

National Human Rights Consultation Submission

AGWW-7NQASU

Organisation: Presbyterian Social Services

Submission Text:

i simply want to make a statement about the right to life of the human embryo. At what stage do we accept the viability of a 'person'?

If the start of life is 'at birth' what of the right to life of premature babies. or are they more viable as 'persons' than those in the womb simply because they are already born?

What of the babies yet unborn who are healthier and therefore more likely to be able to survive as 'persons' because they develop to full term but can't be considered a 'person' because they are not yet born.

What do we make of the often inconsolable grief of parents who long for a child and then lose the pregnancy either before term or at birth, or soon after. To them their 'not person' was every bit a precious child from the earliest moment of knowing they were pregnant. Sometimes as early as two days after conception.

Are the endless discussions to define the nature of 'person-ness' only to discover more and more viable excuses to terminate pregnancies and somehow save our consciences?