Written submission from Adele Best (ANI0407)

Intro
I'm a 44 year old single parent to an amazing 10 year old daughter who I almost lost to the lies of the abortion industry. I've personally experienced abortion twice and was greatly damaged by them so I do not want other women to suffer like I did and I do not want Northern Irish women to be subjected to the same lies and deceit I was when I had my abortions. Our laws in NI are extremely progressive and they do NOT need to be changed. I've personally met women who had abortion forced on them after rape by their parents - one woman wept how "she got over the rape but never losing her child through abortion". Women struggling with difficult diagnosis need peri-natal hospices where they can spend precious time with their children with short lives, not be murdered violently, thus not allowing the woman to grieve naturally and adding a burden of guilt due to the murder of her own child, its not compassion that's barbarism.

Executive Summary:
- I've personally experienced the horror of abortion twice
- I used to be pro-choice until I personally went through two abortions
- My first abortion I 'Chose' but that was because I had been brain-washed by the media and pro-choice advertising.
- I suffered horrendous post abortion trauma & depression which at the time I didn't understand to be related to the abortion
- My Second abortion I didn't want but was forced into it by an abusive partner.
- I was suicidal after my second abortion - my mental health decline was directly related to my second traumatic abortion.
- I only found healing through the redemptive work of Jesus Christ
- Because of what I've suffered I do not want other women to suffer like me and I do not believe abortion is health care at all for women but a violent exploitation of them.

We stand in a time in culture when Roe v Wade is soon a real possibility of being overturned, abortions in the US are declining as the war on the abortion mills are being won. People are waking up to the truth about abortion. I literally wept for my fellow countrymen when I saw the South cheering to being legally one step closer to the ability to murder their own children in their own land. Having being sold the same lies I was, a great deception has attempted to sweep this land. That same deception now tries to sweep through the North with its mantra of 'choice', 'healthcare' and “progressive society” etc.
I am going to share with you my personal experience of abortion. I get very angry listening to advocates of abortion who have never actually experienced it personally. Well my experience overrides their rhetoric and intellectual liberal arguments every time as I’ve lived it - twice. My experiences have also been backed up and documented in extensive research studies on post abortive women so there are a lot more of me and we aren’t going to go away. So don’t just take my words that I will share today ’cos there's hundreds of thousands of women just like me and they cant be silenced for ever.
The abortion industry is an industry first and foremost and its one goal is cash not choice. It relies on deceived feminists, media and sold out politicians to peddle its culture of death masquerading as health care. Anything that harms women cannot possibly be healthcare and my abortions harmed me to the point that I almost took my own life.
They lied to me and told me it was my body my choice, they lied and told me this would empower me as a young woman. They lied. They did not tell me that after my first abortion I would sink into an immediate depression. That it was so shockingly black and deep that I had to self medicate with high levels of drink and drugs just in order to function and get through every day. If it was so empowering
why did I hate myself? If it was such great health care why did my self esteem plummet? Why did I have to go out constantly and couldn’t be alone? Why did I seek out promiscuous relationships and hate men and be unable to form healthy relationships? If it was so empowering why did I physically shake and want to vomit and cry hysterically if I came face to face with a pregnant woman in public? Why could I not bear to look at little children? My abortions negatively affected every area of my life until Jesus healed me.

If it was such great compassionate healthcare how come a few year later I ended up in an abusive relationship. If it was so empowering why was I obsessed with replacing my first lost child? Why then did I end up in a situation which led me to have my second abortion? If it’s such great healthcare how come I was able to be bullied into another abortion by an abusive partner and wasn’t stopped by one so called health professional. Why did I not receive any counselling alone without him in the room with me? Why was I allowed to be bullied into a second abortion in a Muslim country to protect his honour and not one doctor stopped it in fact they encouraged and organised it (for a cash payment of course)

