I value the life of every person whether born or unborn. Pregnant women are going through one of the most vulnerable times in their lives. They need to feel that every part of their bodies are safe from abuse. This includes our fertility and fruitfulness. It is a woman’s strength not her shame.

Life has its natural cycles. The time that a foetus spends in the mother’s womb is as natural and good as any other part of our lives. Whether we are unborn or born, young or old, sick or healthy, we should feel safe and cherished no matter in what part of the cycle of life we find ourselves. We spend our lives trying to avoid pain and discomfort, but we cannot do that at the expense of another life.

I say this as a woman learning to embrace every stage of my life and as the mother of six children.

I do not want the abortion laws in Northern Ireland to be expanded or changed in anyway that will harm or bring an end to the life of the unborn.

December 2018