

Thank you for considering this and other comments regarding the Severe Fetal Impairment Abortion (Amendment) Bill.

The current abortion regulations will have a negative impact on women who are pregnant with an unborn baby who has a disability.

Life is precious - even when it is not perfect according to current popular opinions. There is a danger that one person's severe impairment is another person's daily experience. To imagine that two children born recently in my circle, being given (and returning) love and affection with their parents, could have been sacrificed days before their birth for the convenience of those parents, or society as a whole, is dangerous. There is a very limited distinction between killing a nine month full term Down's syndrome baby while in the womb, and killing a newborn child.

Others will be writing to you with further concerns for the mothers who are reporting the experience of being encouraged repeatedly to have an abortion after they have decided not to, leaving them with a feeling that their country has ceased to care for and protect them and their loved one.

The current abortion regulations will have a significant negative impact on people with disabilities because they directly perpetuate stereotypes towards people with disabilities:

The current abortion regulations undermine 30 years of disability protection and fighting for equality in Northern Ireland

Please consider only putting in place legislation which prevents this awful extension to the awful practice of abortion affecting any child before birth.