RELIGION, CRIME & PUNISHMENT
Lesson 3
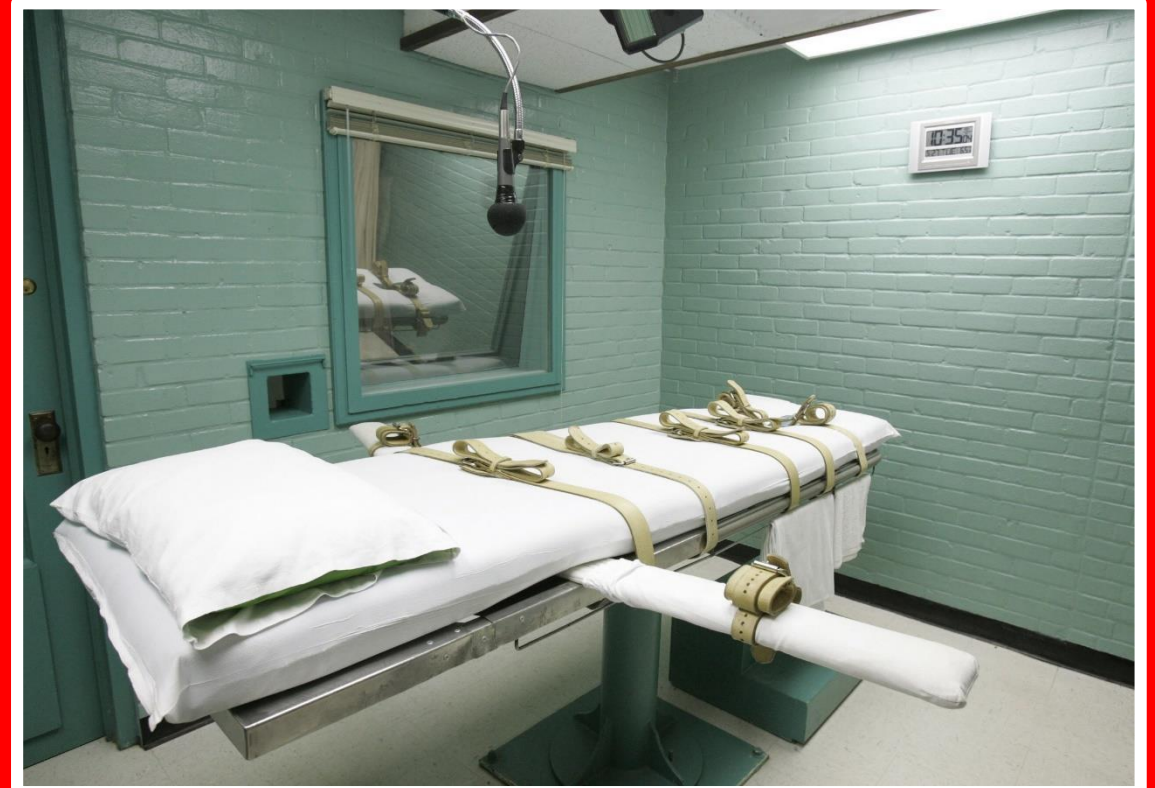
GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES: THEMATIC STUDIES

Key Words:

Evil: "the opposite of good; a force or the personification of a negative power, which is seen in many traditions as destructive and against God."

• Can you think of anyone who might be considered evil? Why?

Christianity & Evil:

Christians do not believe that people are evil. God created people to be good. There is usually a reason why a person does the unspeakably awful.

However, people do have a tendency to disobey God because of:

- Free Will,
- Original Sin,
- And to a lesser degree…the Devil.

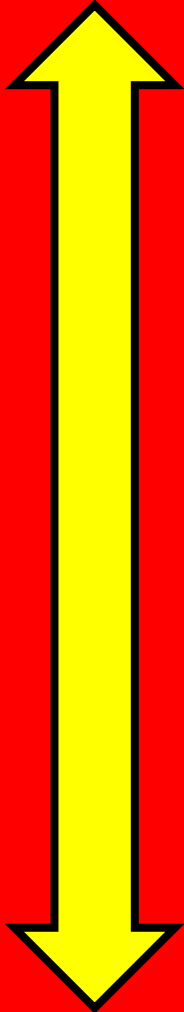|	
The Devil	An individual's opportunity and autonomy to perform an action selected from at least two available options, unconstrained by external parties. The belief that God has given to all human beings the ability to select how to act and does not interfere with those decisions or coerce people into making a particular choice. God has done so to ensure we are responsible for actions, no-one else, and can be judged: this judgement leading to eternal punishment or reward.
Free Will	A fallen angel who rebelled against God, was expelled from Heaven, and sent to Earth. He works against God and God's plan. He does so by tempting human beings to sin and disobey God. Some Christians think in terms of a psychological force rather than a physical entity: an inner voice or inclination to do what we should not.
Original Sin	In traditional Christian teaching, this is the result of Adam and Eve's disobedience to God when they ate a forbidden fruit in the Garden of Eden. When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, they 'fell' from perfection and brought evil into a perfect world. Consequently, everyone since is born sinful and this separates them from God. This means that people are born with a built-in urge to do bad things and to disobey God

The Scale of Evil

100% Evil

Not Evil

Daily Mail — Why I've gone for a tattoo at 73 — HOW COULD ANY MOTHER BE SO EVIL?

