4.5 Feminist Perspectives on Religion and Patriarchy: 10-minute Pack

AQA 7192 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. Where a question asks for a short answer write in full sentences for clarity. Use sociological terms and name studies where asked.

1 Compare briefly Woodhead's idea of 'gender-critical' religious spaces with the idea that religion is uniformly patriarchal, naming one implication of Woodhead's view for sociological study.

(Total for Question 1 is 4 marks)

2 Explain two short reasons why some women may support traditional gender roles within their religion, despite feminist critiques.

(Total for Question 2 is 4 marks)

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Mark scheme · 4.5 Feminist Perspectives on Religion and Patriarchy: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

identifies how 'gender-critical' spaces differ, e.g. they are areas where religious gender norms are actively contested	**B1**
identifies how the uniform patriarchy view differs, e.g. it treats religion as consistently male-dominated across contexts	**B1**
gives one implication of Woodhead's view, e.g. researchers must investigate variations and contestation within faiths	**B1**
brief development of the implication, e.g. use of mixed methods to capture conflict and change	**B1**

Answer: Woodhead's 'gender-critical' spaces are where gender norms are contested, unlike a uniform patriarchy view that treats religion as always male-dominated; this implies researchers should investigate variation and contestation within faiths, for example using mixed methods to capture conflict and change.

Question 2

identifies one reason, e.g. some women find identity and meaning in traditional roles	**B1**
development, e.g. religion can provide moral certainty, social status within the community or stability	**B1**
identifies a second reason, e.g. social pressure and community expectation can encourage conformity	**B1**
development, e.g. fear of social sanction or loss of support can make change costly	**B1**

Answer: One reason is that some women find identity, status and moral meaning in traditional roles and so support them. Another is social pressure and community expectations, where fear of sanction or loss of support makes change costly.

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