

JUDAISM AND THE FAMILY

‘...male and female he created them, God blessed them and said to them ‘go forth and multiply’’
Genesis 1:27-28

The role of the family in Judaism is very important. It stresses harmony and unity in family relationships. The home is the centre of religious life. This is where children are taught about their relationship with God.

1. The Role of Women

Traditionally women carried the role of being the home maker whilst the man would be at the synagogue

Read Beliefs Values and Traditions p180-182 (Probably a photocopy)

And then...

Discuss/Evaluate ‘Why are some men against sexual equality?’

And then...

Answer Questions on page 182 – Recall, Explain and Evaluate

2. Marriage and the Family

A. Partner Selection

‘A man shall leave his father and mother and cleave to his wife, and they shall become one flesh’ Genesis 2:24

Read Moral Issues p156

And then...

Write the Jewish view of Marriage

And then...

Explain what Jews believe happens to a man and woman’s personality when they are joined together in marriage.

And then...

Write out the quote from the Midrash

B. Marriage and Sexuality

Read Moral Issues p156

And then...

- Explain**
- i. What is **family purity**?
 - ii. What is a **Mikveh**?
 - iii. How does family purity enhance the Jewish marriage?
 - iv. What does the Talmud state about the Mikveh?

Read Guidelines p13

And then...

Answer the questions that follow the section on sex.

3. Wedding Ceremony

Read Guidelines p13 and 14

And then...

- Explain** and make notes on
- i. The Chuppah v Kidushin
 - ii. The Ketubah
 - iii. Living Together

4. Parenthood and Family Life

Family life is an important part of Judaism and children are considered to be a blessing.

Find and write down Exodus 20:12

And then...

Read Moral Issues p154

And then...

- Make** notes using these questions as a guide
- i. When would a Jewish family spend time together?
 - ii. What does Judaism teach about the responsibilities of parents and children to each other?
 - iii. Children play a large role in family life. How are they to show respect to their parents?

Discussion/Evaluation Why do relationships between parents and children sometimes break down? Why might this be less common where Jewish values are upheld?

5. Sexual Ethics

A. Contraception

Read Moral Issues p158

And then...

Write out Isaiah 45:18

Answer i. What is the Jewish view on contraception?
ii. What is the exception to the rule of using contraception?

B. Abortion

Write down the Sixth Commandment

And then...

Read Guidelines p16 and Moral Issues p159

And then...

Explain the Jewish view of abortion, including who is put first the mother or the child

C. Infertility

Due to the great importance of the family unit within the Jewish religion Rabbis believe in helping infertile couple.

Read Moral Issues p159

And then...

Write down the Jewish view and meaning of:

- i. Artificial insemination by husband (AIH)
- ii. Artificial insemination by donor (AID)
- iii. In Vitro fertilization (IVF)
- iv. Surrogate Motherhood