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Level 3 Education for Sustainability 2024

91736 Analyse how different worldviews, and the values and practices associated with them, impact on sustainability

EXEMPLAR

Excellence


TOTAL 08



AMISH VS ROMAN CATHOLIC



AS 91736 - Analyse how different world-views, and the values and practices associated with them, impact on sustainability



Executive summary

This report will cover the key values and practices of both Amish and Roman Catholics. Section one of the report will introduce the two world views. Section two will go into more detail about the values of each group and the practices that show these values. Section three will analyse these values and practices in relation to different aspects of sustainability. Section four will compare and contrast each of the two worldviews and finally, section five will explore the complexities within the world views looking at how they have evolved and changed over time what will happen in the future and how their values may be conflicting.

Section 1:

What do World View and Sustainability mean?

World views are the different attitudes values and stories from the world around us (grey, 2011) it is shown through different beliefs such as religious and scientific. Sustainability means creating a sustainable future and to achieve this you must be able to meet the needs of present generations and not compromise the ability of future generations.

Amish

Amish are a catholic group of people who are very religious and follow the basic beliefs of the Christian faith and it shapes their daily life. Within the culture, they prioritise adult baptism, simplicity, and community, and they try to separate themselves from popular culture. They believe that Jesus Christ, the only son of god, died on the cross for the sins of the world. Amish are community-orientated and work together and contribute together for everything that they do. They are based in rural Pennsylvania and they have to follow strict rules such as having to wear plain clothing, they have no access to electricity, and having limited access to technology.

Roman Catholic

The Roman Catholic church is one of the biggest religions in the world with over 1 billion Catholics (*Religious Falls - Vatican News*, 2023). Catholics can show their core value of faith and their devotion to god by taking part in sacraments, such as Mass, which creates a sense of community and provides spiritual support to Catholics so they can feel closer to god. The Roman Catholic church is one of the oldest in the world. Charitable donations and helping people out are examples of how to they compassion within their church. Catholics may improve their relationship with God and show their beliefs through prayer and devotion, such as the Rosary. Roman Catholics live out the teachings of Christ in their daily life.

Section 2: Explanation of two different world-views

Roman catholic

One core value of Roman Catholicism is compassion, which is rooted in the bible and is to love and care for others. This value shows empathy, kindness, and the willingness to help those in need which the Roman Catholics do in several different ways. If they see someone struggling they are always willing to help and feel empathy towards them (*My Catholic Life*, 2021). Two practices demonstrating this value are that Catholics are constantly trying to engage in acts of charity, such as volunteering, and donating to those in need. These actions are seen as living out Christ's command to love one's neighbour. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is another way because by participating in this sacrament, Catholics seek forgiveness for their sins and reconcile with God and their community (*Reconciliation: A Short Guide - Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay*, n.d.). This practice reflects compassion by encouraging humbleness, and healing, and they can restore their relationships.

Another core value of the Roman Catholics is the importance of life and giving life to people and things. One practice that they have that shows this value is that they are very against women within the church getting abortions as they view it as taking an innocent human life. This is reflected in several pro-life activities that they take part in such as going on marches in particular the annual March for Life in Washington which they take part in to protest against abortion and to promote having laws for unborn babies (*2020 National March for Life*, n.d.). Another practice they take part in to show this value is their support of hospices and health care providers. This focuses on providing care and

support to those who are at the end of their lives and the church encourages providing comfort and pain relief to these people to support the dignity of the person until natural death occurs.

Finally, another core value of the Roman Catholics is community and solidarity. This value is focused on the importance of working together and supporting so everyone within the church and the wider community can work together towards a common goal. Some of the Roman Catholic practices that show this value are that Catholics will gather together for worship, education, and other social activities. They will also host events such as community dinners and volunteering as these create a sense of community and encourage everyone to come together and help out. Another practice that shows community and solidarity is that the Roman Catholics engage in social justice initiatives and charity work to help those who are in need. These charities aim to help the poor, or the homeless through things such as advocacy and support programs. They will always support people regardless of race, economic background or ideology (*Solidarity* | USCCB, n.d.).

Amish

One core value of the Amish is the community which means a group of people who have things in common or are interested in working and living together within society (*Definition of COMMUNITY*, n.d.). One practice that the Amish take part in that shows this value is barn-raising. This involves all of an Amish community coming together to rebuild or build a new barn for a person within the community. It shows the importance of working together and helping each other highlighting the key value of community. Another practice the Amish undertake which shows the community is mutual aid which is seen by the Amish community as they will always provide support to those who are in need whether it be with sickness or financial troubles. This practice shows that they are always looking out for others within the community and are willing to help and support them in their times of need.

