I write to express my concern that Westminster is interfering in a devolved matter regarding abortion laws in Northern Ireland. As someone who regularly visits the area in a sensitive border town area I am convinced double standards are at play here. The Belfast Agreement is regularly mentioned in the Brexit discourse yet the fact that politically and culturally Northern Ireland is pro-life is being ignored.

On the ground people are dismayed that the UK is seeking to impose their own will on a country that has its own politicians and beliefs.

The issue of abortion in the UK is regularly and dishonestly discoursed in Parliament by high profile MPS who are doing the bidding of the major abortion providers like Marie Stopes and BPAS. Theirs is a multi billion industry whose chief aim is to increase profit through repeat abortion despite the physical and mental effect this has on often vulnerable women. Abusers have been enabled by them as the culture is largely one of no questions asked as we have seen in cases like Rotherham.

Rather than seeking to impose abortion against the wishes of the people in Northern Ireland who elect their own representatives the committee should investigate why people have such grave concerns about the dangerous practice of abortion itself. Marie Stopes has had to suspend services and women have been hospitalised and died in so called safe, legal abortions.

A better alternative is to offer practical help to both Mother and child and not to ignore clear empirical evidence that life begins at conception and that abortion harms women and society.

December 2018