

# The Law of Commitment

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



### THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT



1. Sr. Joan says that adultery in ancient Israel was not about the violation of a monogamous marriage. She claims that adultery was more about property rights and rightful ownership. Today, she insists, the Sixth Commandment asks us to consider what it means to respect our own commitments to those with whom we are in relationship. In the case of marriage, regardless of sexual orientation, what does it mean today to respect our committed relationships?
2. Today, “adultery” means “someone has cheated on her or his partner.” Sr. Joan suggests that this meaning points only to symptoms of a relationship at risk. What happens when someone “cheats?” Are there ways to be adulterous other than in the sexual sense? Are there ways to be faithful that even trump sexual faithfulness?
3. Imagine yourself a priest of ancient Israel. Rewrite the Sixth Commandment from a twenty-first century perspective.