

I submit to you that the proposed legislation is contrary to the Natural Law, our inalienable rights, and is therefore of itself unjust. It is the right, and more importantly the duty, of all persons who discern an injustice is taking place, to highlight this for the greater good of mankind. The people of NI have already voted and declared that Abortion is Not in Their Name. The voice of the people has spoken, and as the public servants whom we elected into Stormont, it is not your within your authority or right to over-rule our wishes.

Additionally, this proposed Bill will discriminate against peaceful pro-life people. To the best of my knowledge there is no evidence to support claims of harassment. I call upon the Stormont Executive to immediately publicise evidence of Claire Bailey's claim of 'harassment or intimidation' outside abortion centres, well in advance of any decision on the proposed legislation being made. This evidence must also be made available in the public arena to inform public debate. The proposed legislation would result in pro-life people in attendance outside abortion centres not being allowed to express their views, display posters or hand out leaflets. This curtailing of freedom of expression is contrary to the Human Rights legislation, Articles 10 and 11. Further, this will be another form of inequality and discrimination as many other groups are permitted to express their views on a range of subjects.

Most importantly of all, the creation of 'Abortion Zones' will result in vulnerable women being unable to receive information on alternatives to abortion. It is the duty of all human beings to protect life.

I submit to you therefore, that this proposed legislation is unjust, unequal and discriminatory and therefore should not proceed.