

PRESS RELEASE
12 June 2014

High abortion rates: a sad sign of ongoing failure

The 2013 abortion statistics for England and Wales reveal a continuing high level of abortion in the UK. This is grimly predictable, given current policies and attitudes. It is clear that big, bold steps are needed to address the problem. The prevalence of repeat abortion – nearly half of women over 25 accessing abortion have had at least one previous abortion – is especially depressing.

LIFE spokeswoman, Anne Scanlan, said: “For many years now UK abortion rates have been at a very high level. Health authorities and politicians clearly have no idea how to address this issue, and no interest in doing so, except to recycle useless platitudes about choice. This is much too simplistic. Our experience shows is that many women feel they have no choice, because facilities to support them and provide alternatives are simply not in place. We understand this better than anyone, because we offer help and counselling to many such women as part of our mission to provide positive alternatives to abortion.

“It must also be noted that just in the last few days, searching questions have been raised about the reliability of the abortion statistics themselves, especially regarding abortion for Down’s Syndrome, with only half such abortions being recorded in the official statistics. The last few months have also seen a series of revelations about potential law-breaking and bad practice in abortion clinics. Such flouting of the law must be of concern to all right minded citizens.

“We are clearly failing to equip children and young people with respect for human life, and positive and responsible attitudes to motherhood, family life and sexual relationships. Whatever one thinks about abortion, it is a fact that every single abortion results in the end of a human life. It is a tragedy that we now regard this as an acceptable and unremarkable response to a crisis pregnancy. The government and health authorities would like to continue with business as usual, but this is irresponsible and no longer an option.”

END

For further media comment please call the LIFE Media Hotline on 07867 744502

LIFE is a pro-life charity that supports anyone facing a crisis pregnancy, pregnancy loss or after an abortion, and strives to engage, inspire and inform the next generation.