**Relationships and families– Key quotes and thoughts**

**Human sexuality**

**Christianity**

27So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that 8moves on the earth.” – Genesis 1:27-28

**Islam**

“Must you, unlike (other) people, lust after males, and abandon the wives that God has created for you? You are exceeding all bounds

**Sexual relationships before and outside marriage**

**Christianity**

“To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single, as I am. But if they cannot exercise self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to burn with passion.” Corinthians 7:8-9

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart” Matthew 5:27-8

**Islam**

“The only way to protect all within the society is to maintain a society where only a man and his wife share the act of sex.” Abdul Wahid Hamid, Islam: The Natural Way

“And do not go anywhere near adultery: it is an outrage, and an evil path” Qur’an 17:32

**Contraception and family planning**

**Christianity**

"Be fruitful and increase in number" - Genesis 1:28

“The husband should fulfil his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. The wife’s body does not belong to her alone but also to her husband. In the same way, the husband’s body does not belong to him alone but also to his wife.” Corinthians 7

**Islam**

“Do not kill the children for the poverty, we shall provide for them and for you – killing them is a great sin” Qur’an 17:31

“Allah desires to lighten your burden, for man was created weak.” Qur’an 17:31

**Marriage**

**Christian Views NOT quotes (these depend upon branches of Christianity and can be very different. Examples below)**

God created men and women at the same time and equal

Jesus treated women as equals in the gospels

The Catholic Catechism says men and women are equal

Only men can be priests because the apostles were all men

St Paul says women should not speak in church

**Islamic views & quotes (again there are differing views and the growth of Islamic feminism is to be noted)**

‘Husbands take care of your wives’- Quran 4.3

Qur’an teaches women created to bear children.

Qur’an teaches women should only inherit half what a man inherits showing men need more money to provide for family

Qur’an teaches men & women are equal in religion and education

Muhammad encouraged both men & women to worship in the mosque

There were women leaders during early stages of Islam.

**Divorce and re-marriage**

**Christianity**

Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her. And if she divorces her husband and marries another man she commits adultery. Mark 10:11-12

**Islam**

When any of you intend to divorce women, do so at time when their prescribed waiting period can properly start… if you are in doubt the period of waiting shall be three months. Qur’an 65:1-4

**The nature of the families**

**Christianity**

Here one learns endurance and the joy of work, fraternal love, generous - even repeated - forgiveness, and above all divine worship in prayer and the offering of one's life.

**Islam**

“Heaven is under the feet of the women” Hadith

**The purpose of the families**

**Christianity**

“Listen to your father, who gave you life and do not despise your mother when she is old” Proverbs 23:22

**Islam**

“For every tree there is a fruit and the fruit of the heart is a child” Hadith

**Gender equality**

**Christianity**

To the woman he said, "I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labour you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you." Genesis 3:16

**Islam**

We have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another. Qur’an 49:13