

# Candidate 4 evidence

## Understanding Standards Higher RMPS

### Essay 4 – Religion and Relationships

**Analyse the religious responses to the moral issues arising from gender inequality and exploitation in the media. (10)**

In the media women are exploited and used to sell products. They are often advertised as objects and not real human beings. A moral issue arising from this is that women are viewed as often sexualised objects and treated with less respect than men. Literal/traditional Christians think this is okay and how it should be because in Genesis 2 Eve is created to be a helper for Adam. A consequence of this is that literal Christians would be in favour of objectifying women in the media because most media companies are run by men who benefit from the income.

In movies such as Sleeping Beauty and Snow White, women are portrayed as helpless and weak whereas the men are portrayed as the heroes and saviours. A moral issue arising from this is that it can result in women and girls not seeing themselves in positive role models in the media and becoming conditioned to believe that their role in society is less important than a man's. Literal Christians believe that this is acceptable and right because in the Bible Jesus had 12 male disciples. There were some women helpers, but that had a secondary role to the men. A consequence of this religious response is that men should be portrayed in the media as leaders and women as followers, always in a secondary/supporting role to reflect how it should be in society.

However liberal Christians might argue that in Genesis 1 Adam and Eve are made at the same time, neither are created as helpers or inferior to the other. In response to the objectification of women, liberal Christians would argue that it is immoral to treat women in such a degrading way as both men and women are equal in the eyes of God.