

Repeal Referendum 25 May

ORGANISE FOR YES

Organise for Choice, Freedom & Equality

It's Time for Choice. We have a historic opportunity to get rid of the medieval 8th amendment and win the right to choose for women and pregnant people.

Make history

Young people in particular have the power to determine the outcome of this referendum and really make history. Help build a real grassroots, pro-choice Yes campaign.

Act now - Time4Choice Campaign

- 1 Make sure you are registered to vote, if you aren't you could still be included on the supplementary register, check our website for details.
- 2 Visit Rosa.ie to print off our leaflets and get active in Time4Choice, ROSA's campaign for a Yes vote; become a member of ROSA – Socialist Feminist Movement.
- 3 We will be street campaigning, door knocking, visiting workplaces and colleges, running social media campaigns and more.



ROSA
Socialist Feminist
Movement

1) Who can vote in the referendum?

Irish citizens over 18 who are on the electoral register.

2) What exactly will people be voting on?

Whether the 8th Amendment should be taken out of the Constitution and the Dáil be allowed to legislate for the termination of pregnancy in accordance with the law.

3) What is the effect of the 8th Amendment to the Constitution?

The 8th Amendment essentially says that a fertilised egg or a foetus has equal rights to a woman. Except in extremely exceptional circumstances, it means Ireland is the only country in Europe, bar Malta, to have a ban on abortion.

4) What has been the negative impact of the 8th?

It is an anti-woman clause, linked to backward views about controlling women's bodies and limiting their role in society. It allowed the state to refuse Ms Y (a rape victim who applied for asylum), an abortion in 2014 and forced her to continue the pregnancy and have a c-section.

5) What if the 8th was repealed?

It could stop thousands of people being forced abroad under a cloud of stigma and shame for terminations, as well as the injustices like the horrendous treatment of the 14-year old rape victim in the X Case and the death of Savita Halappanavar in 2012.

6) Is it correct that if abortion is legalised, the number will increase dramatically?

No. The current ban doesn't stop abortion, it forces people abroad.

Ten people travel abroad for abortions and 5 people use abortion pills in Ireland each day. Proper sex education and making contraception much more available, which are opposed by the anti-choice movement, would actually reduce abortions. The Netherlands, where abortion is readily accessible, has the lowest abortion rate in the world.

7) What are the reasons some women make the decision to have an abortion?

People have abortions for serious reasons, those commonly cited include: feeling unable to bring up a child at this time; being unable to provide for existing children or being in a physically and emotionally abusive relationship. The majority of those who've had abortions already have children. The reality is that everyone has a friend or family member who has had an abortion.

8) Why did the Citizens' Assembly propose abortion up to 12 weeks on request?

92% of abortions take place in the first trimester. Anything less than 12 weeks on request, i.e. limiting access to abortion to cases like fatal foetal abnormalities, would ignore why over 90% of people currently have abortions, meaning they would still face the the high cost and emotional distress of travelling abroad for a termination. Twelve weeks on request is the minimal proposal necessary to have a real and meaningful impact.

9) If someone personally opposes abortion can they vote yes and support such legislation?

Yes. Lifting a ban does not mean that everyone has to support or have an abortion. It simply means the option is there to have an abortion in Ireland. The vote isn't a yes or no for abortion, but for allowing choice in the event of pregnancy.

10) Some say 12 weeks on request is a very liberal proposal?

People's choices should be respected. The proposed legislation for up to 12 weeks would not be one of the most "liberal" in the world, it would be standard with many other states.

11) Are abortion rights an equality issue?

Yes. In law, men are entitled to exercise much more autonomy over their bodies than women. Repeal and legislation for abortion would be an important blow against inequality.

12) Are you hesitant about voting yes because

politicians you don't support, support these changes?

Don't allow your understandable distrust in some politicians, parties and the Dáil stop you supporting this historic change, which will empower all those who are fighting economic and social inequality. This is a vital change for women and society.



Join ROSA today! Text "JOIN" + your name to 087 6522145



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