Written submission from David and Elizabeth Rutherdale (ANI0272)

As citizens of the United Kingdom living in Northern Ireland we wish to place on record our strongly held opinions that Northern Ireland’s abortion law should remain unchanged.

In February 2016 our own elected representatives reflected the will of the people of Northern Ireland who elected them. It would be a grave error for the parliament at Westminster to bypass them and introduce a change in the Northern Ireland law. The existing law must be respected. Too often those from outside a situation can be swayed by a vocal minority.

Statistics show that in 2016 alone some 98% of abortions in Great Britain were carried out for mere social reasons. There are many who work to protect the rights of those who are most vulnerable in society, and rightly so. But the unborn child has the right to life and should not be disposed of as an inconvenience. About 100,000 people are alive here today who would not have been had the 1967 Abortion Act applied here.

Our current law ensures that the value of human life is upheld. It does not need changing.

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