

# **EP Homework Tasks**



# Year 9 Term 3: Sanctity of Life: Abortion

Homework 1	Learn keywords	Due date:	Completed?
Homework 2	Written activity	Due date:	Completed?
Homework 3	Prepare for knowledge test	Due date:	Completed?

**Homework 1** - Learn the keywords below for a mini test at the start of next lesson. You could read through the words, write them out, create a match up activity or get someone to test you.

**Abortion** termination of a pregnancy

Sanctity of life The belief that all life is sacred/holy

Quality of life how good someone's life is (level of pain etc)

Palliative care end of life care, usually pain relief

Pro life The belief that the life of the foetus should always be protected

Pro choice The belief that a woman should have the right to choose legally available abortions

Conception sperm fertilises the female egg

Contraception birth control eg: condoms

Viability foetus could survive

Soul the eternal part of a human according to religious believers

Ensoulment the moment the soul is bestowed on a human 40-120 days

Homework 2 — Creative task. You are going to write an answer which shows an understanding of the spiritual, emotional and cultural experiences of different believers.

Describe <u>at least 2 religious attitudes to Abortion</u>. You can use a source such as bitesize to find out these views <u>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zhbqf4j/revision/1</u>

Try to include the reasons for their opinions.

Choose one task to do:

- A. Write a letter or social media post from 2 different believers about abortion
- B. Create a fact file which includes detailed paragraphs about at least 2 religious viewpoints.
- C. Write a text conversation between 2 people with different attitudes.
- D. Write a newspaper article in which 2 religious believers are interviewed.

Homework 3 - Learn the facts in the knowledge organiser at the end of this booklet, for a knowledge test next lesson. You could highlight the key information, create revision cue cards or get somebody to test you.

CHALLENGE TASK: Find out about challenges to the US law on abortion.

What are the views of planned parenthood and prolifeaction.org?

### **Key terms**

**Abortion** termination of a pregnancy Sanctity of life The belief that all life is sacred/holy Quality of life how good someone's life is (level of pain etc) Palliative care end of life care, usually pain relief **Pro life** The belief that the life of the foetus should always be protected Pro choice The belief that a woman should have the right to choose legally available abortions **Conception** sperm fertilises the female egg **Contraception** birth control eg: condoms Viability foetus could survive **Soul** the eternal part of a human according to religious believers **Ensoulment** the moment the soul is bestowed on

a human 40-120 days

**Key Information:** Abortion has been legal in the UK since 1967. It is allowed up to 24 weeks of pregnancy if 2 doctors must agree that an abortion is appropriate. Valid reasons include: danger to the mother's physical or mental health, disabilities of the foetus, health of existing children,

# Rights of the mother vs rights of the child

By law only the mother has human rights in this situation. However, many religious believers would argue that babies are the innocent victims in abortion and need to be protected.

Arguments against abortion

It's not the baby's fault or choice.

They don't have legal rights but morally the baby should have the right to live.

The baby is voiceless and needs

The woman could give the baby up for adoption instead.

#### **Arguments for abortion**

defending.

It is the woman's body. She can choose what to do with it.
Without legal abortion women were forced into unwanted pregnancies or ijured/killed by illegal abortion.

Women's rights are dependent on full birth control rights.

#### Sanctity of Life vs Quality of life

Belief in the Sanctity of Life means that all human life is sacred in all circumstances. However, there are a range of situations in which the quality of life is so poor it is deemed not worth living. In abortion cases a baby may not survive all of the pregnancy, have a limited life span when born or serious disabilities.

Arguments against abortion All life is special/sacred. Only God can take life. You shouldn't 'play God'

### **Arguments for abortion**

It is unfair for a baby to live with severe disabilities or life-long pain.

It is unfair for a woman to have to continue a pregnancy which will definitely end in the death of the foetus – it prolongs the pain.

## The issue of when life begins

Life can be seen to begin at conception, after the 'stem cell' stage (14 days), when the heart beats, when all organs have formed, when the foetus is conscious, at viability or at birth.

Arguments against abortion

From conception onwards the baby is alive.

A soul is bestowed on the child (Christianity: at conception, Islam 120 days).

They have the full potential/DNA to have a full adult life.

#### **Arguments for abortion**

The foetus has limited consciousness before 24 weeks. Atheists would not believe the foetus has a soul.

Most abortions take place

between 9-11 weeks when the foetus is still developing organs. According to the law, life (and human rights) begins at birth.

## **Key teachings**

"Help don't harm" B "Do not murder" C/J "Whoever kills a man must be put to death" "All life is sacred" C "God created life in his image" "No one can die except by Allah's leave" I "Do not take life which Allah has made sacred" I "God breathed into Adam the breath of life" "Love your neighbour" C "Let he who is without sin cast the

first stone" C

"The foetus is mere

water until the 40<sup>th</sup>

day of pregnancy" J



Case studies: Irish abortion law - Savita Halappanavar An Indian woman living in Ireland, Savita died in 2012 following an incomplete miscarriage which developed into septic miscarriage. She repeatedly asked for an abortion which was denied as it went against the law and the Catholic beliefs of staff. 3 days later she died. As a result of her death there were widespread protests which ultimately resulted in changing Irish abortion law.