Written submission from Joseph Beggs (ANI0196)

I have lived in Northern Ireland for 59 years born in Belfast. I would like to have my view considered as a member of the general public in Northern Ireland in relation to any changes to abortion law in Northern Ireland. I fully support the current legislation in Northern Ireland. If any change is to take effect then my submission is that it be done by the devolved assembly and not by the UK Government. No changes should occur without the people of Northern Ireland having an input through their elected and democratic representatives. I believe that many citizens in Northern Ireland are pro-life and over 100,000 lives have been saved because of existing abortion legislation. I know that some cases that are projected in relation to abortion have relevant and heartfelt issues. Nevertheless one must take into account that in 2016 98% of abortions in Great Britain were carried out for social reasons alone and it would be relevant to know what they currently are for 2017-2018.

December 2018