

## The Likely Impact of the Eight Amendment.

You should vote **NO** in the upcoming referendum for the simple reason that the unborn child is a human being with the same fundamental rights as any other human being, including the right to life. The right to life is the most fundamental natural right of all, is of the highest order of importance, and greater than any “liberty” right expressed by powerful, voting groups within society. Abortion is where one can potentially “act in haste, repent at leisure” (possibly for the rest of one’s life) as it is irreversible. The small number (less than 3%) of difficult pregnancies cannot justify mass abortions. Abortion is an act of violence against life itself and potentially a societal war on the unborn.

The opinion polls (end April 2018) are showing a huge number of “don’t knows”. Initially voters were manipulated by the one-sided campaign of the “yes” side over the last two years, but now realise that if they vote “yes” they will be permitting the killing of innocent human beings. As John Waters stated recently – the voting pencil becomes a knife. The objective here is to assist voters in reaching the conclusion that “no” is the safest and best answer for society and each voter. This document will examine the impacts of a yes decision and a no decision along with the probability of such impacts.

Initially we need to examine the impacts / effects of the proposed change, namely “**yes**”, as follows:

- **Abortion becoming normative.** Removing the eight amendment is **open season** on the unborn. The abortion rate will accelerate quite quickly from the current 1 in 19 to 1 in 5. This has been demonstrated in Spain, when they introduced abortion there. The specific number of likely abortions per annum can be compared to the number of deaths on the road each year. Irish society currently saves more than 5,000 human beings a year from the abortionists’ “knife”. 165 people were killed on the roads in 2015 which is just 3.5% of the likely minimum abortion toll yearly in Ireland, so abortion will be **mass killing** on an ongoing basis. Disabled babies will also be targeted. There will be no constitutional rights for a key section of human beings in Ireland. Abortion will erode the value and respect for human life and dignity, including at the end of life.
- **Further dividing Society.** The introduction of abortion at this new rate will brutalise, divide and weaken society significantly. The brutalisation aspect is easily covered by the increase in killing of human beings involved, the division of society will occur as a significant minority will be implacably opposed to the Governmental measures being introduced (“non acceptance of the equivalence between morality and the law” and “an unjust law is no law”) alongside increased opposition in other matters as well. Abortion will weaken society because it will weaken families and indeed weaken trust between mothers in particular and their children who will become much more insecure and hesitant in relationships if they feel their mothers even thought about aborting them before they were born. Surviving children may become “collateral damage”. The healthcare community will also become very significantly divided and there will be a corrosive effect on the practice of medicine and healthcare.
- **Natural Law Consequences.** There will be negative implications for the mothers themselves who abort their babies. Both the yes side and the Supreme Court promote the idea that if the natural moral law is ignored, there are no consequences – the only consequences arise from “positive law” (explicitly expressed in law or constitutionally). The yes side wish to expressly replace the right to life for a human being with the “right to bodily integrity” for the mother. This is an expression of the “might is right” approach by a powerful voting group against a non voting, weak group i.e. innocent unborn children. However, even Jordan Peterson explains that the moral law cannot be broken without negative consequences, and the killing of innocent human beings is the gravest moral issue. There will be significant “internal” negative consequences in the context of abortion on a personal basis, and this will be “policed” by one’s own conscience – no-one else is needed. For example, in Shakespeare’s Hamlet, the uncle, the new king, is “haunted” by the ghost of Hamlet’s father (his brother) seeking revenge for the uncle’s killing of him. Abortion will lead to deterioration in the mental health of the mother and others involved.

- **Destroying the country's future citizens.** Abortion will lead to increased secularisation of society, with the promotion of the State as the “new God” and the negative implications this has for freedoms in society, the loosening of moral values, the further rejection of Christianity and the ongoing subjugation of citizens as “servants” of the State. The Alfie Evans story – control by the state of our lives / Big Brother, and a reduction in the role of parents - is an example of the “new world” society embracing secularisation. Citizens will be abandoning a key part of their responsibility in the stewardship of the constitution of their republic – the protection of (vulnerable) minorities, in a Pontius Pilate fashion. It will lead to the advancement of the “might is right” perspective. This will lead in time not only to a weakening of society but also quite possibly to a decrease in population and the progressive collapse of the welfare society as the relative level of taxpayers decrease. The introduction of migrants from outside Western society is unlikely to solve this as evidenced already in a number of Western European countries.
- **A non-Christian Ireland.** The impact of a yes vote on the world stage will be that Ireland's image as a defender of Christianity (“Island of Saints and Scholars”), alongside the likes of Poland (the routing of the Ottoman Empire in the siege of Vienna), and of essentially supporting “the international good” will be gone. A yes vote would indicate a further rejection of Christianity by Irish people, a descent into paganism, a rejection of the “current natural moral order”, a potential green light for the further persecution of Christians and a significant advance for the “new secular world order” being promoted by George Soros and parts of the UN and EU. This would indeed mark a “dark turning point” in the history of Ireland.
- **Spiritual accountability.** The soul of the unborn child will survive the abortion, so the mother cannot just be “rid” of this problem and will be ultimately answerable for such actions to the Almighty. Secularists may scoff at the notion of religion, and Christianity in particular, but evidence points otherwise. Each voter will have to account for his / her vote to the Almighty. The probability of the above impacts /effects is in the region of 100% for each impact, although there will be differences in terms of the timeframe for each impact.

As regards a “no” vote, essentially the **status quo**, impacts / effects include (as above):

- Unborn children and their mothers will remain protected. This is hugely important not only for the unborn, but also their mothers who will continue to come under pressure from family members and acquaintances to abort “an inconvenience”. The abortion rate may even decrease if alleviating services, such as adoption, are strengthened.
- While current divisions in society will continue, it will not divide more or be weakened further. Our enviable safety record in pregnancy will remain. Healthcare treatment and care of pregnant women may even improve as pro abortion options are dismissed.
- The current natural moral order will continue – at a minimum the current level of mental health problems will not increase.
- Our country's future citizens can be secured and there will be an opportunity for Christianity to better promote its salvific message and advance against secularisation and negative ideologies
- The current positive Christian world image of Ireland will remain, alongside the likelihood of the country remaining a leader in advancing the cause of the pro life approach internationally.
- Spiritual accountability will remain as previously.

In terms of a conclusion, a “no” result is a much more desirable and less risky outcome for **everyone** involved, especially in contrast to the darkness the country would be plunged into with a yes vote. The public will continue to be harangued by the abortion lobby groups, but this would be a small price to pay. In the words of John Waters, Auschwitz (yes) or Bethlehem (no) - you decide.

**CK 146 Muire Banrioghan na hEireann (a Dublin based council within the Knights of Saint Columbanus).**