

6. Developments in Ethical Thought

How the study of ethics has, over time, influenced and been influenced by developments in religious beliefs and practices, societal norms and normative theories

<p>Sexual Ethics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consideration of the following areas of sexual ethics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ premarital and extramarital sex ○ homosexuality • the influence of developments in religious beliefs and practices on debates about the morality, legality and tolerability of these areas of sexual ethics • application of the following theories to these areas of sexual ethics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ natural law ○ situation ethics ○ Kantian ethics ○ utilitarianism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • traditional religious beliefs and practices (from any religious perspectives) regarding these areas of sexual ethics • how these beliefs and practices have changed over time, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ key teachings influencing these beliefs and practices ○ the ideas of religious figures and institutions • the impact of secularism on these areas of sexual ethics • how these theories might be used to make moral decisions in these areas of sexual ethics • issues raised in the application of these theories
<p>Learners should have the opportunity to discuss issues related to ideas about sexual ethics and changing attitudes towards it, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • whether or not religious beliefs and practices concerning sex and relationships have a continuing role in the area of sexual ethics • whether choices in the area of sexual behaviour should be entirely private and personal, or whether they should be subject to societal norms and legislation • whether normative theories are useful in what they might say about sexual ethics 		
<p>Suggested scholarly views, academic approaches and sources of wisdom and authority <i>Learners will be given credit for referring to any appropriate scholarly views, academic approaches and sources of wisdom and authority, however the following examples may prove useful</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pope Paul VI (1968) <i>Humanae Vitae</i> • Church of England House of Bishops (1991) <i>Issues in Human Sexuality</i>, London: Church House Publishing • Mill, J.S. (1859) <i>On Liberty</i>, Chapter 1 		