



Homework Booklet:
Y9 RE

Name:

Teacher:

Group:

Medical Ethics

Background: Key topics in medical ethics	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Abortion: termination of a pregnancy by medical means Euthanasia: ending a life early to stop suffering (Easy death) Saviour Siblings: a child born with the purpose of saving a brother or sister. Surrogacy: the act of carrying a child on behalf of someone else who physically can't do so or doesn't want to. Fertility Treatment: medical help to assist someone getting pregnancy. Conjoined Twins: babies born where part of their bodies are attached Human Experimentation: medical tests on humans 	

A.	Abortion
Pro-Life	The view that all life is sacred and should be protected because it's a life.
Pro-choice	The view that women should have the right to choose what happens to their body such as having an abortion.
Sanctity of Life	The belief in Christianity that all life is sacred as it is created by God.

B.	Euthanasia
Active Euthanasia	Is when a doctor or someone performs an act that ends someone's life
Passive Euthanasia	Is when care is removed that ends someone's life such as a life support machine
Voluntary Euthanasia	Is when someone chooses to have euthanasia performed.
Involuntary Euthanasia	Is when euthanasia is performed without the person asking for it e.g. in a coma.
Terminal Illness	An illness
Quality of life	The standard of health, comfort and happiness experienced by someone

C.	Pro-life vs Pro choice arguments.	
Pro-life arguments		Pro-choice arguments.
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Ten Commandments state 'Thou shalt not kill' meaning abortion and euthanasia are murder. 'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you' shows God creates everyone and to destroy life destroys what God has created. To end a life early ruins potential for future cures. 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jesus taught to 'love thy neighbour' and the more loving thing could be to allow someone to end a pregnancy or their life to stop suffering. It is the woman's body so it is her choice if she has an abortion or not.

D.	Fertility Treatment		E.	Arguments for and against Fertility Treatment	
IVF		A medical procedure where an egg is fertilised by sperm in a test tube or elsewhere outside the body.	<i>Arguments FOR</i>	-The Bible says "be fruitful and increase in number" Genesis 1:28. -'Rachel said to Jacob "Give me children or I'll die"' Genesis 30:1 -Being infertile can cause distress to couples, having IVF gives them a chance for children.	
Fertile		Able to conceive or produce children			
Artificial		Made or produced by humans rather than occurring naturally			
Insemination		The introduction of semen into a woman by natural or artificial means			
Conceive		Create an embryo by fertilising an egg	<i>Arguments AGAINST</i>	-'Medical research that involves the destruction of embryos is a crime against their dignity as human beings' – Catholic Bishops Conference 1994 -In the Bible it says that Hannah could not have children because "God had closed her womb" 1 Samuel 1:5	
Embryo		An unborn or unhatched offspring in the process of development, in particular a human offspring between 2-8 weeks after fertilisation.			
Foetus		An unborn or unhatched offspring of a mammal			

F.	Saviour Siblings	
What it is:	The process of having a child with the purpose of using them to medically save a brother or sister.	
Advantages (2)		Disadvantages (1)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The saviour sibling will be loved and celebrated for saving their brother or sister. It is the loving thing to do to save a sibling 		1. To conceive a child to use him – even if it is to cure – is not respectful of his dignity. Archbishop d'Ornellas.

G.	Conjoined Twins Case Study: Jodie and Mary Attard	
Who?	Twins from Malta conjoined at the waist. Jodie was active and alert, Mary relied on Jodie to survive. The parents didn't want them separated, doctors proceeded and Jodie survived but Mary died.	
Argument against separation		Argument for separation
"Mary is alive, she is a human being. It is wrong to kill her no matter the intention." Attard's Parish Priest.		"It is in Mary's best interests that she die." Mr Justice Johnson, judge that ruled on the legal case.

