

# University of Swaziland



## Faculty of Education

(DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND TEACHING)

SEMESTER II EXAMINATION PAPER – MAY 2016

**TITLE OF PAPER: CURRICULUM STUDIES IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**COURSE CODE : IDE-EDC 375/CTE522**

**STUDENTS : B.Ed. III AND PGCE (IDE); CTE522 (PGCE F/T)**

**TIME : THREE (3) HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS :**

- 1. Follow instructions for each section as indicated.**
- 3. Marks are indicated against each question/item**

**DO NOT OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY  
THE INVIGILATOR**

**SECTION A SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS**

**QUESTION 1**

**There are five short answer questions in this section. Answer each of them succinctly. Each item is worth 5 marks**

i) Identify and explain any two purposes of assessment in a teaching/learning situation

ii) Rationalise why testing should be an integral part of your teaching.

iii) Establish the relationship between the following modes of educational assessment:  
testing, measurement, assessment and evaluation

iv) Explain the rationale for the Curriculum Studies in Religious Education course in the teaching of Religious Education in schools in Swaziland.

v). Describe quality marking when marking students' work in Religious Education **[25]**

**SECTION B APPLICATION**

**ANSWER BOTH QUESTIONS IN THIS SECTION**

**QUESTION TWO**

Use the SGSCE Religious Education Syllabus (2012) attached to construct a Form IV end of month test from a topic area of your choice. Its duration should be 1: 30 minutes. **[25]**

**QUESTION THREE**

Choose any one teaching resource and illustrate in a lesson plan how you would use it in your teaching a Form 1 Religious Education double period (120 minutes) lesson. **[25]**

**SECTION C**

**GENERAL ESSAYS**

**ANSWER ANY ONE QUESTION FROM THIS SECTION**

**QUESTION FOUR**

Choose any **THREE** types of objective tests and describe their rules of setting with clear demonstration for each

**[25]**

**OR**

**QUESTION FIVE**

a) Describe a Criterion-Referenced Test interpretation. (5)

b) What are benefits of the CRT assessment approach in Religious Education (3x5=15)

**[25]**

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**THE END**

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## CURRICULUM CONTENT

Learners will study all of the topics for the following **two** religions

- Christianity
- Swazi Traditional Religion

in the Curriculum Content outlined below. 'Notes for Guidance' on each of the topics are provided as an Appendix.

The topics are numbered purely for reference purposes, and there is no requirement for them to be taught in this order. It should also be understood that the teaching time devoted to each topic will need to reflect the demands and the amount of content in each, and that these will not be the same across all the topics. Each of the two religions will be examined according to the five inter-related topics listed below. The topics have been numbered purely for purposes of reference and **there is no intention that the order should be seen as a suitable sequence for study**. Candidates should be aware that the importance attached to particular topics will vary from religion to religion.

Topic 1 Beliefs and Major Figures

Topic 2 Worship, Sacred Writings and Traditions

Topic 3 Festivals and Fasts, Pilgrimage and Sacred Places

Topic 4 Religion and the Family, Rites of Passage

Topic 5 Religion and Social Action, Moral and Ethical Behaviour

Appropriate teaching time for the Religious Education syllabus should be equivalent to six (6) periods of forty (40) minutes each over a period of sixty (60) weeks/cycles.

### CHRISTIANITY

#### Topic 1 Beliefs and Major Figures

- Trinity: God the Father as Creator  
Jesus the son of God, showing God's love through his life, death and resurrection  
Holy Spirit, God's continuing action in the world
- Sin and Salvation, Judgement
- Major Figure: Jesus

#### Topic 2 Worship, Sacred Writings and Traditions

- Church, cathedral, chapel, meeting house  
Features: font, pulpit, baptistery, lectern, altar, communion table, cross, crucifix
- Public worship:  
Holy Communion (Eucharist, The Lord's Supper, Mass), Evangelical meetings (conventions), Bible-based worship (Bible studies)
- Private worship:  
Personal prayer, Bible reading, singing for personal edification
- Leaders of worship:  
Bishop, priest, minister, preacher, pastor
- The Bible:  
Its place in worship, the basis of its authority, the Old and the New Testament, the type of literature it contains

Note: The influence of Swazi Traditional Religion practice on Christian worship should be considered where appropriate.

