Written submission from Mr Peter Martin (ANI0143)

I am a retired school Principal who has lived in N Ireland for 75 years. I make this brief but nonetheless sincere submission to the Committee in a personal capacity.

1. I submit that the Abortion law in N Ireland should be determined as a devolved matter and not by Westminster MPs, the vast majority of whom know relatively little about life here, and should not impose their will on the people of N Ireland.

2. Scientifically, the life of a child begins at conception. Abortion, which in the vast majority of cases in GB, (98%), is carried out for social reasons denies the right to life of the unborn child who is totally vulnerable.

3. There are situations where the life of the mother is at risk and there is a conflict of rights, however the law in N Ireland as it stands covers such situations.

4. The permitting of abortion on demand in GB since the 1967 Abortion Act, has resulted in the destruction of millions of lives of the most vulnerable, whereas many thousands of such lives have been saved as a result of the current law in N Ireland.

5. There are clearly some very complex cases which need to be sympathetically treated and support provided, however these cases are the exceptions rather than the rule and should not be used to create law for the vast majority

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