

<h2>Homosexuality</h2>	<h2>Masturbation</h2>	<h2>Marriage</h2>
<p>There are many issues - same-sex marriage, should gay couples be allowed to adopt?, the position of gays within churches, the level of homophobia (eg www.godhatesfags.com)</p>	<p>This issue highlights the difference between opposing ethical positions. It also demonstrates that Christian ethics can give very different responses to issues than other ethical positions</p>	<p>By examining the claim that marriage is the only place where it is right to have sex, you can demonstrate the difference between the various ethical theories in their approach and methods</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ Any homosexual act is condemned by the RC Church ✦ CofE doesn't promote practicing homosexuals to positions of authority ✦ The Bible appears to be against homosexual acts, but doesn't deal with committed monogamous relationships ✦ Recent legal changes in the UK allow 'civil partnerships' but still not 'gay marriage' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ Seen as a sin by RC Church ✦ Some protestant churches say masturbators go to hell ✦ OT suggests Onan was killed by God for 'spilling the seed' ✦ NT forbids certain activities, although it's unclear how to translate key words ✦ Jesus seemed to equate sexual fantasies with adultery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ 'It's not good that man should be alone' Genesis ✦ Paul thought it better not to marry, but accepted it for the weak with no self control ✦ Marriage is the only proper place for sex according to RC Church and many other denominations ✦ In RC, marriage is for life - divorce is not recognised <p style="text-align: right; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">Sex</p>

War

Examples of conflicts

- ✦ **Gulf War, 1991**
Sanctioned by the UN; 30 nations formed the coalition; ended speedily;
- ✦ **Iraq War, 2003-**
Lacked UN backing (further resolution sought); Bush's intentions questioned (oil; scapegoat for 9-11); method of warfare questioned; was it the last resort?
- ✦ **WW2**



Seen by many to call pacifism into question: how else could you stop the Nazis? Also, the number of people and the specific nature of their deaths is compelling; however, certain acts questioned, like bombing Dresden (60,000 non-combatants killed) and nuclear bombs on Nagasaki and Hiroshima (100,000s died)

- ✦ **Rwanda 1994**
- ✦ Million murdered in tribal genocide; UN failed to intervene despite pleading by Rwandans



JUST WAR CRITERIA

JUS AD BELLUM

- **PROPER AUTHORITY** — WAR CAN ONLY BE DECLARED BY A LEGITIMATE AUTHORITY (UN?)
- **JUST CAUSE** — THOSE ATTACKED MUST 'DESERVE IT ON ACCOUNT OF SOME FAULT'
- **RIGHT INTENTION** — WAR MUST ONLY BE FOUGHT FOR THE 'ADVANCEMENT OF GOOD OR THE AVOIDANCE OF EVIL' — E.G. PEACE
- **LAST RESORT** — ALL DIPLOMATIC AVENUES, SANCTIONS ETC. MUST HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED
- **PROPORTIONALITY** — THE DAMAGE DONE BY WAR SHOULD NOT BE GREATER THAN THE INJUSTICE THAT LED TO WAR
- **WIN POSSIBLE** - THERE MUST BE A REASONABLE CHANCE OF SUCCESS

JUS IN BELLO

- **JUST METHOD** - NOT TARGETING INNOCENTS; NO NUCLEAR, CHEMICAL OR BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

Environment

Some green absolutes:

- ◆ All development must be sustainable
- ◆ All forms of energy must be renewable
- ◆ All farming should be organic
- ◆ Meat should not be farmed intensively



Environmental issues

- ◆ **Climate change** – glaciers melting, hurricanes, rising temperature, 'The Day After Tomorrow'



Pollution – carcinogens (over 1000 tonnes from UK worst offender), greenhouse gases (1997 Kyoto protocol became law in 2005), oil spillages (Karachi 2003, Exxon Valdez, Alaska 1989), CFCs (ozone layer)

Endangered species (inc Polar Bears & Hippos)

- ◆ **GM Crops** – antibiotic resistant genes can go from our food to our stomachs
- ◆ **Depletion of natural resources** – fossil fuels, over-fishing, deforestation, desertification

MARSHALL'S 3 CATEGORIES

- **LIBERTARIAN EXTENSION** – individual human **rights** are extended to non-human animals and possibly further (deep ecology)
- **ECOLOGICAL EXTENSION** – the overall importance of the environment due to the **interconnectedness** of all entities and essential **diversity** in nature
- **CONSERVATION ETHICS** – the environment has **no intrinsic value**, but conservation and preservation are seen as important in ensuring present and future human well-being