



21st June 2021

To the People of Gibraltar,

We, the undersigned members of the UK House of Lords, write to you about your forthcoming referendum. If it passes, it will legalise abortion in Gibraltar on wide grounds through the full nine months of pregnancy.

We ask you to reject this proposal. This referendum is not about giving women life-saving medical treatment. That already exists in your law.

It is about intentionally depriving unborn children of their right to life.

We encourage you to follow the latest science. And to make a decision that is both evidence-based and compassionate. Previous generations did not have a window to the womb like we have now. It is indisputable that unborn children are human beings. Their inherent dignity deserves protection.

Over the last 50 years, the practice of abortion has had devastating consequences for unborn children.

For unborn babies diagnosed with disabilities in particular, legalised abortion has led to lethal discrimination. Children with disabilities are routinely targeted for abortion because of their condition - in stark contradiction of our natural desire to support them after they are born.

You, the people of Gibraltar, have this evidence to hand before you vote.

There is nothing progressive or forward-looking about taking legal protection from a whole group of human beings. That would be tragic. Successive Gibraltar constitutions have protected the right to life. If this proposal becomes law, a sad new era will have begun.

Unborn children are members of the human family. We ask you to stand in solidarity with them and to vote No.

We encourage you to support mothers and babies in pregnancy, and ensure that they always have the practical support that they need and deserve.

On June 24th, please continue to uphold the most fundamental right of all, the right to life.

Please vote "No".

Yours sincerely,

Lord (David) Alton of Liverpool
Member of the House of Lords (UK)

Lord (Maurice) Morrow of Clogher Valley
Member of the House of Lords (UK)

Lord (James) Mackay of Clashfern KT PC
Member of the House of Lords (UK),
former Lord Chancellor of the United Kingdom

Baroness (Philippa) Stroud of Fulham
Member of the House of Lords (UK)

Baroness (Nuala) O'Loan of Kirkinriola
Member of the House of Lords (UK)

Baroness (Margaret) Ritchie of Downpatrick
Member of the House of Lords (UK)

Baroness (Margaret) Eaton of Cottingley
Member of the House of Lords (UK)

Lord (Raminder) Ranger of Mayfair
Member of the House of Lords (UK)