Stewards Academy

Year 10 Religious Studies workbook

(Summer term one)

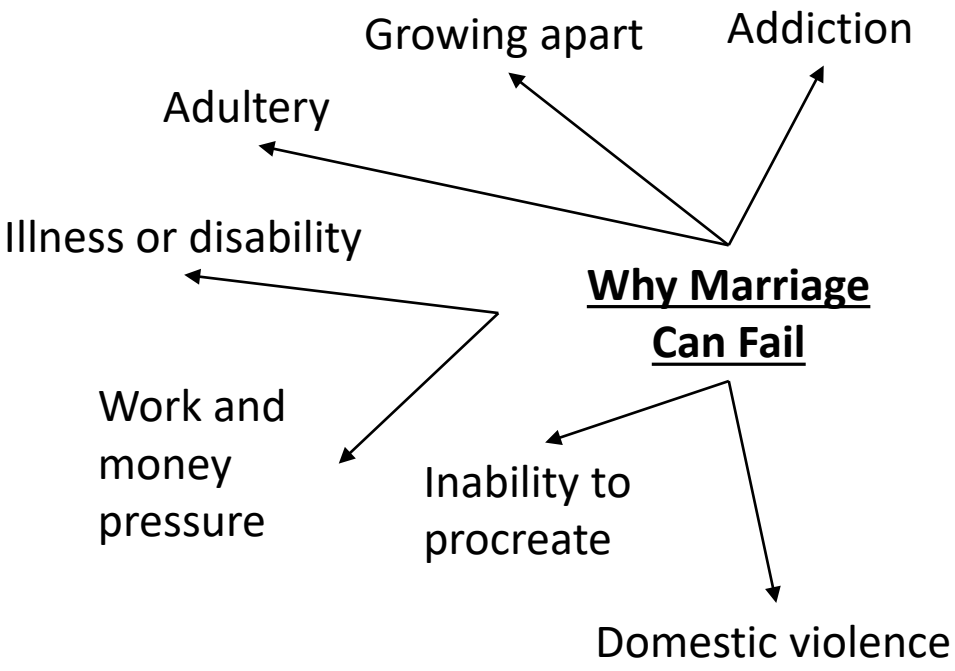
Whilst we are unable to undertake our regular study of the thematical studies along side our chosen religions, we at Stewards RS have put this booklet in place for you to complete at home.

As well as completing this booklet, please also utilise the other online resources available to us, such as;

- www.Seneca.com
- GCSE Pod (should already be downloaded and registered)
- www.BBCbitesize.com
- AQA GCSE Religious Studies (option A)

Religion, Relationships and Family	
Nature of Family	**Purpose of Buddhist Families.**
• Buddhism is not a particularly family-centred religion. • There are no expectations to marry or procreate. • A nuclear family is parents and dependant children. • Extended family is grandparents and additional relatives. • Polygamy is the custom of having more than one married partner. • The Buddha did not forbid this act, but did suggest it can cause suffering. • It is tolerated in Buddhism, however not a favoured family model.	• Whilst not giving rules on family, the Buddha gave advice. • They should live together based upon respect and honour. • To cultivate love and trust towards the other and to remain faithful to each other. • Parents should love and care for their children and provide a stable environment that is safe for them to grow and develop. • They should practice the four sublime states; loving kindness, compassion, sympathetic joy and self-control.

Divorce	
In Britain	**Buddhist Teachings**
• In 2012 an estimated 42%of marriage ended in divorce. • Divorce is allowed after one year of marriage. • You may remarry the same person in the future if you wish.	• There is no law stating a divorce cannot occur. • Divorce rates within Buddhist communities are much lower as couples usually marry later in life when they tend to be more mature. • Through the Buddha's teachings of loving kindness, for most Buddhists, they would agree that if a couple cannot be together without causing suffering, it may be better to divorce. • This can stop suffering being caused. • Buddhism teaches that the best way to approach divorce is sensibly and sensitively. • This causes less suffering to all involved.



Sexual Relationships

Heterosexual Relationship

- A heterosexual relationship is a sexual relationship with a member of the opposite gender.

Homosexual Relationship

- A homosexual relationship is a sexual relationship with a member of the same gender.

