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**The Justice Committee Clerk
Room 242
Parliament Buildings
Stormont
BELFAST BT4 3XX**

Dear Sirs

PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE BILL


I am writing to you in relation to the above Public Consultation and in my capacity as Senior Pastor of the Elim Pentecostal Church in Enniskillen.

I wish to take this opportunity to state my full and unequivocal support for the proposed amendment which Mr Jim Wells MLA has put forward to the Criminal Justice Bill. As a Minister of Religion I believe that the right to life is unconditional and that all children deserve to be protected before as well as after birth.

I am of the firm view that Northern Ireland continues to be one of the safest places for pregnant women and their babies. The law in Northern Ireland ensures that pregnant women receive world-class medical care because both the unborn child **and** the mother are treated as patients. As has always been the case in Northern Ireland, in difficult cases where the mother's life is in danger, both she and her unborn child receive the best obstetric care available.

I believe it remains an absolute essential that unborn children and their mothers remain fully protected from abortion, and to this end I unreservedly support Mr Jim Wells MLA's proposed amendment to this Bill. In respectfully urging the Justice Committee to adopt Mr Wells MLA's proposed amendment, I would appeal to the Committee to take the necessary steps to ensure that unborn children and their mothers remain fully protected from abortion and that Marie Stopes, or any other private medical centre, are unable to legally perform abortions in Northern Ireland.

*Yours faithfully
Nigel Elliott*



NIGEL ELLIOTT
Senior Pastor