I am writing as a resident of Northern Ireland to ask you to take no action to reform the law on abortion here. I consider this issue to be deeply troubling and one of the saddest social issues of our time. The pressure from around the rest of the UK that is being put on NI to scrap our current protection of life is alarming.

In the mainland UK, 98% of the 9 million abortions that have been carried out since 1967, are carried out for social reasons. As the law stands our unborn babies are protected from abortion as a majority of our elected representatives made clear in a series of votes in 2016.

I understand that having an unplanned pregnancy is scary and can mean a serious change in the direction that a woman or a couple’s life is heading, but there are other more compassionate ways of dealing with this turbulent time.

December 2018