As a resident of N. Ireland and a children's doctor, I am responding to the Women and Equalities Committee regarding the law on abortion in N. Ireland. The political representatives in N. Ireland represent the people of N. Ireland and only they have the democratic right, under the devolved legislation of the UK to amend the law affecting N. Ireland. It has been made clear previously in the N. Ireland Assembly that the majority of representatives do not want a change in the law & this reflects the wishes of the majority of people in N. Ireland. Personally I am against legislation that devalues the life of an unborn infant, such devaluing will ultimately devalue all life, however I would respectively ask that the Committee do not undermine the wishes of the people & representatives and, equally as important, the democratic credibility of the United Kingdom by seeking to take this extremely important decision away from the people of N. Ireland

December 2018