### **Topic 3 Festivals and Fasts, Pilgrimage and Sacred Places**

- Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent including Holy Week, Easter, Pentecost, Ascension – in all cases the original events remembered in the observance as well as the way the day or season is observed
- Pilgrimage:  
Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Nazareth, Rome (St Peter's), Lourdes  
Local places – Somhlolo National church, Florence for the Catholics, Emanganganeni for the Red Gowns, Ngome in Vryheid (Kwazulu Natal) for the Catholics, Moria for the Zion Christian Church

### **Topic 4 Religion and the Family, Rites of Passage**

- Birth rituals (baptism/dedication)
- Believer's baptism, confirmation
- Marriage
- Funerals
- What Christianity teaches about:  
Personal relationships e.g., husband and wife, parents and children  
Divorce  
Chastity  
Nurturing of the young  
The role of women

Note: The influence of Swazi Traditional Religion practice on Christian worship should be considered where appropriate.

### **Topic 5 Religion and Social Action, Moral and Ethical Behaviour**

Christian teachings supporting or applied to:

Social Action:

- Missionary work
- The use of money
- Religious aid organisations
- Nurturing and educating of the youth
- Care of the sick and elderly

Moral and Ethical Behaviour:

- Respect for personal integrity
- Teachings against abuse, exploitation, violence; for the relief of poverty, provision of education and health care
- Care for the environment
- Distribution of wealth
- Population control and prevention of HIV/AIDS
- Sexual orientation
- Suicide
- Abortion
- Euthanasia
- Discrimination and prejudice

## SWAZI TRADITIONAL RELIGION

### Topic 1 Beliefs and Major Figures

- Beliefs: Supreme Being, Ancestor veneration, Spirits (evil and good), Witchcraft
- Major figures: King, Queen Mother, the elderly, chiefs

### Topic 2 Worship, Sacred Writings and Traditions

- Worship: places of worship
- Style of worship (nationally, community, family); private and public
- Leaders of worship (nationally, community, family)
- Sacred sources (myths, songs, dances, sacred places, rituals, personal and praise names, beliefs and customs)

Note: The influence of Christian practice on Swazi Traditional Religion should be considered where appropriate.

### Topic 3 Festivals and Fasts, Pilgrimage and Sacred Places

- Pilgrim Festivals: National (Incwala, UMhlanga, Baganu, Butimba), Community, Sibhimbi, (e.g., chief installation)
- Fasts: National Kutila (e.g., drought, kuluma)
- Family: Kupahla
- Sacred places in the family (kagogo, emadlizeni, esibayeni); National (cattle byre, mountains, and rivers)

### Topic 4 Religion and the Family, Rites of Passage

- Family structure (nuclear, extended)
- Relationships and responsibilities of members of the family for nurturing of the young at esangweni, egumeni
- The role of women
- Marriage
- Divorce
- Birth Ceremonies – pregnancy-taboos and rituals (e.g., kukhishwa/ kukhokhwa endlini, kuyiswa emshini)
- Initiation ceremonies (kutforjiswa)
- Marriage ceremonies: kucelwa, kutekwa, umtsimba, kulobola
- Death, funeral ceremonies and rituals: Umdzambayi, Kubikela labaphansi, kubuyisa, kutila, kugeza emanti and mourning

Note: The influence of Christian practice on Swazi Traditional Religion should be considered where appropriate.

- A Jewish divorce is simple in some ways. A husband gives his wife a 'get'. This is a document that states that the marriage has ended. Only the husband can give the *get*. The procedure takes place in the Beth Din in front of a judge and two witnesses.
- The laws of *gittin* (plural for 'get') only allow a husband to initiate a divorce. However, Jewish women do have the right to sue for divorce in a rabbinical court.

#### Christianity

- The Scriptures teach that marriage is a gift of God.
- Christians are divided when it comes to the issue of polygamy. African churches have long recognised the practice. Polygamy also exists among certain other Christian groups such as The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints (Mormons).
- Christians are divided on the subject of contraception.
- Different Christian churches have different views on the topic of divorce but the general principle is that every effort should be made to maintain the union.

