

KNOWLEDGE MAP: RELIGION AND EQUALITY

SUMMARY

This unit looks at the ways that religious beliefs increase or decrease levels of equality in society in terms of gender, race and wealth. By studying examples from history and the present day, pupils gain an understanding of the causes and effects of these types of inequality in their own lives and the lives of others.

GENDER EQUALITY

Examples—Gender Inequality in 20th Century:

Suffragette/Suffragist Movements, campaigning for women's right to vote.

Examples of UK laws to promote equality:

Representation of the People Act (1918) allowed women over 30 to vote.

Equal Pay Act 1970

Sex Discrimination Act 1975

Examples of Gender Inequality in society today:

Gender Pay Gap: arguments for and against.

Representation of women in media eg male characters have significantly more speaking roles in films than female characters

TEACHINGS:

Christianity:

Eve created as a 'helper' for Adam

Eve created after Adam, from one of his ribs.

Wife listed as husband's property in the Ten Commandments.

Mary, the mother of Jesus, seen as very important in Christianity.

Women are the first witnesses to the resurrection

Islam:

"The most perfect in faith amongst believers is he who is best in manners and kindest to his wife". Prophet Muhammad

Men are appointed guardians over women.

Qur'an 4:35

KEY TERMS

Equality: the state of being equal, especially in status, rights, or opportunities.

Inequality: when people do not have equality, especially in status, rights, or opportunities.

GENDER EQUALITY: RELIGION

Examples of Gender Equality/Inequality within religions

Christianity: Equality

Church of England now allows women to lead worship, eg vicars/bishops.

Christianity: Inequality

Catholic Church does not allow women to become priests

Islam: Inequality

Malala: Taliban attitude to education for girls

Islam Equality:

Malala: Attended school run by Muslim teachers

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RACIAL EQUALITY

Examples of Christians believing in Racial Equality:

Past: Martin Luther King

Present: Christian Aid

Examples of Christians believing in Racial Inequality:

Past: Christian Slave Owners

Past and Present: The Ku Klux Klan

Example of Muslims believing in Racial Equality

Present: Islamic Relief

Past: Malcolm X after leaving Nation of Islam

Example of Muslims believing in Racial Inequality:

Past: Malcolm X while member of Nation of Islam.

KEY TEACHINGS

, Racial Equality:

Parable of The Good Samaritan

Love thy Neighbour

Parable of the Sheep and the Goats

God created all people

O mankind, indeed we have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another. Qur'an 49:13

Racial Inequality:

Old Testament/Qur'an contain teachings accepting slavery

Noah enslaves his grandson (Curse of Ham)



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WEALTH EQUALITY

Examples of Wealth Inequality

Increase in Wealth Inequality in general, UK.

Increase in property prices compared to increase in salaries.

Inequality in UK Education (private schools and introduction of university tuition fees).

Example of Christians working for Wealth Equality:

Christian Aid

Example of Muslims working for Wealth Equality:

Islamic Relief

Example of Christians causing wealth inequality:

Kenneth Copeland, Creflo Dollar.

Example of Muslims causing wealth inequality:

Saudi Arabia's ruling royal family has a net worth of approx. \$1.4 trillion

KEY TEACHINGS

Equality

Parable of the Good Samaritan/Love thy Neighbour

Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus

If you want to be perfect, go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Jesus in Matthew 19:21

It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God. Jesus in Matthew 19:24

Islam:

Pillar of Zakat

Fasting during Ramadan

Inequality:

Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers. 3 John 1:2.

Used to justify the 'Prosperity Gospel' beliefs of Televangelists such as Kenneth Copeland and Creflo Dollar.

