

# Why Atheism?

DVD/VHS Pack

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Six films about people who do not believe in God

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- *Atheist & agnostic students speak out*
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**Religious Education / Moral Studies Resource:**

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**TEAM VIDEO**

# Why Atheism?

DVD/VHS Pack

**Why Atheism?** Is a classroom resource specifically designed to introduce students to the theory and practice of humanism and atheism. The six films explain the values and beliefs of these secular philosophies, and covers moral values, conflict, truth, human life and death. A wide range of people from different cultures are presented, they explain their values and beliefs on living without God. This resource will engage students of all abilities.

## FILM 1 Disbelieving Students (Duration 13mns)

Students talk openly about the reasons why they do not believe in God. Some are former Christians, others come from non-believing backgrounds. They discuss religion in the context of suffering, war, identity, raising their children, religious education and rights of passage ceremonies. Thoughtful and provocative, their views will allow students to evaluate and consider humanism from a young person's perspective.

## FILM 2 Leaving God (Duration 21mns)

Four people, a Christian, a Muslim, a Jehovah's Witness and a Hindu talk about their former religion and their reasons for rejecting it. These compelling personal stories involve family, powerful belief systems and their struggle to live outside the constraints of religion. They provide a unique opportunity for students from all religious backgrounds to examine and debate religion as it affects lifestyle, independence and free thought.

## FILM 3 A Life Apart (Duration 10mns)

Belfast born Newt Emerson explains life in a community divided by religion. He reveals that growing up, going to school, choosing your friends and where you live all depend on which side of the sectarian divide you come from. He tells of the difficulty of his relationship that crosses this divide. For students unaware of the social and political implications of living in a religiously divided society, this provides a thought provoking insight for research and writing.

- Six films indexed for easy access with stop/start discussion points
- 65 worksheets on separate CD fully differentiated for KS 3-5
- Price: all six films for **£38.00** ex Vat
- Available on DVD & VHS

## FILM 4 Birth, Marriage, Death (Duration 22mns)

Three closely observed non-religious rites of passage ceremonies conducted by Humanist celebrants. At a lavish wedding the bride and bridegroom explain why they wanted to wed without religion and why they wrote their own vows. At a green burial the family explain why their father asked specifically to have a non-religious funeral and the importance of fulfilling his wish. At a Baby-naming ceremony the family's wish is for their new baby's arrival to be celebrated but without religion, they feel no child should have a religion imposed on them. The Humanist celebrants explain their roles, and the significance of these ceremonies.

## FILM 5 Defending the Faith-Debate (Duration 22mns)

Michael Rosen, poet and atheist, takes on the religious convictions of a group of Roman Catholic 6th form students. The debate includes: science versus theology for understanding the origins of the universe, faith and life style, questioning the doctrine, is God on everyone's side? the Holy Ghost and the supernatural, saints and shrines, disasters and suffering. Engaging and challenging, non-believers and believers of all faiths will find their views tested.

## FILM 6 An Interview with Philip Pullman (Duration 25mns)

Interviewed by Michael Rosen, Pullman talks about his early Christian life, why he began questioning it and his turning to atheism. He talks about morality, fundamentalism in all religions, the afterlife, his heroine Eve and original sin. Injustice and the final judgment, solace and comfort without religion, resolving moral dilemmas without God, his atheist heroes and his fears for the future of atheism. A candid and revealing interview that will spark debate and thought, particularly suitable for 6 form students.

**Money & Morality** is designed to provide a challenging resource for students to consider and reconsider their attitudes towards money. It looks at the moral and ethical implications of how wealth is acquired, what it represents and how it reflects the society we live in. **The questions include:**

- Can someone earn too much money?
- What are ethical investments?
- Should there be rules that reflect a moral position towards money?
- What are the moral implications of inheriting wealth?
- Is it ethical to charge interest on loans to the developing world?

The answers provide a wide range of stimulating and provocative views that encourage students to listen and understand a range of opinions.

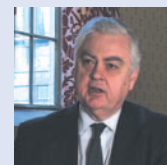
- Video: 24 questions of 3-5 minute duration
- Print: 30 photocopiable activity sheets
- Video-indexed for easy use
- Suitable for 14-18 year olds
- VHS pack price: **£38.00** ex Vat

Twelve experts from the world of finance and religion include:

Lord Lamont, Bruce Kent, a Rabi, an Islamic and Christian financial advisor, a money lender and comedian Mark Thomas



Bruce Kent



Lord Lamont

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