#### Islam

- Muslims believe that the only right way for a man and a woman to live together is as a couple, through marriage.
- The Qur'an allows a man to marry up to four wives. However monogamy is more common. Polyandry is not allowed in Islam.
- Muslims are generally allowed to practise birth control. Although natural methods of contraception are preferred, the pill (oral contraception) and condoms may also be used.
- Islam allows couples to divorce although it should only be considered as a last resort.
- Both men and women can ask for a divorce.
- After agreeing to a divorce, a period of three to nine months, called *iddah*, is set aside before the divorce is finalised in order to give the husband and wife a chance to think carefully about their decision and to make sure that the woman is not pregnant.

#### Exercise

1. Define the following terms:
  - a) marriage
  - b) contraception
  - c) population control
  - d) divorce
2. What is your attitude toward purity in marriage? Give reasons for your answer.
3. Under what circumstances could a Swazi man's sexual affairs be considered adultery?

4. Explain the purpose of *iddah* in Islam. Do you think that this is a good idea? Give reasons for your answer.
5. What is the main purpose of marriage according to the four religions studied?
6. Give the acceptable reasons for divorce according to the four religions studied.
7. List the reasons that are not considered cause for divorce in each of the four religions studies.

#### Assignment

1. Interview a married Swazi couple and a married Christian, or Muslim, couple and ask about their views on divorce. Present your findings by following these guidelines.
  - State the objectives of your research.
  - Discuss your findings as well as your opinions about those findings.
2. Write one page on the effects of divorce on the children, the woman and the man in a family.

**Topic 5 Religion and Social Action, Moral and Ethical Behaviour**

Religious teachings supporting or applied to:

**Social Action:**

- The use of wealth
- Community support for the disadvantaged
- Nurturing and educating of the youth
- Taking care of the elderly, sick and the needy

**Moral and Ethical Behaviour:**

- Sexual orientation
- Domestic violence
- Suicide
- Population control (e.g., contraception, prevention of HIV/AIDS)
- Abortion
- Discrimination and prejudice
- Respect for personal integrity
- Care for the environment
- Teaching *against* abuse, exploitation, violence; for the relief of poverty, provision of education and health

Once a couple has decided to get a divorce, there is a three to nine month waiting period, known as *iddah*, until the divorce can be finalised. Reasons for *iddah*:

- To give the couple time to make sure that they are not rushing things and doing something in haste for which they will be sorry later.
- To make sure that the wife is not pregnant – if she is pregnant the normal three-month period will be extended to nine months and the divorce will only be finalised after the baby is born.

During *iddah*, the husband must announce his intention (to divorce his wife) three times each month in front of witnesses. During this period the wife continues to stay in the home and her husband must continue to provide for her. Although the couple still live together during *iddah* they should have no physical contact. The wife may not marry someone else during this time. Only after the divorce is complete is she free to remarry.

If the couple reconciles during *iddah* and decide to remarry they will have to wait until the divorce is finalised as there has to be a new marriage contract. There is a limit to the number of times a couple can remarry.

'If the woman fears ill usage or desertion on the part of her husband, there is no blame on them if they effect reconciliation between themselves, and reconciliation is better ... And if they separate, Allah will render them both free from want.'

(Qur'an 4:128-30)

After a divorce is final, the husband is no longer obliged to support his wife. The wife either returns to her family, or her male relatives support her. If there is no one to support her, the state may do so, but it depends on the country in which she lives. Small children may stay with their mother, but it is the father's responsibility to support them financially and even to look after them if this becomes necessary.

#### New words

**reconcile:** to bring back to harmony and agreement

**infidelity:** being unfaithful; adultery

#### Activity 2.23: Individual work

Fill in the following table in order to summarise the teachings of the different religions on marriage, contraception and divorce. Your answer must reflect the similarities and differences between the four religions.

Religion	Teaching on marriage	Teaching on contraception	Teaching on divorce	Procedure for divorce
STR				
Judaism				
Christianity				
Islam				

#### Summary

- Marriage is the legal relationship between a husband and a wife. It is an important basic social structure in Swazi Traditional Religion, Judaism, Christianity and Islam.
- Contraception is the word that describes any method used to prevent a woman from falling pregnant.
- Population control refers to steps taken to control population growth.
- Divorce is the legal ending of a marriage. There are many reasons for divorce.

