



LiViNg WiTh DiFFErENcE

Religion and belief are driving forces in society today. Although there is some divergence of opinion over the extent, there is an agreement that the UK is becoming less Christian and more diverse. Whilst we are not about to return to a time when religion and religious authorities dominated everything in people's lives, religion is still an important feature of British society. Religion can cause debate and wars. Some people use their religion as a reason to destroy those they don't like or agree with.

We don't rely on God today as some people did in times gone past. In this modern society, new inventions are being made all the time and many people put their faith in science now rather than God to look after them. These people believe that God doesn't determine humanity's fate, but rather we create it ourselves.

Whether you have a religion or you don't you should learn to live with people who are from different faiths and beliefs because they can benefit you not only in your studies but also in society. A society that can live peacefully and well alongside those who are different is a mature society, it has learnt to listen and benefits from the wisdom of others, not just its own past. I think people who aren't fine working with people who are different from them are worrying, as they are afraid of differences. I think they can easily be convinced by people with agendas to gain power that difference is worrying. We should all enjoy living with difference, it might be hard at first but the effort will always be worth it.

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Talk with a partner:

1. Ranvir talks about religion being a driving force in society. What does religion drive?
2. Ranvir says 'religion can cause debate and wars'. Do you think that non-religious worldviews can also cause wars? Explain why.
3. Do you think it is important to have friends from different religions or belief systems from you and your family? Explain why.
4. Can you give an example of how learning to live with different people benefit society?