1) DEVOLUTION
It is important to note healthcare is a devolved matter and despite the fact that Stormont isn’t sitting it would be incredibly unfair to overrule the democratic mandate of the people of NI who still have MLAs representing us of which the majority believe abortion is a matter for Stormont. Abortion in NI has become a political football and we have many problems that need to be addressed and aren’t being addressed by Westminster including things that disproportionately affect women such as the benefit cap. Abortion is not one of those issues.

2) DISTINCTIVE LAW AND CULTURE
Due to the ban on Northern Irish abortions the law has saved 100,000 people which is amazing! In addition due to our culture in not aborting babies with Downs Syndrome etc we have developed a culture instead that cares for those with disabilities and their families with support groups etc. I used to volunteer with a youth club for young people (16-25) with disabilities mostly DS and autism and it was clear that they were living happy lives with many in education and obviously deserved life as much as we did.
Whilst abortion is not a religious issue it is important to note that NI is a more religious place than the rest of the UK and vote for parties and individuals with similar values not limited to merely flags but also the values which respect the life of everyone. If Westminster wishes to help those including women in NI don’t provide abortion instead create a culture when parents and families feel able to care for their children through improving support with SureStart centres, NHS funding, and a better economy to reduce poverty and abolish austerity policies that were recently described in the UN report for extreme poverty as misogynistic. 2/3 of benefit cap victims are single parents and 90% of single parents are women.

3) HUMAN RIGHTS & EQUALITY

4) PERSONAL STORIES

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