Written submission from Gareth Boreland (ANI0520)

1) DEVOLUTION
This is a sensitive issue, and that is why the views of the people of Northern Ireland must be represented. It is staggering that no member of the Women and Equalities committee represents a seat in NI, yet somehow this committee feels it has the right to comment on this issue.

2) DISTINCTIVE LAW AND CULTURE
On this issue it is Northern Ireland that is actually a model for others to learn from; here life is respected and valued. It simply beggars belief that about 9 million unborn babies in GB have been killed since 1967, many for no other reason than they were labelled "unwanted". (One wonders what can give any human being the right to label another as "unwanted".) It has been estimated that 100000 people are alive in NI today as a result of our life affirming laws. Know that these 100000 people are wanted! In GB about 90% of babies diagnosed with Down's Syndrome are aborted. This is a scandal! If you are diagnosed with a disability before birth, where would you rather live- NI or GB?

3) HUMAN RIGHTS & EQUALITY
This is a human rights issue, and of course the most fundamental human right is to life. In NI we are rightly proud of how our laws give this most basic of rights to all children. This does not fail women, it values them; women are not to be pitched against their babies- any civilised society would see that respecting one respects the other too. Both lives do matter, and it is our laws here in NI that maintain this. It is in GB that the scandal of 9 million abortions since 1967 shows that human rights are being trampled on. Might I ask that your committee examines this injustice? Why not examine the appalling treatment in GB of babies diagnosed in utero with disabilities, who for no other reason this this may be regarded as valueless and worthless, and have been paying with their very lives the price of your country's appalling record. 9 million abortions in GB- how many more before committees like yours realise there is something gravely wrong happening?

Both Lives Matter. Thank you.

4) PERSONAL STORIES

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