## The way in which a religious or moral issue has been dealt

**Religion** 



I am going to analyze the issue of illegal asylum seekers from an episode of Eastenders. Within this episode, Dot, who is an obvious Christian, meet up with her friend's son who has decided to stop being a vicar. She disagrees with this action and states her opinion. He says that religion was forced upon him as a child and that dot has done the same to her son, Nick. However, Nick was rebellious and ended up in prison. Dot rushes to church, with feeling of guilt and asks God whether she had been a good mother or not.

After this question, she hears a baby's cry and discovers a baby in a sports bag, left alone. This could symbolize her prayers being answered for another chance to raise a child. Underneath a sign in the church that says 'Suffer little children, come unto me', this is a quote for Jesus in the Bible, Dot leaves a note with her address so the mother can claim her child. The baby is then taken back to Dot and Jim's home. Jim thinks that Dot is getting herself into a lot of trouble when Dot explains what she has done.

She claims that she thinks that God has given her another chance at raising a child as a good Christian, whereas Jim thinks that they should call Social services if the Mother does not turn up within 24 hours. This shows the different views of religion from both Jim and Dot. After finding a leaflet in the bag with the baby, Dot forces Jim to attend a 'Gentleman's Club' because it may be a clue as to where to find the baby's mother. Jim goes obeys Dot's commands and goes to the club.

There he gets charged for a drink which he didn't have the money for and the bouncer throws him out. Before the bounces leaves, Jim asks about the baby's mother. The Bouncer tells Jim that she left a long time ago and to 'stay away from people like that'. This leads Jim to think that the mother is a dangerous woman and could get him and Dot into a lot of trouble. When Jim returns home, he finds the baby's mother, Anya, sitting on his sofa talk to Dot. Dot was trying to convince her to take the baby with her.

Anya is an asylum seeker and Jim insists on calling immigration services to come and take Anya away. However, Dot, being a good Christian, follows the example of Jesus and thinks that they should care for her, regardless of who she is. Jim tells Dot that Anya is a prostitute. In the bible when Jesus treats Mary Magdalene who was also a prostitute, friendly, and Dot persists in being a good Christian and following in Jesus' shoes. This results in Jim calling the Immigration services for Anya to be taken away. However, it does not go to plan.

Dot takes Anya and her son, Tomas, to safety in a Church for sanctuary. They eventually get found. As Dot tries explaining the situation, claiming from the Bible and using Jesus' path as an example of what she was doing to protect Anya and Tomas, she gets called a 'religious nut'. Within this episode of Eastenders, both a religious view and a non-religious view are displayed from Dot and Jim. Overall, the non-religious view wins. This leads to Anya being taken away by immigration services. This could show that religious views aren't always the right things to do.