

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS
STUDIES

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2011

TITLE OF PAPER : CHRISTIAN ETHICS II

COURSE CODE : TRS 203/IDE-TRS 203

TIME ALLOWED : TWO (2) HOURS

MARKS : 75

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. CHOOSE AND ANSWER ANY **THREE (3)** QUESTIONS.
2. EACH QUESTION CARRIES **25** MARKS.
3. BEGIN EACH QUESTION ON A FRESH PAGE.
4. PARTS OF A QUESTION MAY BE ANSWERED ON THE SAME PAGE, ALLOWING FOR A SPACE OF THREE LINES IN BETWEEN.
5. CREDIT WILL BE GIVEN FOR CLARITY, ACCURACY AND GOOD THEOLOGICAL INSIGHT.

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

QUESTION ONE

“President Barack Obama brought the long political struggle over the military's controversial "don't ask, don't tell" policy to a close Wednesday, signing legislation that will bring an end of the ban on openly gay men and women serving in the armed forces.” Euronews Live Broadcast Washington DC,
USA – 22 December 2010, 4:00 P.M.

How far is it fair to say that the strengths of this decision outweigh its weaknesses?

[25]

QUESTION TWO**A CASE STUDY**

It was May 19, 1973. I was pregnant from a date rape. I had tried to hide it from my parents but of course they found out. Then the pressure started. "How are you going to go to college with a baby?" "How are you going to support it?" "It is only a blob of blood. It's not a baby yet." Before I had time to think about what I wanted, the abortion was over.

The abortion itself was like a living hell. I thought my guts were being pulled out. It was degrading and I was terrified. When it was over, something made me ask the doctor, "Was it a boy or a girl?" He answered, "I can't tell. It's in pieces....."

Originally published in The Post-Abortion Review 2(1), Winter 1993

With reference to the case study presented above examine the morality of abortion.

[25]

QUESTION THREE

If a member of your family could be kept alive indefinitely by a life-support system, how would you decide what to do?

[25]

QUESTION FOUR

Discuss St. Paul's theological outlook on the status of women in the church. Do you agree or disagree with him, and why?

[25]

QUESTION FIVE

Explain how Christians can demonstrate moral responsibility in situations where there is discrimination against minority people.

[25]

QUESTION SIX

“...Jesus was in no sense an enemy of the state on principle, but rather a loyal citizen who offered no threat to the State’s existence....”

(By Oscar Cullmann in The State in the New Testament, p 54.)

Critique Cullmann’s assertion in relation to Jesus’ ethical viewpoint about the State.

[25]

THE END