Another core value of the Amish is simplicity meaning that they can find happiness in the small things in life and do not need to have a grand lifestyle (*Definition of SIMPLICITY*, n.d.). This can be seen in practices such as dressing in plain clothes. Amish will stick to wearing plain clothes will avoid fashion trends and will always dress modestly. They will wear simple colours and solid fabrics so no patterns and will avoid putting zips or buttons on their clothing. This reflects their commitment to a simple lifestyle and shows their humbleness and their wanting to avoid being vain. Another practice that shows their value of simplicity is their very limited use of technology. Amish choose not to use a large amount of technology including phones and televisions in their daily lives so they can continue to show simplicity and live a simple lifestyle and avoid being influenced by things that may negatively impact their communities. For example, they will avoid using cars, electricity, and televisions (*Amish Technology*, n.d.) to help them focus on family, faith, and their community and not be distracted or influenced.

Finally, the core value of faith meaning believing in god, trusting and being loyal to him (*Definition of FAITH*, 2023) is important to Amish. One practice that they take part in which shows this value is worshipping ceremonies which Amish hold in their homes every other Sunday. The meetings are simple and they are focused on bible readings, hymns, and sermons. People within an Amish community will take turns in hosting the ceremonies and they show the importance of faith within the Amish community and their daily lives. Another example of Amish showing faith is through baptisms which occurs when a person in an Amish community turns 18 (Strusnik, 2022). Baptisms show a person's commitment to the Amish lifestyle and faith and that they are ready to dedicate the rest of their lives to their community and god (*Amish Baptism Ritual (a Comprehensive Guide)*, 2024). It is a significant event in an Amish life and shows their religious beliefs and that they will follow the expectations within an Amish community.

Section 3: Analysis in relation to aspects of sustainability

Roman Catholic:

The values and practices of the Roman Catholic church can relate to different aspects of sustainability including social, economic, and environmental. Firstly social sustainability can be seen through all the mentioned values of the Roman Catholic (compassion, the importance of life, and community). Through compassion, social sustainability can be seen through practices such as charity work. The

church aims to promote inclusivity and equality and they can contribute to a more socially sustainable future by showing their support for struggling communities and people. The Roman Catholic value of the importance of life shows social sustainability as by Catholics advocating for life, a healthy way of living and that all human life is sacred and should be protected (*Key Concepts*, n.d.) they are ensuring that people are being protected. It promotes overall health within communities and society in general. Catholics are encouraged within their communities to give to those in need through actions such as food drives and other charity work. Many Catholic organisations around the world run healthcare practices such as hospitals and clinics (*Organisations*, n.d.). These focus on providing health care and support to those who may be unable to afford it and this shows a key aspect of social sustainability which is ensuring that people are healthy and have access to healthcare when needed (*Innovations*, 2023). Due to their value of the importance of life, Roman Catholics take part in advocacy around the pro-life movement (*2020 National March for Life*, n.d.). This shows social sustainability as we want to protect all future lives and ensure that those who are most vulnerable are safe and healthy. However, Roman Catholics can be seen as being not socially sustainable for several reasons firstly their views are different from modern Western views which can cause a divide within the church. People can feel as though they do not belong or that other members of the church will judge them. This could negatively impact their mental health which is not supporting social sustainability. An example of this is the birth control movement and how the Roman Catholic church takes a pro-life stance. This means that women within the church are not allowed to get abortions or use birth control as it is seen as a sin.

Roman Catholics also support environmental sustainability through their values and practices. Roman Catholics believe that "The earth and all life on it are a part of God's creation" (*Catholic Australia*, n.d.). They believe that the Earth is a gift from God and that humans are stewards not owners of the creation and they call for responsible management of all the earth's resources (*Environmental Responsibility - the World - GCSE Religious Studies Revision - WJEC*, n.d.). Roman Catholics support legislation being passed that addresses climate change and promotes renewable energy and the conservation of natural habitats such as forests and the sea. Catholics realise that the well-being of individuals is linked to the well-being of an entire community and the natural environment. They try to make sure that actions that they are doing not causing harm to the environment as this may impact others within the community and future generations negatively which they try to avoid doing. Catholics believe in using renewable energy and reducing the amount of waste that they are creating. The pope within the church also calls for environmental sustainability worldwide and the importance of education about climate change and what needs to be done to help control it (*Jesuit Resource - Pope Francis Quotes*, n.d.). He calls for Catholics and the rest of the world to take action around protecting our environment and the planet by encouraging the use of renewable energy resources and trying to encourage people to stop creating as much waste. The Roman Catholic church can be seen as being not environmentally sustainable however as they can prioritise economic sustainability over environmental sustainability and just want to get as much money as they can. Some Catholic organisations use resources and practices which can add to the loss of environmental sustainability because they may be the cheapest option, meaning they can generate more money from using them.

