

Scottish Teachers for Positive Change and Wellbeing submission of 2 February 2023

PE1991/E: Develop an educational resource on abortion

We are writing to you today regarding petition 1991, titled 'Develop an educational resource on abortion,' presented by Gemma Clark.

We are a group of over 3400 teachers in Scotland. Scottish Teachers for Positive Change and Wellbeing support the petition to ensure young people in Scotland get accurate education on abortion care.

We understand that groups such as SPUC (Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child) hold religious views on abortion which may be appropriate to religious education lessons, and consideration of different perspectives is to be encouraged. However, it is important that children and young people also have access to accurate information regarding their health and wellbeing, particularly if there is a possibility that they have been exposed to disinformation.

We agree that Articles 3 and 17 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC),

- 3 – “the best interests of the child must be a top priority” and
- 17 – “every child has the right to reliable information from a variety of sources...”

should entitle young people to accurate information on abortion care.

We look forward to hearing the outcome of the petition.

Co-founders of Scottish Teachers for Positive Change and Wellbeing.