#### Swazi Traditional Religion

- STR teaches that marriage is the best institution in which to raise children morally and correctly.
- Polygamy is an acceptable practice in Swazi Traditional Religion. Men are only considered to be adulterous if they have sexual relationships with married women.
- There is no evidence of polyandry in STR.
- Men in Swazi culture continue to be the sole decision makers about sexual and reproductive issues. Natural methods of contraception are preferred.
- Divorce is discouraged in traditional marriages. However, it is permissible in situations of adultery and witchcraft.
- The man is seen as senior in the relationship that he has with his wife. His seniority allows him to initiate a separation or a divorce.

#### Judaism

- Jewish laws view marriage as the ideal human state.
- The ancient Jewish people practised polygamy. In the modern day, Rabbinic Judaism has outlawed polygamy and most of the other types of Judaism have also abandoned the practice.
- Judaism is divided on the subject of birth control.
- If contraceptives are used, methods that do not interfere with the man's sperm are preferred.
- Jewish laws allow divorce as a last resort. Before divorce proceedings begin, everything possible must be done to save the marriage.
- In all countries except Israel, a Jewish couple have to first get a civil divorce in a court of law and then obtain a Jewish divorce.

- In Islam marriage is seen as the joining together of equals, so neither the husband nor the wife is considered to be superior although they perform different roles within the family.
- The role of women has changed over time, in economic, social, political and religious arenas.

#### Exercise

1. What is the role of women in STR, Christianity, Islam and Judaism?
2. What is the role of men in STR, Christianity, Islam and Judaism?
3. Why are mothers considered to be so important in many of the religions we have studied?
4. What was the Women's Liberation Movement?
5. What did Women's Lib do for women?

#### Assignment

'The woman's place is in the kitchen.' Is this statement still applicable in the 21<sup>st</sup> century?

Write an essay of not more than a page to express your views.

Nyawo, S. et al. (2009) Religious Education  
in Context. Macmillan.

## Unit 3 Religion and marriage, divorce and family planning

#### Objectives

By the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- discuss the basic principles regarding marriage in the four religions (STR, Judaism Christianity and Islam)
- discuss the principles and practices governing divorce in the four religion (STR, Judaism Christianity and Islam)
- explain what the four religions teach about divorce
- assess the impact of divorce on those affected by it
- define specific terms related to the family, marriage, divorce and relationships
- explain the attitudes taken or adopted by the four religions to population (birth) control.

#### Marriage

Marriage is the legal relationship between a husband and a wife. It is an important basic social structure in Swazi Traditional Religion, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. In this unit we will also be discussing the attitude of the four religions to contraception. Remember, in discussing religious views on contraception and population control, the views of the different religions relate *only* to sexual intercourse *within marriage*.

People perform certain social roles within marriage, such as:

- procreation
- raising children
- taking care of one another during both happy and sad times.



You have already learnt a lot about marriage as a rite of passage in Book 2. In this unit we will examine marriage, polygamy, inter-faith marriage, contraception and divorce as they are viewed by the four religions under study.

## Divorce

Traditional Christian teaching is that marriage is one of the sacraments and that therefore couples should remain married for life. However, most churches realise that there are times when a marriage breaks down and the couple may wish to get a divorce. Different Christian churches have different views on the topic of divorce but the general principle is that every effort should be made to maintain the union.

Jesus stated the following about divorce: 'It has been said, "Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce." But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, causes her to become an adulteress, and anyone who marries the divorced woman commits adultery.' (Matthew 5:31-32)

In Mark 10:9, speaking about marriage, Jesus said: 'Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate.' Jesus taught that once a couple has made a commitment to one another, the commitment should be for life.

Protestant churches are divided on the subject of divorce. Whether or not divorce and remarriage is allowed depends on the beliefs of the individual church. Some Protestant churches allow divorce and remarriage and others do not. Ministers and pastors in some churches may divorce, remarry and continue with their ministry as if nothing unusual has happened. Other Protestant churches will not agree to marry anyone who has been divorced. In these churches, ministers and pastors who divorce may be suspended for a period of time or may even be dismissed altogether.

The Roman Catholic Church has very strict laws regarding divorce. Theoretically, because marriage is a sacrament, it can never be ended. Marriage is seen as a **covenant** between two people (like the covenant that exists between God and people) and it is considered a total commitment by each partner to the other. Practically, however, there are certain special circumstances where the Church would agree to a divorce and allow the couple to remarry.

The Roman Catholic Church distinguishes between sacramental marriage (both partners have been baptised in the faith) and a non-sacramental marriage (only one partner has been baptised and the marriage took place outside the Catholic Church).