Finally, economic sustainability can be seen through Roman Catholic values and practices. It can be seen through the value of compassion due to their donations towards charities, which shows their commitment to care for the less fortunate and to help out wherever they can to provide support to those who may need it. Economic sustainability is not just about maintaining resources but ensuring that the needs of all people, especially people who may be struggling financially, are met. It aims to create an economy which is inclusive for all (*University of Mary Washington*, 2015). Regular contributions to charities, food banks, and community programs help share wealth, reduce poverty, and build a more equal society (*Food Bank | CSS*, 2020). volunteering is a practice that strengthens communities and contributes to the good of many people. Catholics help build resilient communities capable of sustaining themselves economically by offering their time and skills to support local communities. Catholics advocate for an equitable working economy and support things including the protection of workers' rights, and living wages. They believe that everyone should be treated fairly and compensated for their labour and work, so an equitable society and economy can be created where everyone feels as though they are equal. The Catholic church will provide houses, access to education, and several other things to families who may be facing economic struggles. However,

Roman Catholics could be seen as being not environmentally sustainable as they are part of the global economy meaning that they do not have any control over their economy. They are likely to be impacted by events that happen within the economy such as recession which there is not much that they can do about apart from continuing to provide support for those in need.

Amish:

The values and practices of the Amish can relate to many aspects of sustainability including again social, economic, and cultural sustainability. Firstly social sustainability can be seen through Amish values and practices one of the most well-known practices that Amish undertake is the barn raising which is an activity which ensures that the entire community is involved and they come together to build a barn for someone who is in need (Williams, 2023). This shows social sustainability because the community comes together and shows kindness and compassion. Amish are focused on ensuring that all community members are included and are not struggling. All individuals are interconnected, which shows social sustainability as it ensures everyone is included. As Amish live a simple life this means that their consumption of waste is small and they can avoid using unnecessary resources which helps to sustain not just their community but the environment as well. Their simple way of living leads the Amish community to rely on each other for goods and services (*Amish Economy (Amish Lifestyles)*, 2024) rather than external markets. This again shows interdependence and ensures the community will continue to function sustainably. Due to their faith belief and God they have ethical guidelines and behaviours that they follow that ensure that the community always has a direction that they are heading in which is a key part of long-term social sustainability. Faith provides a moral framework that guides interaction between members and encourages leadership and good decision-making which will lead to a stable community that can work well together. However, the Amish could be seen as not being socially sustainable because their communities can be small. The largest Amish community has around 30,000 people (*Pennsylvania Amish History & Beliefs*, n.d.) and so all other communities have fewer people than that. This means that there is only a limited amount of people within the community which Amish can talk to and interact with and because they try and keep their interactions with the outside world very limited they are never able to meet new people and learn about different cultures as they are not taught about that within the community. This may make Amish within a community feel lost and like they may not belong if their values do not align with Amish values but they would not know what to do about it as there would not be people for them to talk to and it can be a hard process trying to leave their community (*What Happens When an Amish Person Leaves the Community?*, 2024). It can also be hard to join an Amish community if you are not born into an Amish family as it can be a long process (*How to Become Amish (Cultural Guide)*, 2024).

