I am writing in response to the Women and Equalities Committee’s three questions about the law on abortion in Northern Ireland. I am a member of the public who has always lived in Northern Ireland but I am well aware of abortion legislation in other parts of the UK, Ireland and further afield.

I support the current Abortion legislation in Northern Ireland and feel that this should be respected as the will of our elected representatives, made clear as recently as February 2016.

My main concern is that abortion on demand can and is used as a means of birth control by many who even though they would have access to modern birth control methods are content to take a life rather than stop, think and take action before they have intercourse. In 2016 98% of abortions in GB were carried out for social reasons.

I’m sure that when the 1967 Abortion Act was brought in in GB it was never envisaged that almost 9 million lives would be lost by 2018. It is my contention that the vast majority of these little lives were sacrificed as they were seen an inconvenience, neither were they human and therefore they could be destroyed as per the law.

Why would even the smallest microbe on Mars be accepted as proof of life and a heartbeat on earth not?

How many Stephen Hawkins, Einsteins, Marie Curies and Brian Coxs could have had their lives terminated in those 9 million that were lost.

It is not progressive to bow to pressure to relax Abortion laws that have been thought through and established for very sound reasons. An estimated 100,000 lives have been saved in Northern Ireland because of existing laws.

A married couple I knew very well were advised by the medical profession to abort their youngest child due to the Mother’s ongoing battle with Multiple Sclerosis. They decided against the Doctors advice and the Mother wasn’t affected adversely from the birth. Moreover, when that perfectly healthy girl grew up the Father contracted Motor Neurone disease and she became an amazingly, kind and attentive nurse to both her parents, ensuring that neither of them had to go into hospital. What a loss to that family it would have been to have aborted, even on medical advice which would have been perfectly legal in Northern Ireland.

Abortion for convenience undermines the human right to life of the most vulnerable in our society.

It is our responsibility as adults to protect the most vulnerable, if possible and I consider that the present Northern Ireland Abortion legislation does that.

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