

Health and Social Care Committee
Human Transplantation (Wales) Bill
HT(Ind)30 - Joseph Biddulph

I feel I ought to get in contact once again, before the Assembly makes a big mistake. Compulsory donation of organs for transplant does not seem to be an effective answer, and offends many people's dignity and sense of self-worth. Voluntary donation, opting-in, has none of these problems, and would suit .e.g. cornea transplant operations, where they are unable to use material without the express consent of the donor. Pushing ahead with the legislation would seem to be a prime example of the exercise of power for its own sake, and for the sake of making Wales look "progressive" - whereas what would really be progressive (and somewhat out of step with recent political thinking) would be reforms in the interest of ordinary people struggling to make a living and live their lives without undue official interference. And as long as legalised abortion remains on the statute book in Wales (and positively encouraged by health authorities) some of us will find it very hard to believe that our own human rights are of fundamental concern to our elected representatives - at the moment, it looks as if organ seizure seems perfectly okay to pro-abortion-up-to-birth politicians (or at least those who fail to express disgust at the prospect of pre-birth children being legally killed up to the day of birth, as under present law), as one might begin to suspect. However, it isn't okay with the population at large, and I still hope that sufficient AMs will feel at least a little ordinary oldfashioned shame at offering this further insult to the people of Wales. Or are we supposed to be so hardened by decades of anti-human-life practices that we no longer feel any misgivings on such subjects?

Yr eiddoch yn gywir,
Joseph Biddulph