC's!

Marriage & family Life

Living together is just a good a
being married!

The Catholic View

- Living together without being married is unacceptable as:
- Sex should only take place within marriage where there is true 'commitment'!
- Marriage is the most stable environment to bring children up!

The Church of England View

- If a couple are truly committed to each other and plan to get married then it is acceptable for them to live together until they are married!

Another View

- Weddings cost too much money for many people to afford so living together is the only way that most people can truly be together!
- Society no longer looks down on cohabiting couples so why bother getting married?
- Marriage is only a piece of paper, which you do not need to prove that you are in love!

Sex should ONLY take place within
marriage!

The Catholic View

- The Catholic Church teaches that SEX is a gift from God that should only be used between married couples to create new life and to bring them closure together!
- The Church teaches that when misused sex can be:
 1. Destructive: Adultery
 2. Harmful: STI's & Broken Hearts

The Church of England View

- The CofE teaches that sex can only be used outside of marriage by committed couples who are planning to marry, i.e. couples who are engaged and planning their wedding!

Another View

- Sex is fun and as long as two people agree to it there is no need to be married to have a sexual relationship.

Marriage is for life! Divorce is
wrong!

The Catholic View

- The Catholic Church teaches that marriage is Life and that it can be ended until one person dies!
- Jesus taught that if a person divorces and remarries then they are guilty of adultery!
- Believe that if a couple has fallen out of love they should work at trying to mend the broken relationship and try to 're-find' their love!

The Church of England View

- Do not like divorce at all!
- But they will allow a couple to divorce if they can not work out their differences!
- They believe that sometimes the most loving thing to do for a couple is to allow them to divorce!

Artificial contraception is wrong!

The Catholic View

- The Catholic Church teaches that sex is for creating children and that every sexual act should be open to the possibility that children will be created so it is against artificial contraception!
- The Catholic Church does allow for 'Natural Contraception' such as the 'Rhythm Method', where a woman works out her fertile period and avoids sex during that time!

The Church of England View

- Allows the use of artificial contraception to prevent the spread of STI's and limit family sizes if a couple can not afford to children.

Another View

- Artificial contraception is necessary to:
 1. Prevent the spread of STI's!
 2. Prevent 'unwanted' pregnancies!
 3. Allow people to have sexual freedom and not have to settle down!

Homosexuality is wrong!

The Catholic View

- The Catholic Church Teaches that individuals are born gay so in it self homosexuality is not wrong.
- However the Church sees that sex should only take place within marriage and that all sex should be open to creating children . . . So gay people should not have sex as they can marry in the eyes of the Church and their sex can not lead to children.

The Church of England View

- Basically agree with the Catholic Church but some CofE Vicars do support the right of gay people have sex and be married.

Another View

- Any form of love between two people is acceptable.
- Gay people should have the same rights as all other people to be married and have a sex life!

Religion and Community Cohesion

A women's place is in the home
with the kids!

The Catholic View

- The bible say that women and men were created equally in the image of God so:
 1. Women should be allowed to do anything that a man can do.
 2. The only job a women can not do is be a priest because Jesus only choose men to be his disciples and Jesus was a man.

The Church of England View

- The bible say that women and men were created equally in the image of God so there is NO job that a women can not do . . . Even Priest.
- If Jesus was alive today he would pick women to be his disciples!
- It was the women who stayed with Jesus when he was on the Cross and who he first appeared to when he Rose from the dead!

Jesus was a man so women should
never be allowed to be priests!

The Catholic View

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The Church of England View

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We have too many immigrants and asylum seekers in the country, they should all be sent home!

The Catholic View

- Jesus taught that each and every person is made in the image of God and that we ALL have a responsibility to care for and look after each other . . . SO . . . If a person can not live in peace and safety in their own country then they should be allowed to live in a country where they can live in peace & safety.

Another View

- The UK is full and there is not enough room let other people in!
- Immigrant and asylum seekers are only here to claim benefits!
- They are taking jobs that could be done by British workers!
- Immigrants will work for less money than the British people and are causing redundancies!

Racism is Wrong!

The Catholic View

- The Catholic Church contains 40% of the worlds population . . . 70% of the Catholics in the world are non-white! So it teaches that racism is WRONG!
- the Bible says that WE ARE ALL made in image of God and are therefore created equally.
- Jesus said that each person is valuable no-matter what the colour of their skin.