The relationship between different social groups and religion –

Paragraph 1 (Patterns of religiosity across social class)

Ashworth and Farthing - More m/c than w/c churchgoers. Those on benefits, the elderly and the unemployed were least likely to attend.

Manual workers (w/c) were less likely to attend because of their work hours. Not relevant, churches are open 7 days a week.

YouGov Survey - 2012 - 73% of skilled manual workers claimed they had never attended a service compared to 63% of professional workers. 2015 - out of 7000 adults, 62% of the regular churchgoers were m/c. A small sample size, people are self-declaring so not valid. ‘Regular’ is what?

Voas and Watt - Church attendance is higher in rural areas, the south of the country and in places where there are high achieving Church of England schools. = Places where there are m/c, parents attend church so their children can attend the schools.

Paragraph 2 (sociological explanations) –

Ahern and Davie - w/c don’t trust the church, see the hierarchy as a reflection of the r/c ideology, church as a “them vs us place”, not treated the same by church leaders.

Brierley - M/c move more than w/c, more of a social thing, want people to see them in a "good light", want to "network". Many other ways of socialising now (social media etc.)

Roy Wallis - Denominations broke away from the church so attract skilled w/c and low m/c. Less strict hierarchy. Pentecostal churches exist more in lower socioeconomic areas and offer “salvation” from economic misfortune.

Sects – Recruit the most deprived, require members to give up previous life which they are happy to do.

Glock - Groups that experience deprivation are drawn to sects, poorest social groups. Sects offer divine compensation, place of sanctuary, sense of community and an escape from oppression.

Bruce - Those who aren't deprived financially may join a NAM because it fulfils a spiritual need. More meaning to material possessions. Scientology.

Heelas - NAMS appeal to educated professionals, especially women. Have the financial means to be involved in exploring their full potential. Link to postmodern view – individualism.