

Main subject:

Sociology

Linked subjects:

1. Religious Studies 2. Maths/Statistics

Year

7/8/9

Religion, Statistics and Society

The aim of this extension task is to examine the extent, relevance and role of religion in UK society and how it is linked to the specific issue of Equal Marriage in UK society.

Why Not?
It's just for fun!

Context:

The secularisation of many religions and the growth of atheism and rationality in UK society **vs.** the growth in the number of religions and the importance of religious ethics in UK laws.

Real World Example: The extensive debate in the run up to the passing of the Equal Marriage Act allowing gay people to be married in the eyes of any religion that accepts homosexuality as morally and socially acceptable. This debate essentially amounted to an argument around competing freedoms; the freedom of religions to find homosexuality reprehensible vs. the freedom of gay people to a family life including getting married in a church.

Using official statistics and your own ideas, answer the following questions:

1. What religions are represented in the UK?
2. Why are there more religions now than there were 50 years ago?
3. Why are there probably more religions present in UK society than are indicated in the statistics?
4. How many/ What percentage of people profess to be believers in each of the main religions present in UK society?
5. How many/ What percentage of people regularly attend a religious service in the UK?
6. Why can we not be certain about such figures or what they indicate about religious belief in UK society?
7. How do these figures, trends and explanations lead to a situation in which Gay Marriage was legalised?



Expectation

Students could be offered a choice of ways to respond.

E.g. 2 sides A4 / power point / video/ tape recording .

Deadline:

Note to students:

It is not essential, but you are encouraged to extend this task into an area of your own