4.7 Religion as a Force for Political and Social Change: 10-minute Pack

AQA 7192 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. For short answer questions write in full sentences where asked. The final evaluation requires full paragraphs. Spend about 10 minutes on the whole paper.

1 Explain Bruce's argument about why the New Christian Right in the United States became politically active on issues such as abortion and school curricula, giving two developed points.

(Total for Question 1 is 4 marks)

2 State one limit of using religion to promote social equality, with a brief explanation.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

3 Define what sociologists mean by 'religious nationalism' in the study of religion and political mobilisation, giving a brief development.

(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)

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Mark scheme · 4.7 Religion as a Force for Political and Social Change: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

identifies a reason, e.g. cultural backlash against liberalising social norms and perceived moral decline	**B1**
develops this, e.g. conservative Christians reacted to changes in family structure, sexual morality and secularisation by organising politically	**B1**
identifies a second reason, e.g. the movement used institutional resources to influence politics, such as churches, media and pressure groups	**B1**
develops this, e.g. organised churches and conservative media allowed the New Christian Right to co-ordinate campaigns and influence elections	**B1**

Answer: Bruce argues the New Christian Right was a cultural backlash against liberal social changes, reacting to perceived moral decline; it also used institutional resources such as churches and conservative media to co-ordinate campaigns and influence elections.

Question 2

identifies a limit, e.g. religious movements can reflect existing hierarchies and so reproduce inequalities	**B1**
brief explanation, e.g. dominant groups may control religious institutions and use them to maintain privilege rather than redistribute power	**B1**

Answer: A limit is that religious movements can reflect existing hierarchies and reproduce inequalities because dominant groups may control religious institutions and use them to maintain privilege rather than redistribute power.

Question 3

identifies that religious nationalism links a particular religion with national identity and political aims (oe)	**B1**
development, e.g. it involves using religious symbols, doctrine or institutions to support state policies or to define who belongs to the nation	**B1**

Answer: Religious nationalism links a particular religion with national identity and political aims; it involves using religious symbols, doctrine or institutions to support state policies or to define who belongs to the nation.

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