

PRESS RELEASE

09/10/2015

Remembering the missing girls on International Day of the Girl Child 2015

The national pro-life charity LIFE says the United Nations International Day of the Girl Child, which will be observed on Sunday October 11, should remember the millions of girls missing as a result of Gender Selection Abortion.

LIFE Education Director Anne Scanlan said “gender selection abortion is a major global problem which needs a united approach across nations to bring it to an end. It is time for the UN to be clear in its opposition to this practice and to take action against it, if it truly believes in ending discrimination against women. The principle of non-discrimination against women must apply to women and girls everywhere, including those inside the womb.

It is easy to think that the problem of gender selection is an overseas issue, yet the evidence suggests that it exists in the UK, especially in some communities. We have seen abortion doctors exposed by the media, who were offering gender selection abortions. We have seen them escape prosecution because the Crown Prosecution Service refused to act against them. We have seen the largest abortion provider in the UK publish a leaflet, suggesting that sex selection abortions are not illegal despite Department of Health advice to the contrary. And we have seen parliament fail to enact legislation clarifying that this practice is against British law.

It is a crying shame that in a country of gender equality and non-discrimination, the UK fails to protect girls in the womb whose lives are threatened simply because they are the “wrong” gender. It is a sad irony that many of those who campaign for women’s rights also believe that the termination of girls in the womb because of their gender is simply a matter of choice. This represents a disempowerment of women and a failure of our social obligation to protect mothers who are forced to abort their daughters.

The abortion of girls because of their gender has no place in a modern society which embraces equality and non-discrimination against women and we must all act now to stop it.”

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.