

RACIAL HARMONY – key info

Christian attitudes to equal rights for women - Some Christians accept that women should be vicars e.g. Church of England and Methodist, but in the Catholic Church it is not allowed.

Reasons not to have women as church leaders	Reasons to accept women as church leaders
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Bible say women should obey their husbands• The Bible says women should be silent in church• All of Jesus' disciples were men• Jesus left the church in the care of a man• In the past women were regarded as inferior to men because of Adam and Eve	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The Bible says "God created men and women in his image"- Jesus did not discriminate between men and women- Women followers were treated well by Jesus- There is evidence of women leaders in the early church- The golden rule suggests that everyone should be respected

Muslim attitudes to equal rights

- The Qur'an teaches that women and men should have equal but different roles
- The Qur'an says that men should: protect women, provide for their wife and children, dress modestly, attend Mosque, worship separately to women.
- The Qur'an says that women should: have children, look after home and children raising them in Islam, dress modestly, worship separately to men.

Government action to promote community cohesion

1. Race relations act
2. Commission for racial equality
3. "Britishness test"
4. Community facilitation programme – helps communities work together

Christians promoting racial harmony

- Parable of the Good Samaritan – golden rule – "treat others as you would want to be treated"
- Racial harmony is putting Jesus' teachings into practice
- Martin Luther King – black Christian who campaigned for equal rights
- All Christian Churches condemn racism and the Church of England has set up its own race and community relationships committee.

Muslims promoting racial harmony

- Allah created all humans
- All Muslims are part of the Ummah or brotherhood
- The Qur'an teaches that no race is better than another
- The Prophet Muhammad declared in his last sermon that "there is no difference between Arabs and non-arabs"
- Prophet Muhammad declared that all people were descended from Adam and Eve.
- Malcolm X was a Black Muslim who campaigned for equal rights for black people in America

How can religions help community cohesion?

- Through religious groups, such as the Council of Christians and Jews and the Interfaith Network for the UK, who work together to make faiths work together
- By sharing basic understanding that God created all humans equal
- Celebration of festivals and worship encouraging other faiths to take part to gain a better understanding
- Encouraging representation of different faiths in a variety of jobs, e.g police, teachers, MPs