The values and practices of the Amish can also relate to environmental sustainability as the strong sense of community meaning that they share their resources machinery and tools. This then reduces the demand for production and the environmental impact that is caused by the overconsumption of manufacturing goods. Their communities will make decisions together by living a simple lifestyle avoiding unnecessary luxuries and just focusing on goods and services which are essential (*Amish Dress*, 2024). This, again, will reduce their environmental impact as they avoid overconsumption by making their clothes in the perfect amount necessary. Amish value of faith prioritises the belief that humans are God's creation and therefore they are responsible for taking care of the earth, another one of God's creations. They will contribute to actions such as farming, land management, and preserving natural ecosystems and habitats which is a key aspect of environmental sustainability. The regulations that come along with faith encourage the Amish to conserve resources and avoid creating excessive waste while being connected with nature in their daily lives. This leads them to have a minimal negative impact on the environment. When farming Amish will ensure that they are using organic methods and avoiding using things such as fertilisers and pesticides which could harm the natural ecosystem. These actions will help the Amish to maintain their soil health and reduce their contributions to pollution. They grow the majority of their food meaning they do not have to rely on transportation of food into their communities which can be quite remote. This will decrease the amount of carbon emissions that the Amish could cause and it will reduce the amount of waste they may be creating. Amish communities will rely on something other than modern technology and transportation such as cars and trucks instead of travelling long distances they will use horse-drawn buggies (YDOP, 2022) which reduces their reliance on fossil fuels such as petrol and diesel which in turn reduces their

carbon emissions. This form of transport aligns with the key value of simplicity which the Amish aim to follow in their daily lives. Finally, practices such as barn raising and making their clothes interrelate with their values of simplicity and community as they are coming together to help others within their community and not relying on outside people and their tools and machinery. This relates to environmental sustainability and when the Amish are building new barns they construct them in a way where they use fewer resources as the community wants to focus more on labour rather than heavy machinery reducing their energy use. However, the Amish could be seen as not being economically sustainable because they are not contributing to the global economy on a large scale. Some communities will sell their goods to the outside world however many will not and will just remain within their community and not add to other economies.

The final aspect of sustainability to which the Amish contribute due to their values and practices is Economic sustainability. They are very community-orientated and always willing to provide a strong support network to others within their community and will assist each other financially in times of need such as if they are sick or after a natural disaster. This reduces the need for external help such as taking loans from banks and strengthens the economy within Amish communities however Amish recognise that they may need to access outside help if they can not do something themselves (*Amish Economy (Amish Lifestyles)*, 2024). Practices such as barn-raising and farming together reduce the cost as Amish can share resources and labour. This reduces the need for expensive outside services and makes activities which could have been expensive more economically sustainable for the Amish. The value of simplicity which the Amish build their life based on leads to them avoiding unnecessary consumption and will instead focus them on needs rather than wants. This decreases their demand for goods and services and lowers living costs which contributes to a more sustainable economy for Amish. The Amish rely mostly on their community for resources such as food, clothing, and furniture (*Amish Dress*, 2024) which reduces their dependence on economies outside their community. By producing their foods and clothing they are self-sustaining within their community and create their economy which they rely on which is not affected by economies outside of their communities.

Section 4: Comparison of each of the two world-views

If these worldviews were widely accepted, they would have some similar impacts in terms of sustainability. Both world views can excel at promoting social sustainability within their communities through their values and practices. This is because both Roman Catholic and Amish have very community-focused views and they aim to create a safe and welcoming environment for everyone who may be involved with them. Amish and Roman Catholics are both faith-based communities and believe they should respect Jesus Christ and the holy trinity (*Do the Amish Believe in Jesus? (a Religious Guide)*, 2024). This means that both worldviews are very similar however Amish instead of looking towards the pope and following him like the Roman Catholics they instead follow more closely to the Bible's literal words (*Are the Amish Catholics? (Answer & Differences)*, n.d.). This means that Amish are not as adapted to the modern ways that Roman Catholics follow because if they do not follow the pope instead they follow what was written many years ago so it could be seen as being outdated. A future issue for the Amish could be that they become less socially sustainable as they are unable to adapt their ways to fit into more modern views which will cause people to not want to join as their values would not sign with that of the Amish. Amish are in much smaller groups around the world compared to Roman catholic and within each of their communities there is a strong sense of belonging as the community is everything to them (The Amish Village, 2021) and it is what they base their lives around. They want to preserve their traditions within their communities so they can continue their way of life and teach it to the younger generations. This means that in the future if an Amish person within a community were to want to leave it may be challenging for them because they have not had much interaction with the outside world and do not know what it is like or how people who are not Amish may act. However, Roman Catholicism is a much larger religion with many diverse communities around the world and it is constantly adapting and changing. As they follow the word of the pope this however does allow them to remain able to adapt and have new values and practices in which they may take part meaning that in the future they have the opportunity to adapt their views and beliefs to fit into that