Medical Ethics and Suffering

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

Background: Key topics in medical ethics	
1.	Abortion: termination of a pregnancy by medical means
2.	Euthanasia: ending a life early to stop suffering (Easy death)
3.	Saviour Siblings: a child born with the purpose of saving a brother or sister.
4.	Surrogacy: the act of carrying a child on behalf of someone else who physically can't do so or doesn't want to.
5.	Fertility Treatment: medical help to assist someone getting pregnancy.
6.	Conjoined Twins: babies born where part of their bodies are attached
7.	Human Experimentation: medical tests on humans

A. Surrogacy	
Surrogate	A substitute for someone, in medical ethics they carry the baby for someone.
Surrogacy	When a woman can't or chooses not to carry a baby herself and has a surrogate carry it for her.
Donor	Someone that gives their sperm or eggs to help those that are infertile

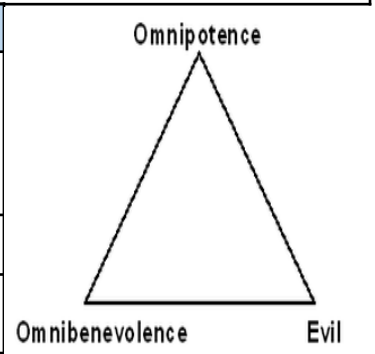
B. Arguments For and Against Surrogacy	
For	In the Bible when Abraham's wife Sarah could not have a child she told him to use Hagar their servant as a surrogate so he could have children.
For	Surrogacy can help couples have children who could be infertile, or can't physically have children such as gay couples.
Against	The Catechism teaches that anything that separates the husband and wife from the process of having children is morally wrong
Against	The Catholic Church teaches Natural Law, which focusses on natural processes of creation so surrogacy would be wrong.

C. Human Experimentation	
Arguments for Human Experimentation	Arguments Against Human Experimentation
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> After the experiments are successful, they potentially preserve thousands/millions of 'temples of the Holy Spirit', the body, so Christians may agree with it. Sometimes sacrifice is necessary to make scientific progress. Jesus healed people, so if this helps heal people then it must be a good thing. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Potentially goes against the sanctity of life by disrespecting God's gift of life. It is NEVER acceptable to risk a human life, Moses taught that 'Thou shalt not kill' and human experimentation risks killing and goes against this commandment. Human life is the most valuable of all life on earth, because it is the only one in which liberation [Hinduism] or enlightenment [Buddhism] can be achieved. If something endangers life it is not good

D. Case Study: Milgram Experiment	
When?	1960s
What was it?	It was an infamous shock experiment that was conducted by Stanley Milgram which tested the extent to which someone would be willing to follow through with the orders given by them from someone in a position of authority. The test subjects would 'shock' a fake test subject whilst being instructed to do so by an authority figure.
Why its controversial	Because it mentally affected the people that took part in the test as they were worried about how they were willing to keep delivering shocks.

E. Suffering	
What it is:	The issue of the level of suffering in the world being a critical reason for why God cannot exist
Moral Evil	Natural Evil
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Moral evil is evil that is caused by the actions of humans, such as murder, theft, assault. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Natural evil is evil that occurs without input from humans, such as earthquakes, tornados, and tsunamis.

G. J.L. Mackie's Inconsistent Triad	
What is it?	Mackie used the idea of the Inconsistent Triad to show how evil in the world doesn't make sense with God being omnibenevolent and omnipotent. God can only be either all powerful or all loving and evil exist in the world otherwise it makes no logical sense.
Omnibenevolent	All loving
Omnipotent	All powerful



Comprehension Task 1

Due

The Sanctity of Life

Christian view on Sanctity of Life

For Christians, human life is **sacred (holy/related to God)** and is a gift from God which is to be respected and protected. This teaching is called the **sanctity of life**. The sanctity of life is the belief that life is precious or sacred, because humans are made in God's image. For many religious believers, only human life holds this special status. This means that animals would not always be considered to be as holy or sacred in the same way a human is. This is used as an argument by some Christians to explain why we are allowed to eat meat because animals are not as highly regarded as humans are.

The Bible teaches that human beings are created in the image of God. It also teaches that murder is forbidden.

Jesus reminded his followers that each person is precious to God, so much so that God has counted every hair on their head.

