

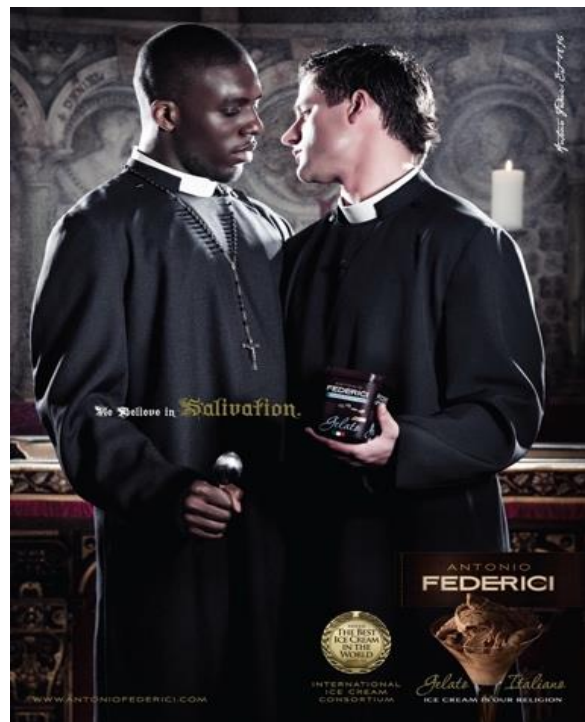
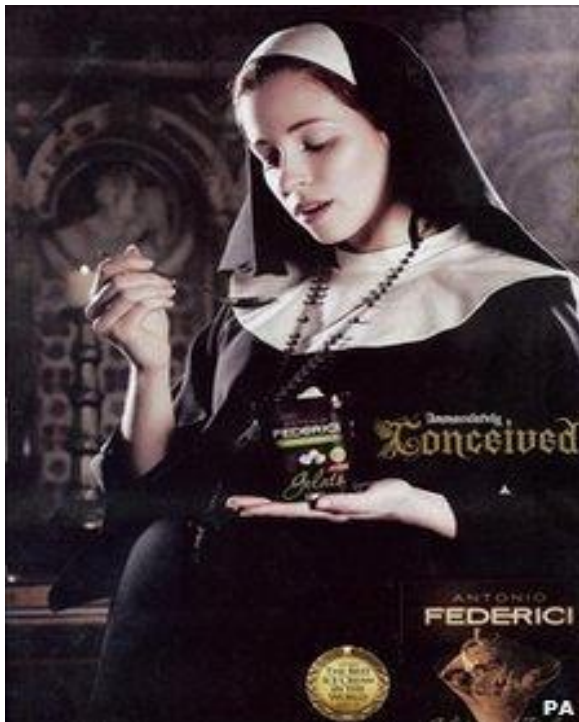
Group 1 – The Flying Spaghetti Monster

- a) Do you think that Bobby really believes, “the universe was created by a Flying Spaghetti Monster...”?
- b) If not, why might he be saying that he does?
- c) Bobby said in a letter, ‘We feel strongly that the overwhelming scientific evidence pointing towards evolutionary processes is nothing but a coincidence, put in place by Him.’ Why might Bobby be mentioning ‘overwhelming scientific evidence’? Might this help us to understand what he really believes?
- d) Do you feel that Bobby’s ‘religion’ is disrespectful or offensive to the established world religions? If so, what should be done about it? Is it acceptable to offend religion?
- e) Read and discuss Bobby’s open letter
<https://www.spaghettimonster.org/about/open-letter/>



Group 2 - Antonio Federici's Ice Cream's advert

- a) The tag line is, 'Immaculately conceived'. Can you explain this in terms of the image of a pregnant nun and *why* some Christians might find this offensive?
- b) Do you believe the company's response that, 'idea of "conception" represented the development of their ice cream.'? Discuss with your group/the class.
- c) In picture number 4, the tag line reads, 'we believe in salivation' – meaning we believe in being saved. What or who might the advert be suggesting needs to be saved?
- d) Since many Christian churches teach that homosexual behaviour is sinful, why might this image be controversial?
- e) Do you think these adverts are disrespectful or offensive? Is it ever acceptable to offend religion? Do you think it's acceptable to offend religious people to help sell ice cream?



**Group 3 - 'My eyes and thoughts to Heaven go, I ne'er see common things below...'
and 'God and ISIS.'**

- a) What or who do you think this cartoon might be criticising? Is it criticising an individual, a religion or an attitude?
- b) Should a religious person be held to a higher standard of personal behaviour than a non-religious person?
- c) Why did the artist create this image? What might it tell us about the artist? What could it tell us about the society he was living in?
- d) In 'God and ISIS', can you explain why the image could be described as 'turning the tables on the extremists.'"
- e) Do you think it is more powerful for a Muslim to create this cartoon rather than a non-Muslim? If so, can you explain why?



Group 4 - 'This is my blood – this is my body...' by Alexander Kosolapov

- a) First impressions – talk about the image and text – what do you think of it?
- b) How does the text on the images relate to core Christian belief?
- c) Do you feel this artwork is mocking a core religious belief – what is your opinion on whether art has the right to mock religious belief.
- d) What point might be artist be making in juxtaposing iconic religious imagery with iconic modern advertising imagery? Could it be interpreted as *pro-religious* or as an attack on the modern world?
- e) Do you think these images are offensive? How do you justify your point of view?



Handout – Exploring Secularism

KS3 Lesson 6 - Art and secularism

	True	False
1. The Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster is just a joke to make fun of religion.		
2. Followers of the FSM <i>really</i> believe that a 'noodly deity' created the universe.		
3. Many followers wear meatballs on their heads to honour their god.		
4. The Advertising Standards Authority didn't ban the Federici advert as they found it to be non-offensive to Catholics.		
5. The Federici advertisement with the two priests was created as a celebration of the church's attitude towards homosexual relationships.		
6. The message behind the Cynicus Victorian cartoon could be – <i>some religious people spend more time thinking about abstract religious notions than acting upon the actual words of their holy text in the real world.</i>		
7. The message could be – <i>don't beg or get in the way of important religious people.</i>		
8. Kosolapov's artwork is deeply offensive to many Christians.		
9. Kosolapov's artwork juxtaposes traditional religious icons with modern iconic advertising.		