

PRESS RELEASE
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Our unjust abortion law has forced the courts into a ridiculous position

The pro-life Charity LIFE says the case of a woman taken to court this month for drinking during pregnancy highlights the glaring contradiction at the heart of the Abortion Act and society's ambivalent attitude to the unborn child.

LIFE Spokeswoman Michaela Aston said "it seems bizarre for a court to consider the possibility that individuals have legal recourse for damage sustained in the womb, while at the same time the UK's abortion law does not just damage unborn children but actually legally allows for the ending of those lives right up to birth.

Women are constantly given contradictory messages about the value of the life that they are carrying. Modern technology means we know more about the development of the unborn child than ever before and the public is delighted by the amazing 4D images now available. Alongside this the NHS stress the importance of adopting certain diets and lifestyles to protect the development of the unborn child. Even the effects of passive smoking on the unborn has been the subject of recent NHS poster campaigns with the message clearly communicated that this is a little vulnerable person and we are responsible for his/her protection.

Yet the same NHS will, at other times, declare that what is in the womb is merely a 'fetus' and may have its life ended in abortion. Given that the individual in the womb does not change depending on whether or not it is wanted or convenient, the key question must be 'How can this sometimes be a little human being worthy of care and protection and at other times entirely disposable?'

As both these opposing and inherently contradictory attitudes regarding the unborn are equally prevalent it is unsurprising that the courts are struggling to come to a consensus on this case. One way or other the court is going to rule either, that it is impossible to harm the fetus, which is clearly ridiculous, or that we do have some obligation to the fetus – which would in turn drive a coach and horses through the Abortion Act.

It is lack of consistency that is exposed here: the unborn child cannot sometimes be a baby and other times not – it either is or it isn't."

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.