1) DEVOLUTION
Northern Ireland is different from other parts of the UK in the people that it represents. We should not be told by people in other parts of the UK how we should think or deal with big issues. The life of the unborn child is one of these. Until we have representation that we have voted for and that reflects our wishes on this there should be no change. It is not democratic to be denied a say.

2) DISTINCTIVE LAW AND CULTURE
The law here in Northern Ireland protects life. The law stops discrimination against the lives of babies who have disability. Those who have disabilities have much to teach us and as much right to life.

3) HUMAN RIGHTS & EQUALITY
The unborn can't have a say in this. The unborn child who has been conceived in love, are they fundamentally any different than the unborn child who is unloved? Is that what this is about, love? Do we really want to say those who are unloved have no rights? There are tragic cases where women have been the victims of crime, but does healing come from more violence, violence against an innocent baby who has no opportunity to state their case, or their innocence in the crime? Should we not be campaigning for better support, counselling and help for those who need it instead?

4) PERSONAL STORIES
Our friends had a little baby who was diagnosed in the womb as having Edwards Syndrome. They were unsure then how long they and their other two children would have with her after she was born. They got to have a couple of months with their beautiful baby girl. They got to love her and their children now have beautiful memories of the time they had with her. A beautiful baby who was only able to be with them for a short time. Is it profoundly sad that they didn't have longer with her? Yes. But they had that time. Those memories.

Other friends had a baby who died shortly before their due date, this baby was on paper 'healthy' but yet they didn't get to see her recognise them or respond to them after she was born. The time we have is special and cannot be replaced. We cannot know the future. The impact a child with disability will have on us or on the world, the things that child will teach us. Loss is difficult no matter when it happens.

I had a miscarriage of a baby at six weeks gestation, that baby would have most likely had a heart beat, it was living. And I will always think about that baby I never knew and wonder what life would have been like with them around. Those questions linger.

One of my best friends had a baby who died in the womb at 16 weeks. I have seen photos of her, her perfect little hands and feet and features. She lived and moved and was part of their lives, at the scans and after she was born they saw her and held her. She is their child. They have two more children now, but she is still talked about and remembered.

We also have friends who have a lovely little boy, now 6 years old, who happens to have an extra chromosome. He is in mainstream school doing fantastically and what is more he brings lots of joy to those in his family and his community around him. Downs Syndrome doesn't make him any less, in fact in some ways it makes him more to more people.

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