"God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning – the sixth day." **Genesis 1:31**

Jewish view on Sanctity of Life:

The term sanctity of life means the extent to which human life is considered precious.

Jews believe that humans were made as part of God's creation and in God's image. Therefore, human life should be valued and considered as sacred and God-given. Due to these attitudes towards the sanctity of life, Jews believe that only God can give life, and only God should take life away.

...Let not your heart convince you that the grave is your escape; for against your will you are formed, against your will you are born, against your will you live, against your will you die... **Ethics of the Fathers 4:22**

Murder is forbidden in Judaism as stated in the Torah.

Anyone who destroys a human life is considered as if he had destroyed an entire world, and anyone who preserves a human life is considered to have preserved an entire world. **Talmud (Sanhedrin 37a)**

Questions: answer in full sentences

1. What does sacred mean?
2. What do Christians believe about the sanctity of life?
3. Jesus reminded his followers about how everyone was precious to God. What quote from the Bible shows this? Write down the quote and then explain how it shows each person is important.
4. What do Jewish people believe about the Sanctity of Life?
5. Murder is forbidden in the Torah. Give a quote to demonstrate why it is forbidden. Explain the quote.

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Comprehension Task 2

Due

Northern Ireland Abortion

Significant changes to NI's abortion laws have come into force.

Terminations can be carried out in all circumstances in the first 12 weeks of a pregnancy.

After that abortions are legal in some cases - for example, there is no term limit in cases of fatal fetal abnormalities.

Robin Swann is "urgently reviewing" arrangements to allow women to access free abortion services in England, in light of the Covid-19 crisis. Officials in Stormont are still deciding how to put the new laws into practice.

The Department of Health had intended that women could keep travelling to England in the meantime, but restrictions on travel due to coronavirus have placed the arrangement into difficulty. There have been calls for home abortions - in some circumstances - to be permitted during the outbreak. A spokesperson for the Department of Health told BBC News NI Mr Swann is considering the matter, but any decision will have to come from the Executive as a whole, because of the "significance and sensitivity of the issue".

How did we get here?

Last July, MPs at Westminster voted to decriminalise abortion in Northern Ireland and create new laws. Prior to that vote, abortion was only allowed in very limited circumstances. It fell to the Northern Ireland Office (NIO) to come up with a framework to oversee the provision for abortion services. Last week, the regulations were made public for the first time and set out when and where abortions could take place, as well as who could carry them out. Terminations will be legal up to 12 weeks without conditions.

A limit of 24 weeks will apply in situations where continuing the pregnancy would involve risk of injury to the woman's physical or mental health. No time limit will apply in cases of fatal fetal abnormality, where there is a substantial risk that the fetus would die or, if born, would suffer a severe mental or physical impairment. There will also be no time limit for an abortion if there is a risk to the life of the mother, greater than if the pregnancy is not terminated - or, the government says, "where necessary to prevent grave permanent injury to the physical or mental health of the pregnant woman or girl, including in cases of immediate necessity".

Medical professionals who can perform an abortion include a doctor, a registered nurse or a registered midwife.

Conscientious objection will apply - meaning those medical professionals who do not want to participate in carrying out a termination will not be obliged to do so. This is due to the religious nature of the country and its view on the sanctity of life being so important.

Comprehension Task 2

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Comprehension Task 3

Due

Ethical problems of euthanasia

Does an individual who has no hope of recovery have the right to decide how and when to end their life?

Why euthanasia should be allowed: Those in favour of euthanasia argue that a civilised society should allow people to die in dignity and without pain, and should allow others to help them do so if they cannot manage it on their own. They say that our bodies are our own, and we should be allowed to do what we want with them. So it's wrong to make anyone live longer than they want. In fact making people go on living when they don't want to violates their personal freedom and human rights. It's immoral, they say to force people to continue living in suffering and pain. They add that as suicide is not a crime, euthanasia should not be a crime.

Why euthanasia should be forbidden: Religious opponents of euthanasia believe that life is given by God, and only God should decide when to end it. Other opponents fear that if euthanasia was made legal, the laws regulating it would be abused, and people would be killed who didn't really want to die.

