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Q13a. The Amish belief system originated in 1693 and was based on protestant Christian beliefs and ideology. However, due to persecution in Europe as a result of their support of the ritual of adult baptism, adherents moved to the United States and established Amish communities in North eastern USA. The worldview of the Amish is shaped by a strong belief in the power and authority of the Christian bible and the importance of 'Gelassenheit' which is the need to submit to the will of God. The Amish also believe that the individual must be subjugated for the greater good of the community and thus follow a lifestyle that presents contrasts to most societies and cultures in the 21st Century.

Q13b. Although globalisation has made a significant impact to societies, cultures and belief systems throughout the world, the Amish belief system has experienced minimal change as a result of ~~this~~ globalisation. This maintenance of continuity over time in spite of agents of change that facilitate globalisation such as modernisation and technology is due to many factors including the separation of Amish society from the English. This physical separation as allowed by their rural lifestyles ensures minimal contact with agents of globalisation and enable the long standing traditions and cultural heritage to sustain continuity within the Amish belief system. For example, the horse and buggy is still their main mode of transport which allows the limitations of the distance it can cover to keep the members of the Amish community together. This also continuity and upholding of a traditional lifestyle in the face of globalisation is also facilitated by the rejection of technology by those with power and authority in the Amish belief system. This results in the prohibition of television, computers and mobile phones in Amish society, thus limiting the impact of globalisation on the traditional norms and lifestyle characteristic of the Amish.

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