

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Abortion Bill](#)
Subject: Criminality or otherwise of abortion
Date: Wednesday, 28 September 2016 3:39:06 PM

1. Whilst I personally consider that a woman **should have rights over her own body**, I do not believe she has rights over life or death of an unborn child because an unborn child is a live person who can survive beyond the womb at a very young stage of development if given the appropriate medical interventions. To give a woman rights over the life or death of an unborn child is as bad as ancient times when a father or husband had total rights over the lives of his wife and children.
2. When I was faced with the prospect of an ectopic pregnancy I made the decision to stay in or near hospital so that I could have immediate medical attention should the ectopic tube rupture, killing the fetus in the process. **Fortunately it was a mis-diagnosis** and I carried a full-term baby.
3. However I recognise that not all people would agree with my view.
4. **At the same time I recognise that some women feel they have no option other than abortion and I do not judge them, nor do I think the law should judge them.** To do so runs the real risk that the women will turn to self abortion or back-yard abortions and both of these procedures are dangerous and unreliable and run the risk of the deaths of both the mother and her unborn child and when successful frequently result in grief, loss and guilt for the mother for a very long time - even returning to haunt the mother in her old-age [even as a lawful abortion too often does].
5. Any woman who feels that she must have an abortion should be required to have counselling about whether there are any other alternatives available to her and how she will deal with subsequent trauma over her decision at a later stage of her life.
6. I believe that Late-Term abortions [viable children] should never be allowed although perhaps the baby could be delivered [hopefully still alive], nurtured and placed for adoption. There is a great need for adopted babies from infertile couples.

I hope you will consider my views.

Maris Valentine