Divorce can be allowed in a non-sacramental marriage because the Church does not recognise any marriage that took place outside the Catholic Church. Under certain circumstances, a sacramental marriage can be **annulled** and the couple is allowed to get divorced and remarry.

An annulment is only granted after a long legal process. It is only granted on the basis that there was some barrier to the marriage *at the time the marriage took place*.

For example, a marriage may be annulled if:

- the couple were forced to marry for some reason
- one partner had a deep-rooted psychological problem
- one or both partners did not intend to have children
- the marriage had not yet been consummated.

An annulment would *not* be granted if, for example, one partner developed a drinking problem during the marriage because this problem did not exist *at the time of the marriage*.

### New words

**covenant:** a binding legal and moral promise

**annulled:** declared invalid

### Activity 2.22: Group work

Write a letter to a friend explaining the impact a divorce has on the people involved, e.g. the husband, the wife, the children and extended family members.

Each group member should write from the point of view of one of the people involved, e.g. the wife's mother or the oldest child. Once you have finished your letter, combine it with all the other letters in your group and be prepared to make a group presentation.

## Marriage, divorce and contraception in Islam

### Marriage

Marriage is the way in which Islamic society is bound together. It is the basis of Islamic society. Muslims believe that the only right way for a man and woman to live together as a couple is through marriage. The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was married. Islamic teachings encourage Muslims to marry and live together in harmony and love, to have children and bring them up as practising Muslims. Marriage is considered to be both a social contract and a sacred one.

Because marriage is so important, Muslim parents often take on the responsibility of arranging marriages for their children. This said, parents cannot force their children to marry someone against their will. A marriage is normally arranged by the two families involved, with the agreement of the couple. At least two adult Muslims should be present at the marriage to witness the exchange of vows. Both partners sign a written contract and the bride usually receives marriage gifts from the bridegroom. These gifts can take the form of money, property or material goods.

### Activity 2.15: Individual work

1. Do you want to get married at some point in your life? Give reasons for your answer.
2. Each country has a minimum age for marriage. What is the minimum age for marriage in Swaziland?
3. Do you think this is the correct age for marriage? Give reasons for your answer.

People marry for many different reasons. Often people marry because they feel that they are in love and they want to be together for the rest of their lives. People may also marry so that they can have children who will carry on the family name and bloodline. Some people marry and have lots of children so that the large family will be able to work together in order to provide for the family's needs.

### Activity 2.16: Group work

As a group, discuss reasons for getting married. Use these words in your discussion:

love	children
fulfilment	labour
support	happiness
	pregnant

#### [B hd] Some definitions

**Monogamy** – having only one wife or husband. Monogamy is usually the law in most communities. Reasons for monogamy may be religious or otherwise.

**Serial monogamy** – when a person has two or more marriages, one after the other, in their lifetime

**Bigamy** – the crime of marrying someone while still being legally married to someone else without the authorities or the original marriage partner knowing about it. This is a criminal offence that can result in a prison sentence.

**Polygamy** – having more than one spouse at a time; especially a man having more than one wife at a time. In some countries in Africa the status and wealth of a man is decided by the number of wives he has. Polygamy differs from bigamy. In polygamy all the man's wives know about each other while in bigamy the first wife and later wives do not know about each other.

**Polyandry** – a woman having more than one husband at a time. Very few societies practise polyandry.

### Activity 2.17: Class discussion

1. What are the advantages and disadvantages of each of the following relationships: bigamy, monogamy, serial monogamy, polygamy?
2. Why do you think that polyandry is not widely practised?

#### Arranged marriages

In some societies marriage is not seen as being between two people but between two families. For wealthy, land-owning families in particular, marriage often has to do with property, money and continuing the family line. In these cases marriages are often arranged. Parents who arrange a marriage may believe that they know their child better than anyone else. Therefore they feel that they know what sort of person their child should share the rest of their lives with. Many of these parents believe that love should grow *after* marriage, not *before*. Some people think that arranged marriages are cruel, but they can have their advantages. When a marriage has been arranged, going against parental wishes and not following through with the marriage may lead to pain and family upset.