of the modern western society which may encourage more people to join the church carrying on its legacy. If however, the Roman Catholic church decided not to adapt their values which may be seen as not aligning with that of modern Western societies it could discourage people from joining the church which would not be good for the future of the Roman Catholics. Amish can have more social cohesion within their communities compared to Roman Catholics because of their communal lifestyle and since their communities are much smaller than global civilisation with the biggest Amish community having around 30,000 people (*Pennsylvania Amish History & Beliefs*, n.d.). Roman Catholicism can be seen as being more sustainable as it is more easily adapted and can be integrated into many new and different cultures and have some social services including counselling and other healthcare (*Catholic Social Services - Catholic Diocese of Auckland*, 2022). Amish however strictly maintain their traditions instead of adapting to the constantly changing world. Both world views show social sustainability, the Amish in a closed and isolated way where the people within the community are the main priority compared to Roman Catholics who show it more broadly through their number of social services.

In terms of economic sustainability, both worldviews are again very similar in their values and practices promoting economic sustainability however they have slightly different approaches. Both world views show that they value economic sustainability within their communities and they have similar practices such as both Amish and Roman Catholics volunteering to help others within their community help however it is more common for Roman Catholics to volunteer outside their community whilst Amish do not tend to do this very often and instead focus on helping people within their community with practices such as barn raising. As Amish are self-sufficient their economy is very localised and they do not rely on external markets which helps them to maintain economic sustainability within their communities easily. This means that in the future Amish will have experience with being economically sustainable and know how to keep their economy working which they can then teach to the younger generations meaning Amish communities will be able to remain around for a very long time without having to rely on the help of outside people. Amish within their communities are always willing to help others (*The Amish Village*, 2021) meaning that they are less likely to face hardships due to the economy. Roman Catholics, however, are integrated into the global economy, allowing them to have a more diverse economy than the Amish. It also means that in the future there will be times when for example the economy falls into a recession which may lead Roman Catholics to struggle financially. As the church owns many properties including hospitals and schools this creates many jobs and services within the global economy which allows them to be more economically sustainable and will be helpful in the future if they ever end up having problems due to struggles because of economic sustainability. Charity events and charities (*Catholic Caring Foundation*, n.d) that the Roman Catholics take part in and create allow them to support those who may be having economic troubles and help keep economic sustainability within the world. Overall on a smaller scale, the Amish economy can thrive and is not affected by outside pressures as it is self-sufficient, making it very sustainable but only within a smaller context. For Roman Catholics, their economy is that which the majority of the world uses but they try to provide economic opportunities such as jobs to those who may be struggling. This means there are more economic risks for Roman Catholics as they are not in control of the economy, unlike the Amish who do control their economies. Both Roman Catholics and Amish have support systems for those who may require economic help, Amish do it on a smaller scale relying on local and mutual aid whilst Roman Catholics do it on a much larger scale with global support networks to help those who are in need. Roman Catholics also aim to educate people within the church about poverty and economic problems (*Justice and Peace Office*, 2022) and what they can do to help.

In terms of environmental sustainability, both worldviews can promote it within their communities, allowing both to work towards a more sustainable future. Amish can promote environmental sustainability within their communities through actions such as growing their foods and making their

clothes meaning they are not relying on outside sources. This means that they have a much lower carbon footprint compared to Roman Catholics as they are fully reliant on global economies and stores. Amish also live an almost technology-free lifestyle meaning that they do not drive cars (YDOP, 2022) so they do not emit petrol fumes into the environment. Their simplistic lifestyle means they only use and buy necessary things, meaning that they are not producing much waste in the environment. As simplicity is one of the core values of the Amish this means that they will want to carry this value into the future and continue with these practices meaning that they will remain environmentally sustainable for many years to come. Amish have traditional farming practices (*Amish Farming*, n.d.), which they have been doing for many years. It is naturally more environmentally sustainable than Roman Catholics as many would not be doing their farming and growing vegetables for themselves. However, as Roman Catholic is a much larger group recognised all around the world it has reached a much larger number of people than Amish and practices on a much larger scale meaning that when it comes to environmental sustainability and influencing people to be more sustainable it can happen on a much larger scale as there are over one billion Catholics in the world (*Religious Falls - Vatican News*, 2023). This would be good for future environmental sustainability with the Roman Catholic church as with their wide platform that they can use to reach many people they can advocate for environmental sustainability and reach a massive number of people and bring about change which Amish would not be able to do as they are a much smaller world view. The lifestyle that the Amish live is environmentally sustainable due to several factors compared with Roman Catholics who have a broader impact on environmental sustainability through teaching and advocacy. The worldview of the Amish would have a more positive impact on environmental sustainability because they do not use as much modern technology and believe in making their clothes and growing their crops and other foods (*What Is Amish Food? | Mt. Hope | Mrs Yoder's Kitchen*, 2024). There is no guarantee that Roman Catholics can advocate for sustainability on a wide scale and make a big difference as people may choose to ignore what the pope is saying if it does not align with their values. With Amish their lifestyle will always be in line with environmental sustainability and they will be able to carry it on many years into the future by teaching the younger generations the same practice.

