I am writing to request that you leave the legislation on Northern Ireland's abortion laws to the Northern Ireland Assembly. This was agreed in the devolution settlement and so is not within the remit of your committee.

Abortion is essentially a procedure where a premature baby is pulled out of its incubator, namely the mother's womb. So unless one regards the unborn baby as sub-human and consequently not worthy of human rights protection, abortion (ie the killing of a premature baby) should only be a procedure of last resort when the mother's life is in danger. This the current position in Northern Ireland and in my view should remain unchanged.

However, if changes must be made, it should be made by the duly authorised elected representatives of Northern Ireland, not dictated by outsiders who hold no moral or legal authority to do so,

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