

SPUC Alive



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The newsletter for supporters of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children

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<https://www.spuc.org.uk/News>

TWO WOMEN DEAD AFTER TAKING ABORTION PILLS – SPUC DEMANDS AN IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION

In late July, SPUC broke the tragic news that two women had died as a result of taking abortion drugs at home. This entirely avoidable tragedy came after the government legalised home abortions in England, Scotland and Wales back in March, in response to restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 crisis.

For the last six months, women have been able to self-administer powerful abortion drugs for both stages of a "medical" abortion at home without medical supervision. SPUC wrote immediately to both the Health Secretary, Matt Hancock, and his Scottish counterpart, Jeanne Freeman, warning them of the very real danger and questioning the safety of remote abortion. We drew attention to:

- The danger posed to women who misdate their pregnancy
- The increased risk of coercion of women aborting at home without visiting a health professional
- The danger of serious health issues being missed by remote interview with a medical practitioner.

An avoidable tragedy

The devastating news of the deaths of two mothers is public only because of a leaked "urgent" email sent by a senior chief midwife at NHS England and NHS Improvement informing colleagues of the "escalating risks" of the "pills in the post" scheme. The email revealed shocking incidents including ruptured ectopic pregnancies, resuscitation for haemorrhage and babies being delivered up to 30 weeks' gestation.

The tip of the iceberg

SPUC's Parliamentary Research Officer, Alithea Williams, makes clear that the deaths of these two women is just the tip of the iceberg, "Two women are dead. And tragedies arising from the pills through the post scheme include a baby born alive and then killed, and women taking abortion pills whose unborn babies are well past the 10- week limit for chemical abortions."

Continuing, Ms Williams remarks, "This madness has got to stop now. There is ample evidence that abortion pills are far from safe and simple."

Home abortion must not be made permanent

SPUC supporters took action to stop attempts to hijack the Domestic Abuse Bill in early July. Abortion lobby attempts to achieve decriminalisation were stopped dead in their tracks. However, the government announced a public consultation on making home abortion permanent.

SPUC's Director of Communications, Michael Robinson said, "A consultation will be a vehicle for the Government to set out its plan to make DIY abortions permanent.

"We will raise our voices loud and clear once again in the forthcoming consultation. We will not remain silent. Lives are at stake."

NO RIGHT TO SAVE LIVES: ABORTION LOBBY SEEKS TO CRIMINALISE PEACEFUL WITNESS

SPUC is calling on all supporters to support the right to peaceful witness outside abortion clinics and say 'NO' to the widespread implementation of buffer zones.

On 24 June of this year, Labour MP for Ealing Central and Acton, Dr Rupa Huq, introduced a Private Members' Ten-minute Rule Bill "to restrict demonstrations in the vicinity of abortion clinics". The First Reading of this bill passed by 213 votes to 47, and will now progress onto a Second Reading, scheduled for 25 September.

The bill seeks to curb the freedoms of peaceful pro-lifers praying outside clinics or offering support to women. An overwhelming majority of MPs voted in favour of the bill. Commenting on the fact that the law does not prohibit speech purely on account that it may cause upset, Conservative MP for Congleton, Fiona Bruce, had the following to say, "I find it upsetting to hear that 9 million unborn children have been aborted since 1967 — one every three minutes in Great Britain today; 600 every working day."

SPUC's Campaigns & Parliamentary Assistant, Alithea Williams, explains what this development could mean, "Although ten-minute rule bills very rarely become law, and this particular measure is unlikely to go any further, this bill is dangerous. We've seen in the past that such bills can be used as a springboard to gain momentum for a pro-abortion measure."

In late 2018, we saw what can happen when you, our supporters, take action. Home Secretary, Sajid Javid MP, rejected buffer zone demands after SPUC supporters requested 80,000 postcards to send on to him. SPUC is asking supporters to once again uphold the right to peaceful witness outside abortion clinics. The petition can be found on our website.

SPUC CALLS ON GOVERNMENT TO RESPECT CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION TO VACCINES

SPUC has produced an information sheet about COVID-19 vaccines being developed using cells derived from tissue originally taken from an unborn baby.

Dr Anthony McCarthy, SPUC Director of Research, commented: "For those of us who see the original abortion as the unjustified taking of the life of the unborn child, such use of the products of abortion, even a cell line derived from the original tissue, risks sending out a harmful social message concerning the value of early human life."

