

Socialist Workers Party

Part of the People Before Profit & United Left Alliance

www.swp.ie

facebook.com/SWPIreland



No more deaths- Abortion Rights Now! #Savita

Another woman has died in Ireland because cowardly and hypocritical politicians have failed to act and legislate for abortion. Savita Halappanavar, a 31-year-old woman, died at University College Hospital in Galway after being repeatedly denied a life-saving abortion.

Savita who was 17 weeks pregnant was told that she was miscarrying her pregnancy but that there was a foetal heartbeat. She asked the doctors to terminate her pregnancy but they refused telling her it was "against the law" and that "this is a Catholic country". Days later she died of a septicaemia.

Tragically, Savita Halappanavar's death need not have happened. In April of this year the United Left Alliance introduced the Medical Treatment (Termination of Pregnancy in Case of Risk to Life of Pregnant Woman) Bill into the Dáil. If the Bill had been passed it would have provided legal protection for women like Savita and meant that there would have been no grounds for equivocation about performing an abortion when there was a risk to the life of the pregnant woman.

Shamefully both Labour and Fine Gael refused to support the Bill cowardly opting to hide behind yet another 'expert group' on abortion. Their refusal to act to protect women in Ireland has directly contributed to the circumstances which brought about this woman's death. Like successive government before them they

are content to kick the problem down the road or pretend it doesn't exist.

Opinion polls show that the majority of Irish people are in favour of more open abortion laws. Indeed, Irish people have never been given the opportunity to vote in favour of abortion but in recently years despite numerous attempt to further restrict abortion rights, have consistently voted against these restrictions. How many more women need to suffer or die before this government will act?

- **Public Inquiry:** We demand a full and public inquiry into the circumstances of Savita Halappanavar's death.
- **Publish the "Expert Group" report:** We demand that Fine Gael and Labour immediately publish the 'expert group' report – now four months overdue from its own promised publication date.
- **Legislate for X:** We call on the government to publicly announce the timeframe in which the will introduce legislation in line with the 1992 Supreme Court ruling on the X Case
- **Free, Safe & Legal abortion:** The majority of women who choose to have an abortion do so not because their life it at risk. That is why we need to change the law and allows for free, safe and legal abortion provision for all women who need it.

**'A woman's right to choose': The Fight for
Abortion Rights North and South- meeting with
Goretti Horgan (Alliance for Choice) and Stephanie Lord
(Choice Ireland)
Sat 17th Nov, 10-11.15am, Camden Court Hotel,
Dublin 2
(part of Revolution 2012 festival)**

If you agree: text JOIN to 0863074060

Title: No More Deaths – Abortion Rights Now! Savita

Organisation: Socialist Workers Party

Date: 2012

Downloaded from:

SNAPSHOTS OF POLITICAL ACTION

A project from Irish Election Literature and the Irish Left Archive.

irishelectionliterature.com
leftarchive.ie

Snapshots of Political Action is provided as a non-commercial historical resource, open to all, and has reproduced this document as an accessible digital reference. Copyright remains with its original authors. If used on other sites, we would appreciate a link back and reference to us, in addition to the original creators. For re-publication, commercial, or other uses, please contact the original owners. If documents provided to Snapshots of Political Action have been created for or added to other online archives, please inform us so sources can be credited.