Daily Express — 6 ANGELS KILLED BY EVIL PARENTS

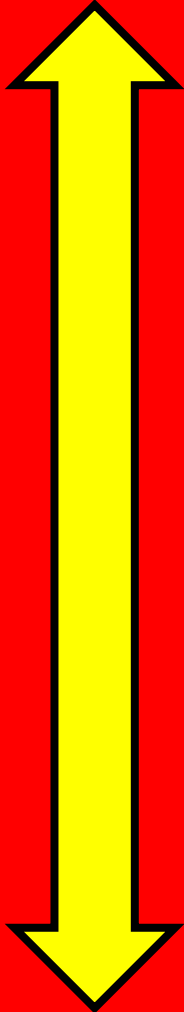*Daily Mirror* — DEVIL CHILD — THE CORRIE KILLER

- **Copy the scale on to a whole page of your book.**
- **Use the whole page.**

The Scale of Evil

100% Evil

Michael Adebolajo – Michael Adebowale – Beverley Allitt – Derek Bentley – Ronnie Biggs – Derrick Bird – David Copeland – Ruth Ellis – Timothy Evans – Tony Martin – Harold Shipman
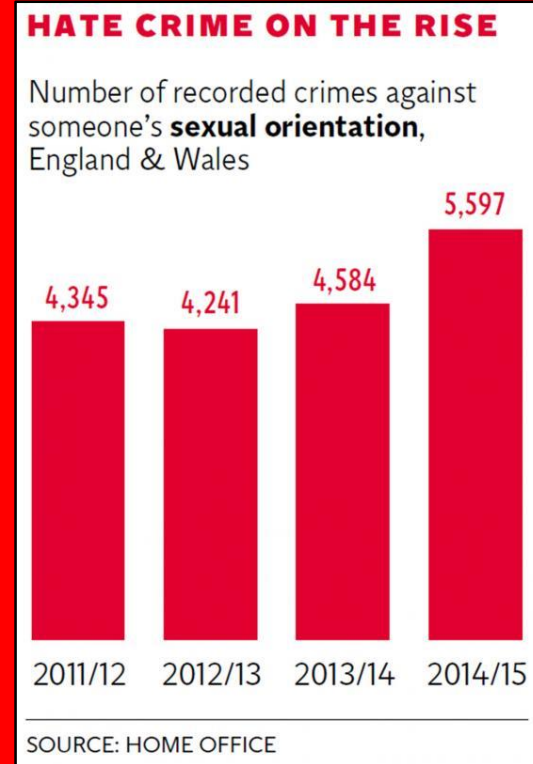
Not Evil

- Decide where 5 of the above ought to be placed.
- Give 3 reasons in each case.

Key Words:

Hate Crimes: "crimes, often including violence, that are usually targeted at a person because of their race, religion, sexuality, disability or gender."

HATE CRIME ON THE RISE

Number of recorded crimes against someone's **sexual orientation**, England & Wales

2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
4,345	4,241	4,584	5,597

SOURCE: HOME OFFICE

Stephen Lawrence:

- Lived: 13/9/1974 – 22/4/1993.
- Sat waiting for a bus in the evening.
- Approached by 5 white youths.
- One said: "What, what, nigger?"
- He was attacked and stabbed twice.
- Taken to Brook General Hospital.
- He was pronounced dead at 23:05.
- The case was mishandled by the Police and CPS: it took years for the culprits to be punished.
- In an official report the Metropolitan Police were deemed: "institutionally racist."

FREE INSIDE TOMORROW: Definitive guide to the hidden sugar in your food

Daily Mail

Lies, spies, cover-ups and corruption … sickening extent of Stephen's betrayal by the police is exposed

Key Words:

Greed: "wanting to possess wealth, goods or items of value which are not needed."

Crime, Evil, Greed, & Hate:

ONS Types of Crime	Evil		Hate		Greed	
	Link? Y/N	Why?	Link? Y/N	Why?	Link? Y/N	Why?
Anti-Social Behaviour						
Criminal Damage						
Drugs Offences						
Fraud						
Hate Crimes						
Robbery						
Sexual Offences						
Theft Offences						
Violent Crimes						

- Copy the table above. Leave lots of space for the "Why?" columns (ignore the formatting above).
- Identify if you think there is a link with the crime type. If you answer "Y" you must give a reason.