Written submission from Mrs Julia Grier (ANI0040)

As a native and resident of Northern Ireland I wish to record my alarm at two things concerning this matter:

1. I am alarmed that the Westminster government should have any thought of trying to enforce on us legislation which in the past has been clearly vetoed by the majority of us.

2. I am alarmed that Northern Ireland’s excellent record of protecting the disabled and the helpless is at risk. The disabled have the right to life, and that right begins in the womb. When surgeons sometimes cleverly operate on a child within the womb, they are acknowledging that the unborn baby is not some extension of its mother, but a separate human being.

Since abortion became so freely available in Great Britain, the vast majority of abortions have been carried out for social reasons and the convenience of the mother. Sometimes it is for minor flaws easily corrected; sometimes it is simply because the baby is a girl. Northern Ireland has already made it clear that we don’t want to go that way. We want to be an inclusive society where all children are welcomed and loved, not disposed of if they are less than perfect.

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