

Year 9 Knowledge Organizer 2—Sanctity of Life

KEY TERMS

SANCTITY OF LIFE—That life is Special, Sacred or Holy, Many religions see it as a gift of God

EUTHANASIA—Sometimes called assisted suicide, the killing of someone whose quality of life through illness is so poor they want to die. Euthanasia literally means good death.

ABORTION – the ending of a pregnancy either through the body miscarrying the baby, or by chemical or surgical means.

Religious quotes that might influence a persons beliefs about the sanctity of life

“In the Beginning God created Heaven and Earth” Christians and Jews (Bible)

“You shall not kill” Christians and Jews (Bible)

“God made man in His own image” Christians and Jews (Bible)

“God gave mankind dominion (power) over His creation” Christians and Jews (Bible)

“Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, before you were born I set you apart” Christians and Jews (Bible)

“Speak up for those who can’t speak for themselves” Christians and Jews (Bible)

“You shall love your neighbour as yourself” Christians (Bible)

“Whoever kills an innocent person it is as if he has killed all of Humanity” Islam (Qur’an)

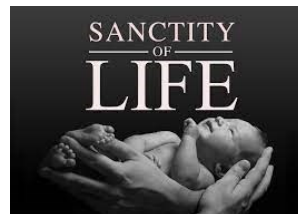
“Whoever sheds human blood by human blood shall their blood be shed, for in the image of Gd has God made mankind” Islam (Qur’an)

“Do not take life, which God has made sacred”
Islam (Qur’an)

[Sanctity of life - Jewish beliefs - Edexcel - GCSE Religious Studies](#)

[Revision - Edexcel - BBC Bitesize](#)

[Resources - RE:quest \(request.org.uk\)](#)



Is it OK to kill?

Arguments for it being morally OK to kill

- To save ones own life
- For food (animals)
- In war if it is a just war
- To end suffering in animals.
- As the ultimate punishment (the death penalty)

Arguments for it not being morally OK to kill

- Life is too special for us to end it.
- God created life and we do not have the right to end it.
- Killing others as a punishment makes us as bad as the criminal.
- It is against the law of the land and religious laws such as “you shall not kill”

**WHY DO WE KILL
PEOPLE WHO KILL PEOPLE
TO SHOW PEOPLE
THAT KILLING PEOPLE
IS WRONG**

Sanctity of all life?

Sanctity of life is usually refers to human life, but can it be applied to all life?

Human life is important

Created by God in his own image

The most intelligent animal on the planet and can have a positive affect on the rest of the world

Animal life is important

They are created by God and their bio diversity makes the wonder of the world

For food

Insects are vital for the rest of life to thrive as the base of the food chain and pollination.

Plant life is important

They are created by God

Plants clear the atmosphere from CO2 and give out Oxygen for mammals to breath.

They provide food and are used in medicine, for instance willow in aspirin.