

The Debate

The death penalty



Starter Activity

- Where might a Christian look to decide whether or not they should support the death penalty?

Hint: Think of people, literature ...

- List your answers using bullet points.

Today we will learn...

- Some Christian arguments which oppose the death penalty;
- Some Christian arguments which support the death penalty;
- Possible egoist responses to the death penalty.



Religious Authority: Christianity...

- Biblical materials;



- Tradition;



- Other Christians , especially those who are in positions of authority.

Egoism

- ‘What will be best for me?’
- Egoists act in their own self interest .

1. Read through each card and decide which pile it belongs to.
2. Sort the cards into the right pile.

**Christian
arguments
against
the death
penalty**

**Christian
arguments
for the
death
penalty**

**Egoist
arguments
against
the death
penalty**

**Egoist
arguments
for the
death
penalty**

Task: The Next American President

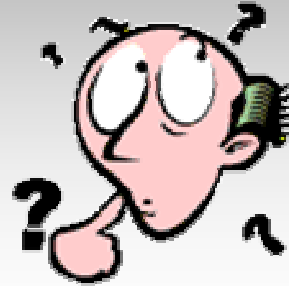
- **You will be allocated a moral stance.**
- **In pairs, decide who will be running for president and who will be the depute.**
- **You are hoping to be the next American President. You must deliver a campaign speech which clearly explains your views on the death penalty.**

Use your cards!



Speeches

What do you think?



- Pick out the strongest argument you have seen or heard today.
- Write a short paragraph which explains the argument and give reasons why you think it is the strongest.

Today we have learnt...

- Some Christian arguments which oppose the death penalty;
- Some Christian arguments which support the death penalty;
- Possible egoist responses to the death penalty.