Written submission from Mr Joseph Biddulph (ANI0162)

100,000 people are alive today who would have been killed under the mainland Abortion Act if it had applied in Northern Ireland. Of these a half, 50,000, would have been female.

Whatever rights are claimed for women, the right to live is surely the important one that enables all the others. Legalised abortion in Northern Ireland, by simple definition, would destroy pre-birth female children. Regardless of what happens in the rest of the world, does it REALLY constitute an increase in women’s or anybody else’s rights if Northern Ireland babies are dismembered or poisoned before birth?

Does it really increase the rights of women by subjecting them to perhaps a lifetime of post-abortion symptoms, as experienced by very many? No amount of denial will dismiss the situations of those I have heard personally. There is no equality in putting some women through that in order to enable others to have their babies killed before birth. WHOSE equality is more equal than the other?

No amount of legal judgment can wish away the fact that it is an inhuman act to seek out and deliberately kill a human being before birth – a fact at the moment acknowledged in N I law, even if totally ignored in mainland UK. The prevalence of foeticide and dismemberment of pre-birth corpses does not necessarily make it right, proper, human, or compassionate, no matter what casuistical arguments are swallowed wholesale or pushed by vested interests.

I would earnestly ask anyone who reads this to investigate without prejudice the entire question of foeticide from first principles, and to have full cognizance of the facts and clinical realities. Decisions of this kind should not be made if still living in an anti-empirical dream-world which avoids or shrugs off unpleasant realities.

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