Some vaccines are being developed without the use of foetal cell lines. These vaccines may involve plant or animal cells. For example: cells from insects, tobacco plants and hamster ovaries. A team at Imperial College London is working on a "synthetic" vaccine i.e. a "cell-free" method. Vaccines being developed with the use of cells ultimately derived from tissue from an aborted baby

However, some Covid-19 vaccines are being developed using cells ultimately derived from tissue from aborted babies, including:

- The HEK 293 cell-line derived' from foetal tissue probably from an abortion in 1972.
- The PER C6 cell-line from an 18-week old unborn child aborted in 1985:

The team at Oxford University is developing a vaccine using the HEK 293 cell-line. This cell-line was originally created from tissue taken from the kidney of an unborn child. The Oxford team is leading the way in the race to produce a vaccine.

"Society should respect the conscience of its members"

Dr McCarthy added: "Even those not opposed to all abortion may well have serious and substantial moral concerns over practices which seem to treat opportunistically the remains of an aborted unborn child.

"Society needs to respect the consciences of its members who uphold the inviolability of human life from conception and who do not wish to be involved in anything they may see as complicit with the unjust taking of such life."

In April 2020 SPUC wrote a letter to Jo Churchill, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Department of Health and Social Care, demanding that the Government respect the consciences of "those who uphold the inviolability of human life from conception and who do not wish to be involved in anything they may see as complicit with the unjust taking of such life."

SPUC STANDS ALONGSIDE BRAVE PRO-LIFE MP LISA CAMERON AFTER SHE RECEIVES DEATH THREAT



SPUC is standing in solidarity with Dr Lisa Cameron MP, who has received a death threat after voting in accordance with her deeply held pro-life beliefs. Michael Robinson, SPUC Director of Communications said: "Lisa is a valiant MP who has spoken out fearlessly in defence of unborn babies. Lisa needs our support and our thanks. As a society we must respect and defend freedom of conscience."

SPUC presented a bouquet of white flowers to Dr Cameron, MP for East Kilbride, Strathaven and Lesmahagow (SNP), on behalf of all its members. Mr Robinson said: "It was a privilege to give Dr Cameron this small token of SPUC's gratitude and admiration for her courage in always voting according to her conscience on pro-life matters."

The death threat was sent just days after she voted against a Bill that would have banned pro-life vigils outside abortion clinics.

Dr Cameron said: "I am concerned by the actions of those who have whipped up hatred and toxic aggression online in recent weeks following from my conscience votes on abortion and particularly distressed to have once again received a death threat towards my family."

Taking a firm stance against abortion, as Dr Cameron has, requires genuine courage in the current political climate. Similarly, defending unborn life as you, our supporters, do in your personal and professional lives is equally courageous. We take this opportunity to thank you for your continued witness.

94 PERCENT OF BELGIAN DOCTORS SUPPORT INFANTICIDE FOR DISABLED BABIES

A troubling new research paper has revealed that 94 percent of Belgian doctors support the killing of new-born babies after birth if they are diagnosed with a disability.

The research article surveyed the attitudes of healthcare professionals in Belgium towards the "termination of pregnancy at viable stage." 93.6% of physicians in the Flanders region of Belgium, surveyed "agree that in the event of a serious (non-lethal) neonatal condition, administering drugs with the explicit intention to end neonatal life is acceptable."

The article also alarmingly states that "Physicians. more often prefer foeticide over neonatal palliative care in case of non-lethal foetal conditions... Almost nine out of ten respondents (89.1%) agree that in the event of a serious (non-lethal) neonatal condition, administering drugs with the explicit intention to end neonatal life is acceptable."

Infanticide is being normalised in Britain too

In a 2012 article published by the British Medical Journal, two medical ethicists contended that doctors should be allowed to kill disabled new-born babies because they are not "actual persons."

In the article, the ethicists stated that new-born babies were morally irrelevant and therefore have "no moral right to life." The ethicists said: "Both a foetus and a new-born certainly are human beings and potential persons, but neither is a person in the sense of subject of a moral right to life.. ."What we call 'after-birth abortion' should be permissible in all the cases where abortion is, including cases where the new-born is not disabled."

NOW is the time to defend the right to life.



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