

I am writing with regard to the proposed criminalisation of those who seek to offer help and support to women attending abortion services. I am strongly opposed to the criminalisation of people who have simply a heart to help those finding themselves in a dead end situation, to help find another way out of the situation.

There is no obligation on women entering abortion services to listen to such people, no pressure or criticism. An offer of help is given. What person could honestly say that an offer of help is a crime? I am saddened at such a suggestion.

Abortion is not without risk to the physical body of the mother and almost certainly will create lifelong, emotional pain. It is irreversible. It is not a procedure that is ever openly shown as it is a gruesome business.

There are many testimonials of women who were helped at the entrances to abortion services and were given the help and guidance to walk in another more positive direction. Many speak of the great thankfulness they feel with regard to this help. Others walk past and ignore such help, that is their choice and their right.

I greatly implore you to keep this work of meeting people at the point of great need open.