How do you regard a still born child? Should the baby have a religious funeral? Religious perspectives on the nature and value of human life.

Religion or no religion can influence how you see human life, especially in terms of ABORTION and EUTHANASIA.

You need to study Christianity and one religion of your choice in terms of ethics.

How you view soul can influence how you view life.

"God created human beings, making them to be like himself, male and female, and blessed them." Genesis 1, 27.

Humans have a unique nature and value in creation. Human beings have sanctity (made holy) through a relationship with God. ; Not all people accept this, however.

Thomas Aquinas tried to show how animals and humans differed in status in terms of the relationship with God. He linked REASONING, ABILITY and SOUL. Animals cannot REASON therefore have no soul. Special sanctity of life only remains between humans and God. Because the sanctity of life is linked to human soul. It refers being cremated in the likeness of God = a supernatural relationship which requires FAITH.

## Christianity and the nature of human life

| RC Church                         | Protestant Church                 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Original sin. First sin. Of-      | The Protestant view of the fall   |
| fense against God (sin) of dis-   | of Adam and Eve has meant         |
| obedience. St Augustin stated     | that human beings are inherently  |
| that the stain of original sin    | weak or fallen. They can over-    |
| was passed through the sexual     | come their weakness by turning    |
| union of parents to children. The | to Christ and rejecting evil. In  |
| Roman Catholic (RC) Church        | general, human beings are gen-    |
| about 1000 years ago introduced   | erally imperfect and flawed and   |
| infant baptism to wipe out the    | have to turn to Christ to be      |
| stain of original sin.            | saved. If you do sin (through e.g |
|                                   | wrong ethical actions) you affect |
|                                   | your human dignity and offend     |
|                                   | God. This is why Christianity     |
|                                   | has a tending on FORGIVENESS.     |