

Marriage for Priests

Discuss the following opinions of people concerning marriage for priests.

In the table write down the points that you agree with and those you disagree with:

Damien:

"A lot of boys follow in their father's footsteps when it comes to a choice of career. My Dad is a builder and that's what I am now. And my uncle is a teacher and his son is now training to be one. If priests were allowed to marry and have children, not only would more men of faith be attracted to the priesthood but more boys would want to be like their dads by becoming priests when they grow up."

Sean:

"I think it's right that priests can't marry. It sets them apart from the rest of us. You know they must be really committed to God because of the sacrifice they make. If any married man could become a priest there would be a fall in standards."

Gary:

"In the Protestant denominations ministers and pastors are allowed to marry. They are still very much respected as men of God. They also have personal experience of married life and know more about the challenges and difficulties of marriage. This means they can relate more to the ordinary people in their congregations."

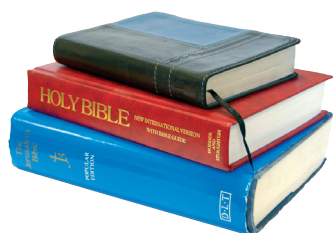
Majella:

"I don't know what all the fuss is about. If women were allowed to be priests then there wouldn't be a fall in numbers of people wanting to be priests. I don't think we should be arguing for priests to get married but for women to be priests."

Marriage for Priests (continued)

Agree	Disagree

What the Bible says about Euthanasia



Look at the references in the table below and explain how a Christian might use them in an argument against euthanasia.

Reference	Relevance to euthanasia debate
Genesis 1:27	
Exodus 20:13	
Matthew 9:18–26	
Matthew 9:35–36	
Matthew 18:12–14	
Luke 12:6–7	
Philippians 1:21	
2 Corinthians 5:8	

QUICK QUIZ

Matters of Life and Death

1. What is abortion?

2. Give one reason why abortion is such a controversial issue.

3. What is meant by 'viability'?

4. What name is given to the group of people who support abortion? Give one example.

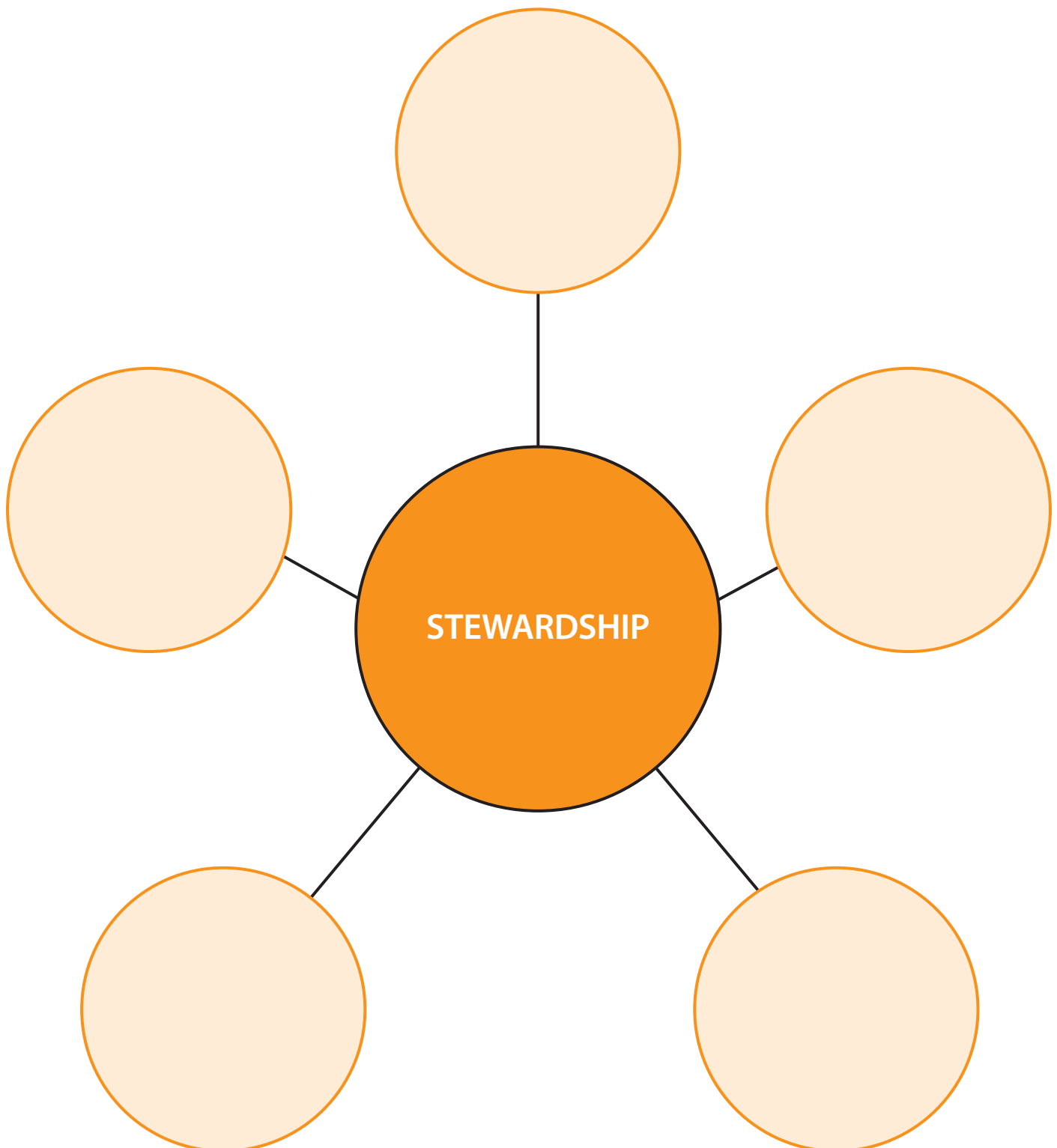
5. What name is given to the group of people against abortion?
Give one example.

6. What is the Hippocratic Oath?



Stewardship

The idea of accepting responsibility for the Earth and caring for it is known as stewardship. This involves caring for the Earth in the present day, and considering issues for future generations. Collect some newspapers and cut out any headlines that talk about the abuse or protection of the environment. Stick them onto the circles in the diagram below.



Types of Social Injustice

Social injustice can take many forms. Each type is an example of how people are not treated equally in society. Read pages 55–56 of *An Introduction to Christian Ethics* and complete the following table. The first column lists various types of social injustice. In the second column explain what each type of social injustice means, and in the third column describe how you think this is influenced by the TV and the media.

Type	Explanation	How is this influenced by the TV and the Media?
Economic inequality		
Inequality of the disabled		
Gender inequality		
Ageism		
Racial inequality		
Religious inequality		

Church Policy to Combat Racism

Read the information on page 66 of *An Introduction to Christian Ethics* to find out what the churches say about racism. Choose one denomination and complete the following anti-racism policy as you think your chosen church would.

Our Anti-Racism Policy

Denomination:

Racism affects our daily lives, our church life and the society in which we live in. The following policy sets out our beliefs about racism and what practical action we believe should be taken to combat racism.

Our Beliefs about Racism:

Pacifism

Pacifism is the belief that war and violence are wrong and cannot be justified. There are different levels of pacifism depending on how strongly a person feels about war.

Explain these levels in the table below.



Level of pacifism	Explanation
<p>Absolute pacifism</p>	
<p>Conditional pacifism</p>	
<p>Selective pacifism</p>	