

**Section 2
Matters of
Life and Death**

**The Sanctity of
Life**

"So God created human beings, making them to be like himself.God looked at everything he had made, and he was very pleased."

Genesis 1:27&31

"God alone is the Lord of life from its beginning until its end: no one can, under any circumstances, claim for himself the right to destroy an innocent human being."

Catechism of the Catholic Church

".....while we are alive, we are living for the Lord, and when we die, we die for the Lord: so alive or dead, we belong to the Lord."

Romans 14:8

You shall not kill.
Exodus 20:13

"Do you not realise that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you and whom you received from God?.....So use your body for the glory of God."

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Wealth & poverty

The Methodist Church believes that responsible contraception is a welcome means towards fulfilment in marriage, the spacing of children, and the need to avoid pregnancy altogether, for example for medical reasons.

Statement by Methodist Church

"Are you ready to accept children lovingly from God, and bring them up according to the law of Christ and his Church?"

Catholic marriage ceremony

"Love God and love your neighbour as you love yourself."

*The Greatest Commandment
The Good Samaritan*

"When I was hungry, you fed me. When I was thirsty, you gave me a drink Whenever you did it for the least of my brothers or sisters, you did it for me"

Parable of the Sheep and Goats Matthew 25:31-45

**Section 2
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Abortion

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you: before you came to birth I consecrated you."

Jeremiah 1:5

"Human life must be respected and protected from the moment of conception. From the very moment of his existence, a human being must be recognised as having the rights of a person..... Abortion and infanticide are abominable crimes..."

Catechism of the Catholic Church

You shall not kill.
Exodus 20:13

It would be strongly preferable that.....all abortions should become unnecessary. But termination as early as possible in the pregnancy may be the lesser of two evils. If abortion were made a criminal offence again, there would be increased risk of ill health and death as a result of botched 'back street' abortions.

Statement by Methodist Church.

Euthanasia

You shall not kill.
Exodus 20:13

"Whatever it means and motives, direct euthanasia consists in putting an end to the lives of the handicapped, sick or dying persons. It is morally unacceptable."

Catechism of the Catholic Church

".....the Salvation Army believes that people do not have the right to death by their own decision.....Only God is sovereign over life and death."

Statement by Salvation Army

**Section 3
Marriage and
Family Life**

**Sex outside
marriage**

You shall not commit adultery.
Exodus 20:14

The sexual act must always take place exclusively within marriage. Outside marriage it always constitutes a grave sin.....
Catechism of the Catholic Church

Human love does not tolerate 'trial marriages'. It demands a total and definitive gift of persons to one another..
Catechism of the Catholic Church

"Among you there must be not even a mention of sexual vice or impurity in any of its forms."
Ephesians 5:3

"You must not lie with a man as with a woman. This is a hateful thing."
Leviticus 18:22

They do not choose their homosexual condition; for most it is a trial. They must be accepted with respect, compassion and sensitivity....Homosexuals are called to chastity.
Catechism of the Catholic Church

We do not reject those who believe that they have more hope of growing in love for God and neighbour with the help of a loving and faithful homophile relationship.
Church of England report on Homosexuality.

Homosexuality

Honour your father and mother.
Exodus 20:12

"Children be obedient to your parents in the Lord - that is your duty.....And parents, never drive your children to resentment but in bringing them up correct them and guide them as the Lord does."
Ephesians 6:1-6

**Catholic attitudes
to divorce**

Jesus taught that divorce is wrong

"Whoever divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another then she is guilty of adultery too."
Mark 10:11&12

"From the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave his father and mother, and two become one body.So then what God has united, man must not divide."
Mark 10:6-9

**Marriage
vows**

"Till death do us part."
"Are you ready to love and honour each other as man and wife for the rest of your lives?"
"What God has joined together, let no man put asunder."

**Other Christian Attitudes
to Divorce**

"I tell you then that any man who divorces his wife for any cause other than her unfaithfulness, commits adultery if he marries some other woman".
Matthew 19:9

**Catholics and
Family Life**

The family is the community in which, from childhood, one can learn moral values, begin to honour God and make good use of freedom. Family life is an initiation in life in society.
Catechism of the Catholic Church

