

PRESS RELEASE

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Labour MPs patronise Northern Irish Assembly on abortion

LIFE is disappointed and deeply troubled that Labour MPs have urged parliament's joint committee on human rights to take action on the abortion question in Northern Ireland, in a move which is both condescending and patronising to the people of Northern Ireland and their elected representatives in the Northern Irish Assembly.

LIFE Spokeswoman, Clara Watson, said "We find it hypocritical that these Labour MPs are justifying their intervention on this devolved matter under the banner of 'human rights'. Such MPs should be cautious to assert any moral high ground on this issue given that almost 200,000 children in England and Wales die every year through abortion - a number which equates to the entire population of Milton Keynes. This in itself can be considered no less than a human rights atrocity.

As Lord Justice Horner confirmed in the November Belfast ruling, there is absolutely no human right to abortion under the European Convention or indeed in human rights law. It will remain an impossibility because human rights must be grounded in human dignity. It is impossible that any person could possess a 'right' to violate the human dignity of a biologically separate human being.

The Labour MPs letter is in response to the recent sentencing of a 21 year old woman who had an illegal termination after buying abortion pills online. This woman was between 10 and 12 weeks pregnant, her child did not suffer from a life-limiting condition, and to our knowledge, she was not pregnant as a result of a sexual crime. Thus when one considers Lord Justice Horner's ruling, we can see there was no infringement upon this woman's human rights. So the argument presented by the Labour MPs is not only legally fallacious but condescending to the Northern Irish Assembly, to whom this issue is devolved".

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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 to value all human life from beginning to end