# Title: Religion and the media: Should the media be able to treat religion in a humorous manner?

**Key Questions:** What should we stand for? Does justice/fairness for me get in the way of justice/fairness for others? What do believers mean by justice and fairness? How do believers identify and understand the concept of truth? Is curiosity a good thing? When can looking back be a negative thing to do? Can we think of any examples of “Fake News”?

**Key Concepts:** media, social media, truth, justice, free speech, satire, humour, morality, offence/blasphemy

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| **Learning objectives** | **Activities** | **Resources** |
| To be able to discuss whether the media should be able to treat religion/religious ideas/figures in a humorous manner | * Ask students to identify a number of TV shows e.g.: The Simpsons, Citizen Khan, Rev, Vicar of Dibley, Fr Ted, South Park etc.
* Discuss what they all have in common.
* Consider the question Is it ok for the media to mock (laugh at) religion? Give reasons for/against. Students to write a short paragraph explaining their view at the start of the lesson.
* Watch episode 1 series 1 of Citizen Khan or clip from Little Britain (Jesse King) or Little Mosque on the Prairie
* Students consider/answer these questions: Answer these questions in FULL Sentences:

1. How was religion presented?2. How were religious people presented?3. Why could some people be offended by this programme? 4. Do you think they are right to be offended? Explain your answer* Reactions to Citizen Khan: watch either the BBC Big Question clip or Islam Channel: Citizen Khan - Racist stereotypes or harmless fun?

Read BBC news report on complaints to the BBC and Adil Ray’s response in the Daily Mirror* Who do students sympathise with and why?
* Write two postcards to the BBC from Muslims- one complaining about Citizen Khan and the other supporting it.
* Consider the question Is it acceptable for the media to mock (laugh at) religion? Give reasons for/against. Students to write a short paragraph explaining their view at the end of the lessons.
* Is mocking people’s beliefs the same or different to mocking people’s race, gender, age or disability?

. | Images of TV showsCitizen Khan episode 1 series 1/Little Britain clip or Little Mosque on the Prairie clipSACRE strongly recommends that teachers preview material BEFORE use in the classroom. BBC: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=zZ4QlBpaW0I](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zZ4QlBpaW0I)Islam channel clip:[www.youtube.com/watch?v=AhQgV6yGtXs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AhQgV6yGtXs)Complaints: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-19395994>Adil Ray: <http://www.mirror.co.uk/tv/tv-news/citizen-khans-adil-ray-says-4542825>Postcard templates |