I submit these views as a previous Director of Social Welfare Services in the Government of Hong Kong, and the experience I thereby gained dealing, inter alia, with unwanted pregnancy.

This legislation does not need to be changed in Northern Ireland. Both lives matter. Indeed the most vulnerable person in this situation is the unborn child in the womb. He/she has no one to protect her/his life, unless society as a whole, and Government in particular, does so. In any human situation of conflict or anguish, Government’s primary concern must be the most vulnerable person in that situation. If the pregnant lady is unable or unwilling to keep her child when born, then resources must be made available by Government to ensure effective and speedy adoption of the newly born infant.

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