The worldview of the Amish would have a more positive impact on sustainability because overall and on a smaller scale Amish can achieve all aspects of sustainability due to their values such as simplicity leading them to not over consume and they are self-sufficient and always willing to support those within their community. It also leads them to have almost no impact on the environment as they do not use much technology and their ways of farming do not require a large amount of resources (*Amish Farming Methods (a How-to Guide)*, 2024). Having such a small community allows them to always be there to support each other when they are in need with practices such as barnraising. They can operate within an economy which hardly involves the global economy meaning that they are not going to be affected by recessions happening in the global economy. They rely on others within their community or themselves for goods and services which they may need, meaning that they will not be affected by any form of inflation meaning they can achieve economic sustainability. They will be able to carry their same values and practices into the future by teaching the younger generations their current values and practices meaning that it will also be able to lead to a sustainable future meaning that they will be able to meet the needs of the present and not compromise future generations and instead they will be helping them by providing them with a way of life which is sustainable.

The worldview of Roman Catholics would have a more detrimental impact in terms of sustainability because it is a much larger group and is spread all across the world. They have various buildings such as hospitals which require a lot of energy to run, meaning that they could be damaging to the environment. Due to the many different sectors of Roman Catholics around the world, it is hard for them to all follow the same routine and it would depend on several different factors including where they were located and their local leader as to what they were being taught to practice. This means that

when implementing new practices it can be hard and become inconsistent within different places. As Roman Catholics rely on global economies compared with Amish who have created their own economies this means that they are vulnerable to economic recessions for their communities. There have been several scandals the Catholic church has faced in the past around money and Catholics have been accused of being corrupt (*Vatican Financial Scandals: Corruption, Stupidity or Both?* 2023). This has led to financial strain and Catholics questioning the church. The Roman Catholic church can also struggle to balance its traditions with modern social views and this can lead to disagreements within the followers of the church.

However, both world views are sustainable in different ways when looking at sustainability as just being focused on the environmental impact and sense of community within smaller contexts then Amish is seen as being more sustainable. If it is measured in how easily the worldview can adapt to the changing world, and the global impact, and if the worldview can promote a more sustainable lifestyle within many people and across many communities Roman Catholics could be seen as being more sustainable.

Two present-day issues that both world views face are the constantly expanding and changing world and many people deciding that they want to leave their Amish community and start a new life. For the Amish, this is that with the expansions of modern technology and the ever-growing world, the Amish may begin to need to use more technologies as they may become unable to function without them. Amish are additionally faced with the challenge of keeping the younger generations away from technologies such as phones which can be used to access social media. The internet and mobile phones are now easily accessible almost anywhere in the world which makes it hard to avoid exposure within Amish communities. Amish are facing challenges due to people deciding that they want to leave the community before they turn 18 so they do not end up getting baptised. This could be because younger Amish people are having more exposure to the outside world and what they are missing out on by living in such a small community.

Similarly for Roman Catholics, an issue of future concern is that with the expanding and changing world, they are struggling to keep traditional values and practices whilst also trying to adapt to modern social values. They are also struggling to keep up numbers within the church. Especially in recent years, the Roman Catholic church has been facing backlash around its views on social issues including LGBTQ+ rights, contraception, and roles for women. The Roman Catholic church has public advocacy around how they are pro-life and do not believe that women should get abortions and do not condemn them (Fr. William Saunders, 2022). This is an opinion that many people are beginning to not agree with especially those who hold more modern western views. This has created tensions between the church and society which has impacted the Roman Catholic church by causing people to not listen and be as easily influenced as they may have been previously. The Roman Catholic church is concerned about the number of people who are deciding to leave the church (*Growth and Decline in the US Catholic Church*, 2023), especially younger generations. Many young Catholics are deciding to leave the church because they are being influenced by things such as differing views on social issues and the thought of a lifestyle not based around religion where they are not told exactly what to do at all times. This causes concerns for the future of the Roman Catholics as they rely on people staying within the church so they can pass down their traditions to future generations which they may become unable to do.

