

To Whom It May Concern.

This submission is written on behalf of Edward & Kathleen Ann Pitt of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Sirs/Madams,

We have been horrified at the many thousands of abortions performed each year.

With the Bill introduced by Rob Pyne, that number looked set to increase dramatically.

We hold to the fact that once conception has taken place, that the embryo/foetus is in fact a living human being. If this is not the case, then exactly WHEN does life commence??

Studies & research show that as early as 4 weeks there is a detectable heartbeat, & that the living growing baby in the womb is able to experience pain even at such an early stage of gestation.

There is a growing body of international research as well as an enormous amount of anecdotal evidence that suggests that abortion has a long-lasting negative effect on women.

For one thing there are many instances of physical harm associated with abortion. These include deaths from all causes, such as suicide after abortion compared with childbirth.

Research has shown that abortion carries a variety of significant risks, such as premature delivery, & infection, which could lead to infertility in subsequent pregnancies. Uterine perforation often appears to accompany abortion as shown by the large numbers of women who need to be admitted to the RBWH to repair the damage done during the abortion procedure.

Studies have shown that a first pregnancy carried to full term delivery provides at least some degree of protection against breast cancer. Many studies have shown an increased risk of breast cancer which is associated with an early abortion during a first pregnancy.

Complications increase significantly when the pregnancy is further along, particularly uterine perforation. Second-trimester abortions account for a disproportionate amount of abortion-related morbidity and mortality

Apart from the physical damage which so often occurs during an abortion, there is strong evidence of psychological harm.

While an abortion may seem to provide the solution to a big problem especially if the pregnancy was unplanned, following abortion many women experience a range of negative emotions.

10 to 20 percent of women suffer from severe negative psychological complications after abortion. In other words "Post Traumatic Stress Disorder" is a real & genuine psychological condition, & one which according to many verbal reports, can last for a lifetime. This can manifest itself as severe depression & even suicidal behaviour.

Women experience emotional distress immediately following an abortion, as regardless of the stage of gestation it is obvious that a human life has been extinguished. The range of negative emotions experienced are sadness, shame, guilt, grief, doubt & above all, regret!

Following abortion, women are increasingly likely to have an increased risk of psychiatric problems such as bipolar disorder, neurotic depression, depressive psychosis & schizophrenia.

They also have an increased risk of developing substance abuse & self-harm, particularly during a subsequent pregnancy.

Discussions with women who have undergone abortions have revealed that their abortion provider did NOT adequately inform them of the range of risks which are associated with abortion, & that they were not prepared to provide counselling or support post-abortion with any concerns which many have arisen. Many were also surprised at HOW DEVELOPED their unborn baby actually was. In many cases, had they been able to understand that the foetus was in fact a baby, they would have chosen NOT to proceed with the abortion.

In short, abortion is a BAD thing. It kills unborn human children, & robs the parents of the joys of bringing a living soul into the world.

Many Doctors abhor the practice, as all take the Hippocratic Oath which says "First Do No Harm!"

In this country there are thousands of people who are unable to have children of their own & who would dearly love to adopt a child, but due to the many thousands of abortions done annually in this Nation, there just are not enough babies to go around.

We are told that we have an ageing population! This is not surprising considering that a large percentage of children are being aborted.

Please consider VERY carefully what a detrimental impact further extending the rules under which abortions are performed would mean. Many are for purely social reasons & the greater the term of gestation, the worse it is for both the mother & especially for the unborn child.

We hope that you will dismiss this Bill completely.

Yours sincerely,

Ed & Ann Pitt.

8 June 2016. [REDACTED]