My reason for writing is I believe in the right to life.

Summary of Points
1. Abortion Law is a matter for the politicians and people of N. Ireland not Westminster.
2. Current Abortion law saves lives.
3. N.I Abortion law is not in contravention of international law
4. There is no automatic human right to end human life.

1. This is a devolved issue which should be decided by politicians in Northern Ireland, not Westminster. If the people of N. Ireland wish to change the law on abortion they have the political means to do so. Already a Recent ComRes polling of NI adults shows that 64% of people think that abortion should be decided by Northern Ireland’s elected representatives, rising to 66% of women and 70% of 18 to 34 year olds.

2. Further, the law on abortion in Northern Ireland has been proven to save lives. Research conducted by ‘Both Lives Matter’ in 2017 found that an estimated 100,000 individuals are alive today who otherwise would not be had Northern Ireland followed England, Scotland and Wales in adopting the 1967 Abortion Act.

3. With regard to our international obligations, the argument is frequently made that the UN says that Northern Ireland’s abortion laws are not human rights compliant and that Northern Ireland should decriminalise abortion. The truth, however, is that this does not refer to the view of the United Nations as a body, but to a report issued by one unelected committee, the Committee for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) whose influence is miniscule and far from impartial or balanced.

The Women’s and Equalities Committee appears to support the misconception that women can only be equal when they have an absolute right to abortion in any circumstance and for any reason. There is a cognitive dissonance here in attempting to claim there is a human right to end human life! This is a morally bankrupt view. The only humane way ahead is to value the precious life of the unborn child.

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