I am writing in regard to the proposed change to the abortion law in Northern Ireland. I am a Christian attending Moira Baptist Church, and believe that life begins at conception.

I am proud that my country has so far resisted efforts to liberalise the abortion law here. It is estimated that around 100,000 people are alive today who would have been aborted if the Abortion Act 1967 had applied here. The Advertising Standards Agency accept that this figure is a credible and conservative estimate.

I believe Northern Ireland’s law must be respected. The will of our elected representatives was last made clear in February 2016 when a clear majority of Northern Ireland’s MLAs backed the sanctity of life in a series of votes at Stormont. Last year, in 2017, the Court of Appeal in Belfast also upheld Northern Ireland’s right to determine its own abortion legislation.

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