#### Inter-faith marriage

Inter-faith marriage refers to marriage between a man and a woman from different faiths or religions. In some religions, it does not matter who people marry. However, in some religious communities, people worry if their young people marry outside their religion. Their worries revolve around questions such as:

- Which partner will give up his/her faith for the other?
- Which faith will the children be raised in?

### Activity 2.18: Class discussion

1. What are the advantages of an arranged marriage?
2. Would you like your parents to choose your marriage partner? Explain your answer.
3. How could the problem of religious identity be solved in an inter-faith marriage?

#### Contraception and population control

Contraception is the word that describes any method used to prevent a woman from falling pregnant. There are many methods of contraception. Contraception may be divided into two broad categories: artificial contraception and natural contraception.

Artificial contraception is practised through the use of modern methods such as the use of the contraceptive pill (also called 'the pill'), condoms, inter-uterine devices (IUDs) and so on. The effectiveness of each method depends largely on the proper use of the contraceptive chosen.

The wife often stays with her parents with the hope that her husband will come back for her. If this does not happen, her husband is still obliged to provide for her basic needs and take care of their children.

In some cases a divorced woman may decide to get married to another man. If her first husband dies, people would expect her to come and mourn the death of her first husband. She may do this for the sake of the children from her first marriage. This action reflects the seriousness and permanence of marriage. Even when circumstances may force a person to leave their first partner, custom recognises that couple as still being married.

Swazi men are not described as adulterous if they are intimate with young unmarried women after they have taken their first wife. A married woman is expected to accept and even support such a relationship. A man is only described as adulterous if he has a sexual relationship with a married woman. If a man is caught with a married woman he is heavily penalised by having to pay out a certain number of cattle to the woman's husband. The offended man's family decide how many cattle the other man will have to pay. The offended man is at liberty to keep his wife or send her back to her parents. Even if the latter occurs, her husband is still obliged to take care of her.

A married Swazi woman cannot use **infidelity** as grounds for divorce. In these modern times, some married women find it very difficult to handle the affairs that their husbands have with other women. Some women go to the extent of challenging their husbands in civil court.



#### New words

**sterility:** unable to have children

**infidelity:** having a sexual affair with someone other than the marriage partner

#### Activity 2.21: Class discussion

'I will never divorce. I fear the ancestors will become angry and punish me.'  
What do you think of this statement?

### Marriage, divorce and contraception in Judaism

#### Marriage

Judaism views marriage as the ideal human state. The Talmud and the Torah view a man without a wife, or a woman without a husband, as incomplete: 'A man without a wife is incomplete ... A man without a wife lives without joy, without blessing, and without good.' (Talmud)

Judaism also views marriage as holy, as a sanctification of life. The word *kiddushin*, which means 'sanctification', is used in Jewish literature when referring to marriage. Marriage is seen as a spiritual bonding between two people and as the fulfilment of God's commitment.

In addition, Judaism teaches that marriages have purpose. A marriage allows for both companionship and procreation. According to Jewish belief, a woman was made because 'It is not good for the man to be alone. ...' (Genesis 2:18). Marriage makes possible the fulfilment of the God's command: '... "Be fruitful and increase in number; ..."' (Genesis 1:28).

A Jewish marriage is seen as a contract between two people with legal rights and obligations. It should be noted that Judaism's elevation of the institution of marriage has played a significant role in the survival of the Jewish people over the generations. The Jewish nation was able to preserve their cultural and religious heritage for thousands of years, despite being oppressed and scattered over all parts of the world. This was mainly due to the sanctity of marriage and the resulting stability of the family.

#### Polygamy

The history of the Jewish nation includes some significant people who practised polygamy. These include the father of the Jewish nation, Abraham, as well as Isaac, King David and King Solomon. According to 1 Kings 11:3, King Solomon had 700 wives and 300 concubines.

In the modern day, Rabbinic Judaism has outlawed polygamy and most of the other types of Judaism have also abandoned the practice.

Natural methods of contraception focus on the understanding of the female ovulation cycle. These methods of contraception have been used for many years, but they could be dangerous, and they are very often not reliable.

Population control refers to steps taken by governments to limit or slow down population growth. Population control has become important in some areas of the world to ensure that the resources in the area are not used up too quickly.

Contraception is used in **family planning** and, by extension, population control. Opponents of family planning think that this is unnatural and that nature should be left to take its course.

