I am concerned that proposed boundary changes will threaten the progress (can it be called that?) made over the last century in the election of women to parliament. The statistics are shocking – 650 MPs and 70% are male – only 192 are women. The Lords repeats the disparity – 600 men to 200 women. As you know, representation shapes policy – we need to draw on the talent and experience of women. We certainly can’t afford to lose any more women MPs.

Diversity leads to better decision making. It ensures more informed and balanced, policy-making on ALL issues such as the economy, defence, security, policing, health, education, welfare, foreign policy, transport, environment as well as other key issues like reproductive rights, VAWG, FGM, domestic violence, equal pay, pensions, sexism, discrimination, inclusion, maternity care, family life, caring and parenting.

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