The legal position: Euthanasia is illegal in most countries, although doctors do sometimes carry out euthanasia even where it is illegal. Euthanasia is illegal in Britain. To kill another person deliberately is murder or manslaughter, even if the other person asks you to kill them. Anyone doing so could potentially face 14 years in prison.

Under the 1961 Suicide Act, it is also a criminal offence in Britain, punishable by 14 years' imprisonment, to assist, aid or counsel somebody in relation to taking their own life.

Nevertheless, the authorities may decide not to prosecute in cases of euthanasia after taking into account the circumstances of the death.

In September 2009 the Director of Public Prosecutions was forced by an appeal to the House of Lords to make public the criteria that influence whether a person is prosecuted. The factors put a large emphasis on the suspect knowing the person who died and on the death being a one-off occurrence in order to avoid a prosecution. (Legal position stated at September 2009)

Changing attitudes

The Times (24 January 2007) reported that, according to the 2007 British Social Attitudes survey, 80% of the public said they wanted the law changed to give terminally ill patients the right to die with a doctor's help. In the same survey, 45% supported giving patients with non-terminal illnesses the option of euthanasia. "A majority" was opposed to relatives being involved in a patient's death.

Comprehension Task 3

Due

Questions to be answered in full sentences:

- 1) What is an argument for euthanasia being allowed? Explain the argument and then say whether you agree with it. Justify your choice.
- 2) What is an argument for why euthanasia should be forbidden? Explain the argument then explain whether you agree with it. Justify your choice.
- 3) Is euthanasia legal in Britain?
- 4) What are the rules of the 1961 Suicide Act?
- 5) How are attitudes changing towards euthanasia in Britain?

Comprehension Task 4

Due

Saviour Sibling

Fertility is the natural ability of humans to reproduce. Estimates suggest that as many as 10 per cent of couples will face fertility problems and be either unable to reproduce, or need treatment to help them do so.

What types of fertility treatment are there?

AIH (Artificial Insemination by Husband) – a procedure whereby the sperm of the male is placed directly into the uterus (womb) of his female partner so that fertilisation of the ovum can be achieved.

AID (Artificial Insemination by Donor) – a procedure as with AIH, however the sperm is provided by a donor who is not the woman's partner.

IVF (In Vitro Fertilisation) – a process whereby the ovum is fertilised outside the woman's body. 'In vitro' means 'in glass', ie a petri dish or cell culture dish (not a test tube).

What alternatives to fertility treatment are there?

Surrogacy - a woman carries and gives birth to a baby for another person or couple. The surrogate mother might be the baby's genetic mother if she provided the ovum, or completely unrelated to the baby, eg if an already fertilised ovum or embryo was placed in her womb.

Adoption – a single person or couple takes on legal responsibility for bringing up a child who was born to someone else.

What is cloning?

Cloning is the genetic identical copying of an organism. The DNA of both organisms is identical in every respect.

What types of cloning are there?

Reproductive cloning – a technology to produce an animal which is genetically identical to another animal. The process is called 'somatic cell nuclear transfer' (SCNT). Genetic material is taken from the nucleus of a donor cell and placed in an ovum whose nucleus has been removed. Various treatments are given to the ovum to encourage cell division. When it reaches a suitable stage it is placed in the uterus of a female host and birth will potentially follow. In the UK, reproductive cloning is prohibited in humans.

Therapeutic (stem cell) cloning – the production of human embryos to use in research. The intention is not to produce living creatures, but to collect stem cells so that they can be used to treat disease and to increase understanding of human development. The stem cells are extracted from the ovum at the blastocyst stage (this begins five days after fertilisation in humans). This process destroys the embryo.

Comprehension Task 3

Due

Questions:

- 1) What is fertility and roughly what percentage of couples will face problems with fertility?
- 2) Explain the three types of fertility options and the process for each one.
- 3) Explain the two alternatives there are to fertility treatment. Then explain which alternative you think is better and why.
- 4) What is cloning and what types of cloning are there?