

RESOURCE 6: Information Sheet

Subject : Marriages

Religious Teachings and Authoritative Beliefs

<p style="text-align: center;">Christianity</p> <p><i>Relevant Biblical passages from NIV translation:-</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Islam</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Hinduism</p>
<p>Galatians 3:28 “There is neither ...male or female... for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”</p> <p>1Corinthians 11b-12a:- “...woman is not independent of man, nor is man independent of woman. For as woman came from man, so also man is born of woman.”</p> <p>1Timothy 2:11-13:- “A woman should learn in quietness and full submission. I do not permit a woman to teach or have authority over a man; she must be silent. For Adam was formed first, then Eve.”</p> <p>Ephesians 5:22-23a:- “ Wives, submit to your husband as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the Church.”</p> <p>Mark 10:10-11:- “ Therefore what God has joined together, let no man separate. Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her.”</p> <p>Matthew 5:32:- “ But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, causes her to become an adulteress, and anyone who marries the divorced woman commits adultery.”</p>	<p>Surah4:1:- “O mankind! Reverence your Guardian-Lord, who created you from a single Person, created, of like nature, his mate, and from them twain scattered (like seeds) countless men and women- reverence Allah, through Whom ye demand your mutual (rights) and (reverence) the wombs (that bore you): for Allah watches over you.”</p> <p>Hadith:- “Who ever is able to marry, let him marry, for this will keep him chaste.”</p> <p>Surah30:21:- “ And among His signs is this, that He created for you mates from among yourselves, that ye may dwell in tranquillity with them, and He has put love and mercy between your (hearts): verily in that are Signs for those who reflect.”</p> <p>Hadith:- “When a husband and a wife share intimacy it is rewarded and a blessing from Allah: just as they would be punished if they engage in illicit sex.”</p> <p>Surah 4:3:- “marry women of your choice, two or three, or four; but if ye fear that ye shall not be able to deal justly (with them) then only one.”</p>	<p>It is important to remember that according to Hinduism no law is set in stone. Teachings from historical manuscripts and key religious figures have to be set in context. As the context changes over time so the ethics and morality are relative. There are many sources of Hindu teachings such as shruti scriptures (that which are heard, and are more authoritative) and smriti scriptures (that which is remembered). Shruti texts include the Vedas, whereas the smriti scriptures include the great epics of Ramayana and Mahabharata, Manusmriti, The Puranas.</p> <p>Hindu teachings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • do not favour the idea of cohabitation. • state that the family unit is very necessary and the building blocks for society. • emphasise the role of marriage and the maintenance of the family unit • state that family units operate successfully if the family members practise self sacrifice. • strongly challenge the portrayal of women as sex objects in the modern secular world.

<p>1Corinthians 6:9:- “Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the Kingdom of God? Neither the sexually immoral... not homosexual offenders.”</p> <p>Genesis 2:24:- “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.”</p> <p>Catholic Church describes marriage:- “ Marriage is the sacrament in which baptised men and women vow to belong to each other in a permanent and exclusive sexual partnership of loving, mutual care, concern and shared responsibility, in the hope of having children and bringing up a family.” (Catholic Truth Society)</p> <p>Christian Marriage ceremony asks the couple to promise to God:- “ I....., take you....., to have and to hold, from this day forward: for better for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God’s holy law, in the presence of God I make this vow.”</p>	<p>Surah 36:36:- “Glory to Allah, Who created in pairs all things that the earth produces, as well as their own (human) kind and (other) things of which they have no knowledge.”</p> <p>Surah4:34:- “Men are the protectors and maintainers of women, because Allah has given the one more (strength) than the other, and because they support them from their means. Therefore the righteous women are devoutly obedient, and guard in (the husband’s) absence what Allah would have them guard. As to those women on whose part ye fear disloyalty and ill conduct, admonish them (first), (next) refuse to share their beds, (and last) beat them (lightly); but if they return to obedience, seek not against them means of annoyance: For Allah is the most High, great above you all.”</p> <p>Surah 4:128:- “If a wife fears cruelty or desertion on her husband’s part, there is no blame on them if they arrange an amicable settlement between themselves; and such settlement is best; even though men’s souls are swayed by greed. But if ye do good and practise self restraint, Allah is well-acquainted with all that ye do.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> do not recognise divorce. Marriage is for life and if the husband leaves his wife he is still expected to provide for her. The ever increasing rise of divorce in the West reflects an ever increasing self centred attitude rather than one of personal sacrifice. say that viewing men and women as mere objects undermines their spiritual status and degrades the whole human race. <p>Saint Tulsidas said of adultery, “Be established in truth and look upon every woman apart from your wife as your mother. Then, one is guaranteed a vision of God.”</p> <p>In early Hindu scriptures of authority there is no suggestion about the subordination of women or inferiority in any sense. In fact God is described as a mother figure. The gender has been responsible for protecting, promoting and nurturing the Hindu religion.</p> <p>Some law books such as Manusmitri 5:148 states:- “that women should obey their father in childhood, their husband in youth and their sons in old age.”</p> <p>Manusmitri 3:56 states In the household where women are revered, the Gods rejoice.”</p> <p>In Hindu scriptures, there is no mention of homosexuality but it generally is a taboo subject for many Hindus.</p>
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