Why did no-one save me when I was outside that dirty dark room in the back of that hospital where they took me to me crying hysterically that I didn’t want to go in there? Why did they tell me that if I loved him and wanted to stay with him this was the way it had to be. Why didn’t I have the courage to run away? Why did no-one save me from that horrific event in that black dark room in a dental chair and gas mask? Is it any wonder I was hysterical when I woke up screaming and punching him screaming “you’ve murdered my baby”! My body and soul knew exactly what had just happened – the life inside of me had just been snuffed out - murdered. I experienced intense rage. Anger is a natural reaction to being hurt and grief and many post abortive women struggle greatly with anger. If it so empowering why do I still to this day suffer panic attacks from routine medical and dental tests, shaking and crying uncontrollably with vivid post traumatic stress flashbacks?

If it was just a blob of cells and so empowering why did I, after my second abortion, press the self destruct button and literally want to die and tried to end my life with reckless constant drug taking, passing out in nightclubs and punching people? Why did I now hear voices in my head telling me to kill myself that it was the only way out of the crippling pain in my heart? That pain was the grief of losing my children.

You see my body knew I was pregnant, hormones had already been preparing my body physically emotionally and mentally for the baby. When a woman considers abortion she then has to deny what her body is naturally doing. The lies and denial begins, denial of a child’s life, denial that he/she is an innocent independent human being. The denial continues afterwards as the lies from society and abortion industry lie to you that you must be fine. Because she doesn’t want to admit there actually was a life lost. Bury bury, push down – that’s when the nightmare begins.

The industry and media have attempted to destigmatise this horror by telling us we are wrong or cannot possibly feel regret, remorse or grief or that we don’t exist that these women are not real. The mainstream media, deceived feminists movement present abortion as a problem solver with no after effects – a total lie! Let me be clear the trauma is not from “travelling to access the abortion” the abortion procedure itself causes great trauma. How can it not? It’s a barbaric act where a child is violently destroyed.

Many research studies and countless data prove that substance abuse, mental health problems including depression anxiety, suicidal thoughts, suicide and a lifetime of pain and regret are what follow women who have abortions. I have come to realise that it is a normal reaction to feel intense pain after an abortion. It’s normal to feel unbearable grief and be haunted by demons of guilt and regret. That’s the horror of abortion. Let me be clear and warn you today – as you sow you will reap. If you sow murder death and destruction you will reap it in your own life.

The pushers of this dark altar of child sacrifice are trying to portray Northern Ireland as this awful backward place, well let me tell you – we are now the shining light of Europe as being the safest place now for the unborn. These six counties have seen forty years of death & destruction and we stand today Catholic and Protestant, united together and we say to those forces who try to impose more death on our generations to come – No!! We are not falling for your tactics, take your killing machine elsewhere cos the people of this land will never tolerate it!

I want to live in a country where not only abortion is illegal and outlawed but is unthinkable. There are no circumstances where it is acceptable. I have witnessed many women in post abortion healing
programmes, even in the hard cases where they try to justify the murder of the unborn - they will all say in the case of rape or disability that abortion is never the answer. We must step up to support women in unexpected pregnancies. And let’s start to use life affirming language and speak life and blessing over our generation to come. Let’s not let the abortion industry start to twist minds that unexpected pregnancies are ‘crises’ that need to be ‘dealt with’. 
So Northern Ireland’s law on abortion protects women from being victims of the abortion industry. As we look at the legacy of Roe V Wade and ’67 UK law we can see they are not legacies we want to follow. We will never allow that in this land. We are not going away we will stand and always fight for truth and justice for the most vulnerable in our society.
We do not advance women’s rights by hurting them. Real feminism does not sell women something that can exploit them, cause intense life long pain and is greatly detrimental to their health. The original feminists were against abortion. How and at what point did women of our time swallow the lie that to progress they must murder their own children? The abortion industry exploits women as its pro-cash not pro-choice. Not only does it profit from killing children it even profits from selling their body parts. This vile practice must be exposed – we call you out for what you are – an abomination to a truly progressive society.

December 2018