1) DEVOLUTION
Not to include one elected member of parliament for Northern Ireland on this key issue is ridiculous. We, the people of Northern Ireland, do not elect representatives for the people of England, Scotland and Wales, why then must key issues be imposed on us by people who do not represent us? This is a devolved issue which in turn should be discussed by our elected representatives when our assembly recommences.

2) DISTINCTIVE LAW AND CULTURE
As a society we love to Champion our respect and help for people with disabilities. We pride ourselves on our paralympions and their success, yet if an unborn child has a disability the recommendation is abortion. How can this hypocrisy continue to be unaddressed? Northern Ireland truly champions the rights of people with a disability, as this is the only region within the UK that protects the unborn with a disability.

3) HUMAN RIGHTS & EQUALITY
Our society is all about “human rights” and “equality” for all, unless, that is, if you’re an unborn child in your mother’s womb. Abortion denies the most basic and fundamental right of all, the right to live. Society celebrates the news of “life” on another planet in the form of a bacteria that possibly grew sometime ago in mars, but yet an unborn child is “just a clumb of cells” even though scientific research has shown us differently. To say that woman in Northern Ireland are being withheld equal rights because of our abortion laws is ludicrous. Women here have the right to free sexual education and a number of contraceptives. They have the right to engage in sexual intercourse, but they know the consequences, abortion takes away the right of the unborn child, there are other options. To enforce abortion on the people of Northern Ireland is to take away our equality and our democratic rights to vote for the people we want to represent us.

4) PERSONAL STORIES
I have seen my unborn child in my wifes womb via ultrasound. I have seen her heart beat and I have seen her move around and wave her arms and kick her legs. All this at 12 weeks. At 20 weeks I have seen her wonderfully formed body, her organs functioning, felt her kick from within and seen her move from the outside. All this within the abortion limit. To state that this is just “a ball of cells” is so In-compassionately inhuman. To think that other children have had their life taken away from them at this stage is heartbreaking. Please reconsider this position and leave the abortion laws in our wee country alone. If only The rest of the UK would reconsider their own laws and truly be a champion for equity...

December 2018