For these worldviews to survive and thrive, these issues need to be considered and mitigating actions put in place such as trying to strengthen their community bonds by trying to expand their networks which are providing help to people, especially for Amish and trying to create more opportunities for the younger Amish to engage in activities which will help them with their cultural identity and encourage

them to stay within their Amish community and get baptised. Amish may also need to look to use some modern technologies such as solar panels which could help them with their needs and still align with their values such as simplicity. They could also expand their teachings to younger Amish about their past and their traditions to help them feel a sense of pride for being part of the community. When the younger generations are going through time in the outside world they could be offered guidance from the older generations to help them choose what they want to do in the future and why they should remain in the community and not leave.

For the Roman Catholic worldview to survive and thrive they could like the Amish create programs for the younger generations within the church to take part in which encourages them to continue engaging within the church. They could also use social media to attract more young people to join the church and create content that helps those within the church feel more connected and like they belong so they do not want to leave. The Roman Catholics can continue to advocate for the social issues that they believe in however they could move away from advocating for the opinions that they hold which differ from that of modern Western society views. They can also look to be more open towards these issues around LGBTQ+ rights, gender roles, and contraception rights within the church which may make a larger amount of people feel as though they belong within the church however they would need to find a way to do this without compromising their core values and practices which could be a challenge.

Section 5: Complexities explored

A complexity that the world views have to contend with, is that two values can lead to contradicting behaviour and practices. For instance, Roman Catholic pride themselves on making sure that everyone is being treated fairly and that everyone should have human dignity and make their own choices (Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand, 2022). However, as they believe in the importance of life and the pro-life movement this is contradicting. If a person believes that being pregnant would be damaging to their dignity and do not want to have a baby then they should have the choice to get an abortion. Roman Catholics believe that getting an abortion would be sinning as they believe that all human beings should have the right to life and getting an abortion is taking away life from an innocent child (*What's Wrong with Abortion?*, 2019). The church advocates that they will provide care, support, and compassion to everyone especially those who may be in difficult situations (Author G, 2015). This should include women who are facing unplanned pregnancies as the church teaches that these women should be supported with love and care regardless of the choice that they may choose to make regarding their bodies. Women within the church are made to feel judged and withdrawn from the church and their lives due to the strong pro-life stance that the Roman Catholic church has and so the church's values behaviours and practices are therefore contradicting themselves. This complexity affects social sustainability within Roman Catholics as it has a very negative impact on it especially for women within the church because it leads them to feel as though they do not belong and are being judged and excluded.

This complexity is also prevalent in World View Two. For example, Amish communities are very separated from general society and they try to live a life which just relies on people within their communities helping each other instead of relying on the outside world. They can stay disconnected from the outside world due to their lack of technology and they try to maintain the most simplistic lifestyle they can and live a humble life where they can show humility (*The 4 Core Values of the Amish Culture*, 2021). However despite their efforts to remain sufficient and separate from society, there are some situations where it is needed from them to engage with the outside world for resources and some Amish may need to seek jobs in society so they can support their families (*Amish Economy (Amish Lifestyles)*, 2024) and sell their products to non-Amish people. Amish having these interactions with the wider society creates chances for them to come in contact with modern technologies despite

efforts to try and avoid them and can cause problems as they want to maintain their values and practices however they also need to meet their economic needs and be able to support themselves and their families. This complexity affects social and economic sustainability within Amish communities as it can be hard for Amish people to balance their lives and keep their values and practices. They may lead them to feel embarrassed as they are not able to provide for their families whilst living and working in the communities. They also want to remain economically sustainable but the only way they can do this is by getting a job in the outside world.

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Excellence

Subject: Education for Sustainability

Standard: 91736

Total score: 08

Task	Grade score	Marker commentary
One	E8	The candidate has demonstrated clear understanding, and provided extensive links to multiple aspects of sustainability. Referencing was excellent, showcasing a wide range of credible sources that enhanced the depth of analysis. The conclusions were complex and insightful, highlighting nuanced comparisons between Amish and Roman Catholic worldviews.