

As a native of N.Ireland I object to the totally undemocratic method by which the English Parliament has imposed an extreme abortion law on this province against the wishes of our people. I am making this submission to the Committee in support of the Severe Fetal Impairment Abortion (Amendment) Bill which would remove at least one of the most inhuman provisions of that law.

People with severe disabilities are capable of living as fulfilling lives as anyone else. One of my friends, [REDACTED], was born with spina bifida and was wheelchair bound all her life. Despite her own disabilities she founded a charity for the aid of disabled children in India for which she raised thousands of pounds and travelled to India herself to establish its administration there. Even though she was subject to intense suffering herself she campaigned tirelessly for the right to life of disabled unborn children and was totally opposed to euthanasia and assisted suicide.

One of my own sons was born with a deformed leg and foot. This has not stopped him from becoming a highly successful business man, father and grandfather, and co-founding a charity which constantly lobbies on pro-life issues.

It is totally wrong that a life can be considered worthless solely because it is not perfect. Once this concept is accepted no life is sacred. The inevitable consequence of allowing abortion for any disability is allowing it for any imperfection, even one as slight as a cleft lip which can easily be corrected, as is the situation in England.

I ask the committee to consider the invaluable contribution to society that is destroyed when a life is annihilated solely because it is not like the rest of us.

We are all individuals and each and every one of us have our own imperfections.