

## **Public Morals Committee of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland**

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to you on behalf of the Public Morals Committee of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland. The Reformed Presbyterian Church has had a separate existence in Ireland for over 250 years and currently has 36 congregations in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

I am writing to you in response to a letter sent to us by Christine Darragh, Clerk to the Committee for Justice, inviting submissions in relation to the draft Justice Bill.

We support the aim of the amendment proposed by Mr Jim Wells MLA to prevent lawful abortions being conducted outside of NHS premises. The RPCI accepts that the Bible is God's authoritative Word to the human family. This authoritative Word gives us the basis upon which to value human life, namely that we are created in the image of God. It also demonstrates that the image of God is impressed on us at conception. The destruction of an embryo is therefore the destruction of an image-bearer, an action of the most serious kind. As a consequence the RPCI is supportive of this of this amendment to the law in Northern Ireland .

We would ask you to desist from this proposal to interfere with the right of parents.

Yours sincerely,

S.Drennan (Mr.)

The Convener

Committee on Public Morals

Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland

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