Buddhist Attitudes Towards Sex

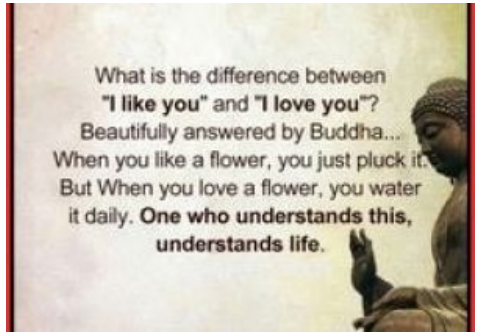
- Buddhism does not teach that sex is wrong, shameful or embarrassing.
- They acknowledge that everyone has passions and that avoiding them would cause suffering.
- However, craving something can cause suffering too, therefore it is expected Buddhists approach sex ethically.
- Their sexual behaviour should be guided by kindness, generosity, honesty and awareness to not cause suffering to anyone else.

Marriage

- Seen as a serious lifelong commitment.
- A legal union between two people.
- *"If a man can find a suitable and understanding wife, a woman can find a suitable and understanding husband, both are very fortunate"*.

Purpose of Marriage

- Not seen as a Buddhist religious duty.
- The couples choice to marry.
- Marriage ceremonies are not religious, they are civil ceremonies.
- Monks may bless the union after the ceremony.
- Metta – term for loving kindness (non-possessive).
- Ahimsa – non violent thoughts, words or actions.



Same-Gender Marriage

- Not against same-gender marriage.
- In some denominations, same-gender marriage laws are slowly changing.
- Some believe that the right to marry should be equal.

Sex Before and Outside 'Marriage

- It is not forbidden.
- Most importantly is to live by the five moral precepts.
- Sexual act should be respectful and loving.

Four Sublime States

- Love
- Compassion
- Level-headedness
- Sympathetic joy

Buddhism and family life

(DARTS)

Buddhism is not a strongly family-centred religion. It does not have formal models of family or family life, or bases it's teachings around a family model. This is partly due to it's strong focus on personal responsibility for one's own behaviour, on detachment and the individual's pursuit of enlightenment. However, in Buddhist societies, families often worship and visit the temple together.

Buddhists believe the Buddha left his family to pursue his quest to find out why we suffer. As a result Buddhist monks believe that they should be detached from the duties of family life. Only then can they focus on reaching enlightenment. However, the lay community is valued in Buddhism for the support it provides to the Sangha.

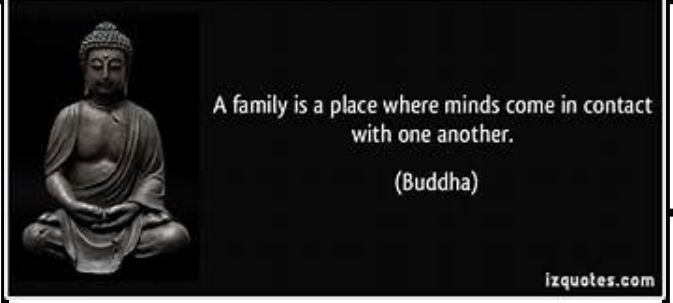
Not everyone will want to live the life of a monk and most Buddhists want to have a family. Therefore, the importance of family life in Buddhism is acknowledged and integrated into the temple and festival life, and Buddhists believe that they can practise their beliefs within the context of the family.

Buddhist family life tends to reflect pre-existing cultural and religious values, customs, and socially recognised ways or traditions within particular countries.

Within Asian Buddhist cultures, for example, the male-lead family is the typical structure, with clearly defined gender roles. British Buddhists, however, might be more equal in their family roles.

Most Buddhists believe that men and women are capable of spiritual development and ultimately enlightenment.

According to the Sigalovada Sutta (a teaching that explains ways that Buddhists can live their life in a positive respectful manner), within the family both the husband and wife are expected to treat each other respectfully. The wife should manage the home and family and the husband should share authority with his wife. Partners should be faithful to their partner.



Relationships and families

DIPS task

Research Buddhist attitudes towards same gender sexual relationships.

Nuclear family is;

Homosexuality is

Heterosexual is

Human sexuality is

Explain Buddhist attitudes towards same-sex relationships (4 mark question).

- **Target: AO1:1** Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and belief, including beliefs, practices and sources of authority.

First belief

- Simple explanation of a relevant and accurate teaching – 1 mark
- Detailed explanation of a relevant and accurate teaching – 2 marks

Second belief

- Simple explanation of a relevant and accurate teaching – 1 mark
- Detailed explanation of a relevant and accurate teaching – 2 marks

Marriage

Definition of marriage

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Definition of civil partnership

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Definition of cohabitation

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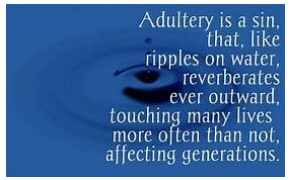

Definition of adultery

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What is the purpose of marriage for Buddhists?