### Divorce

Divorce is the legal ending of a marriage. There are many reasons for divorce, these include:

- adultery
- cruelty or unreasonable behaviour by one or both partners
- marrying too young and growing apart from one another
- feeling that the love has died
- expecting too much from marriage and from a partner
- spouses changing and finding that they are no longer **compatible**.



*Cruel or unreasonable behaviour can lead to divorce.*

#### New words

**family planning:** the practice of limiting the size of families for economic reasons

**adultery:** having a sexual relationship outside of one's marriage

**compatible:** well suited or matched

### Activity 2.19: Group work

1. Define divorce.
2. List some of the causes of divorce.
3. Do you agree that divorce should be allowed?
4. Do you think that a divorce should be granted easily or made difficult to obtain?
5. Consider the effects of not granting a divorce when a marriage no longer works well.
6. What could a married couple do to try and save their marriage before resorting to divorce?

Share your ideas with the rest of the class.

We will now examine the teachings of the four religions with respect to marriage, divorce and contraception.

### Marriage, divorce and contraception in Swazi Traditional Religion

#### Marriage

We have discussed marriage, in detail, as a rite of passage in STR in Book 2, Unit 4. Marriage is so important in STR that everyone is expected to go through the marriage rite. **Eloping** or remaining single is highly discouraged. In **contemporary** Swaziland, there are two main forms of marriage: traditional marriage and civil marriage. Love matches, arranged marriages (*kwendzisa*) and marriage by capture are also possible. The **latter** is uncommon and does not always involve the exchange of bride wealth.

An arranged marriage may be considered if a person is taking too long to marry or finding it difficult to find a partner. Some people tell frightening stories to discourage young people from remaining single. Young men are discouraged from being bachelors for life using the story that, if they should die single, a maize comb will be inserted in their private parts immediately after their death.

STR teaches that marriage is the best institution in which to raise children morally and correctly. This is shown when they scold an unruly child by saying '*yini ingatsi ukhulele ehlatini njengesagila*'. Loosely translated this means 'it looks like you have been brought up in a forest like a knobkerrie'.

#### New words

**eloping:** running away in secret to get married

**contemporary:** in the present day

**latter:** the second of two things that you are talking about (you refer to the first thing as 'the former')

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- adultery
- cruelty or unreasonable behaviour by one or both partners
- marrying too young and growing apart from one another
- feeling that the love has died
- expecting too much from marriage and from a partner
- spouses changing and finding that they are no longer **compatible**.



*Cruel or unreasonable behaviour can lead to divorce.*

#### New words

**family planning:** the practice of limiting the size of families for economic reasons  
**adultery:** having a sexual relationship outside of one's marriage  
**compatible:** well suited or matched

### Activity 2.19: Group work

1. Define divorce.
2. List some of the causes of divorce.
3. Do you agree that divorce should be allowed?
4. Do you think that a divorce should be granted easily or made difficult to obtain?
5. Consider the effects of not granting a divorce when a marriage no longer works well.
6. What could a married couple do to try and save their marriage before resorting to divorce?

Share your ideas with the rest of the class.

We will now examine the teachings of the four religions with respect to marriage, divorce and contraception.

### Marriage, divorce and contraception in Swazi Traditional Religion

#### Marriage

We have discussed marriage, in detail, as a rite of passage in STR in Book 2, Unit 4. Marriage is so important in STR that everyone is expected to go through the marriage rite. **Eloping** or remaining single is highly discouraged. In **contemporary** Swaziland, there are two main forms of marriage: traditional marriage and civil marriage. Love matches, arranged marriages (*kwenzisa*) and marriage by capture are also possible. The **latter** is uncommon and does not always involve the exchange of bride wealth.

An arranged marriage may be considered if a person is taking too long to marry or finding it difficult to find a partner. Some people tell frightening stories to discourage young people from remaining single. Young men are discouraged from being bachelors for life using the story that, if they should die single, a maize comb will be inserted in their private parts immediately after their death.

STR teaches that marriage is the best institution in which to raise children morally and correctly. This is shown when they scold an unruly child by saying '*yini ingatsi ukhulele ehlatini njengesagila*'. Loosely translated this means 'it looks like you have been brought up in a forest like a knobkerrie'.

#### New words

**eloping:** running away in secret to get married

**contemporary:** in the present day

**latter:** the second of two things that you are talking about (you refer to the first thing as 'the former')