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Level 1 Religious Studies RAS 2023

91919 Demonstrate understanding of a religious or spiritual community's perspective on an issue

EXEMPLAR

Achievement

TOTAL 04

ESSAY

Master

NSN:

RST

Date: 14/08/2023

RST - 3. Can religious or spiritual people care for the environment and drink bottled water?
Explain your answer

Teacher Comment

GRADE:

Following the religious tradition of Catholicism plays a big part if you care for the environment and being able to drink bottled water, but should catholic people be able to drink bottled water. My short answer for this question is no, but my long answer will explain. One thing that comes straight into my mind when asked this question is that being catholic means that you are the protector of earth, God's creation, so every catholic person needs to care for our planet and think about what can happen if we don't. One of Catholicism's principals emphasizes the importance of social justice and caring for the poor and vulnerable. This principal is bonded in the teachings of Jesus and includes a commitment to promoting peace, alleviating poverty, and advocating for human dignity.

Human dignity, what is it and why is it important to this question. It is important to this question because everyone on earth is born with it, "Every person, from the first moment of their life in the womb, has an inviolable dignity, because from all eternity God willed, loved, created, and redeem that person and destined him for eternal happiness." Youcat 280. But what is it; human dignity gives you the right to live a fully healthy life, this means have easy aces clean drinking water, have a shelter to sleep in, and to be able to have easy aces to food. Unfortunately the poor can bearly afford their own dignity, but catholic people can show stewardship for the poor. But what is stewardship?

Stewardship is a core idea in Catholic social teachings and plays an important role in creating the church's ethical and moral framework for dealing with social issues like climate change. Showing stewardship is protecting the most important factor of our lives such as, ourselves, our neighbours, and most importantly the earth. The Pope did write a letter to everyone saying " God gave us this planet to live on and show stewardship to protect it. As of today, this is not happening, we are the reason for climate change and it is affecting the poorest and most vulnerable people on this planet." A few sentences from Laudato Si. Also the scripture James 1:2 relates to showing stewardship to the poor and vulnerable and states "Religion that God our father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in

their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

Showing stewardship for the poor and vulnerable links to caring for the environment because the poor and vulnerable are the ones who bare the weight of the consequences of climate change. This is because their own human dignity is being stolen from wealthy catholic people. This is because the poorest people live places that can't get fresh food such as fish because of sea pollution or fresh water because of fresh water pollution, which water bottles contribute to. When catholic people drink bottled water, they are literally stealing the dignity from the poor and vulnerable because as they chuck the bottle away it ends up in the ocean which ends up polluting the ocean killing fish which could be food, for those poorest of people. They can also end up in the poorest of peoples fresh water ways.

To sum up everything that has been said so far, after the use of water bottles, they can end up in the ocean killing life such as fish and can end up in fresh water, filling it with all kinds of bacteria making the water unsuitable to drink from. Since we are throwing the water bottles away; we are making the poor peoples water source undrinkable, so they have no place to drink water from. Killing life like fish which is good food for the poor people to eat will be hard to catch if there isn't any to catch. My point is, people who follow the religious tradition of Catholicism should not be drinking bottled water because it contributes to stealing the human dignity that God gave everyone from the moment their life starts in the womb, from the poor and one of the ten commandments is 'You shall not steal.' I don't know how much more evidence there is but we need to make a stop to climate change so those poor people can live a life full with dignity.

Sources: Notes, YOUCAT, Bible, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Roman-Catholicism>

Achievement

Subject: Religious Studies

Standard: 91919

Total score: 04

Q	Grade score	Marker commentary
Three	A4	<p>There was a simple and clear discussion of the two or more principles that apply to this decision and answer to the question from the religious perspective.</p> <p>To move to a higher grade, the candidate would need to provide more detail about the principles and their significance.</p>