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- Simple explanation of a relevant and accurate teaching – 1 mark
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Second belief
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- Detailed explanation of a relevant and accurate teaching – 2 marks

Explain two Buddhist views towards the idea of marriage.

(4 mark answer)

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Divorce

Reasons why people get divorced

Buddhism and divorce
(DARTS)

Divorce holds no stigma in Buddhism. If a couple are no longer in love and are causing each other suffering, then divorce is acceptable to ensure that suffering is reduced. Men and women must have the freedom to separate if they really cannot agree with each other. Separation is preferable to avoid miserable family life for a long period of time. The Buddha further advises old men not to have young wives as the old and young are unlikely to be compatible, which can create undue problems, disharmony and downfall.

Explain how divorce could affect a persons karma

Explain the principle of utility in relation to divorce

'Buddhists do not agree with divorce'.

Evaluate the statement. Include more than one point of view and refeer to Buddhist beliefs and teachings in your answer.

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Second belief
- Simple explanation of a relevant and accurate teaching – 1 mark
- Detailed explanation of a relevant and accurate teaching – 2 marks

Scripture
- Relevant and accurate reference to scripture or sacred writing – 1 mark

What does Buddhism say about sexual relationships? (DARTS)

Buddhists try to conduct themselves in a way that will not cause suffering to others and try to always be caring and loving.

The Five Moral Precepts are important for Buddhists when considering their attitude towards sex and sexual actions. The third Precept states that Buddhists *should not engage in sexual misconduct*. This might include adultery, as being unfaithful to a partner can cause suffering, and promiscuity, which can be seen as a negative expression of craving after sexual stimulation. Sex should form part of a loving relationship.

Buddhists are encouraged to enjoy sex responsibly, as a result, most Buddhists avoid being promiscuous / immoral. Chastity (abstaining from sexual relations) is not a requirement of leading a Buddhist life.

Buddhists do not see marriage as a duty and cohabitation is perfectly acceptable. As long as neither partner suffers, a Buddhist can enjoy a healthy sexual relationship.

What does Buddhism say about homosexuality? (DARTS)

Buddhist attitudes to homosexuality often reflect the society around them. There are a range of attitudes towards homosexuality in Buddhist countries. For example homosexuality between private and consenting adults was made legal in Thailand in *1956* (11 years before the UK) and there is no inhibition on homosexual men becoming monks. There is similar tolerance in Japan and in Chinese Buddhism. Buddhists might argue that as long as the relationship is based on love and suffering is avoided, homosexuality is a perfectly acceptable practice.

What does Buddhism say about contraception? (DARTS)

Buddhists can use contraception as long as they have the Right Intention. Good motives such as responsible family planning and disease control may be accepted. Indeed, if sexual intercourse may result in an unwanted pregnancy, such suffering needs to be avoided and contraception should therefore be used.

What does this mean in practice?

The Buddha taught that in many areas of life, depriving yourself of something or over indulging in something leads to suffering and dissatisfaction. He taught that The Middle Path should be followed. This can be applied to sex.

Sexual relationships

Research the Dalai Lama's views on same gender relationships and answer the 4 mark question below. (DIPS)

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Explain two Buddhist views on same gender relationships (DIPS).

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The family

Roles of a parent

Roles of a grandparent

What is an extended family?

What does the key term 'nature of family' mean?

Explain two Buddhist views on caring for the extended family (DIPS).

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What does Buddhism say about Family?
(DARTS)

Buddhists often live in extended families with grandparents helping to raise their grandchildren and being looked after in turn. Buddhism teaches that older people are deserving of our respect both for the care they have given to us, and for the wisdom they have collected over the years. They should also be cared for because old age may be a time of great suffering for them. Care for the elderly is shown in various ways, including:

- Buddhist temples, as well as the home, are places where the elders of the community are respected and also where they mix with young people. They may often take up important roles in the organisation and running of a temple, even teaching there.
- The community elders often have pride of place at festivals or in the audience during sermons.
- Children within the extended family are brought up to serve their elders, for example to bring them food and drinks, or other things they ask for.
- Some Buddhists in the UK and other Western countries provide generously for the elderly by funding homes, assisted living, and hospices.

Religion and family 4-mark questions

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Give two reasons that grandparents are an important part of the family unit.

Explain two religious beliefs about the nature of families.

Explain two religious beliefs for divorce.

Explain two reasons why people may get a divorce

Explain two reasons why Buddhist's believe in marriage.

Explain two religious views against divorce.

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Question:..... .....

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