**IAN PAISLEY ON ABORTION AND IRISH LANGUAGE ACT AND SAM MCBRIDE**

**News Letter attack**

**14 September 2019**

Facebook comments by Jeff Dudgeon:

Ian Paisley's rant about the News Letter article this morning on abortion was taken down. There may be an amended version with fewer defamatory attacks posted in its place. However if you read Sam McBride's piece closely he only infers a certain calculation on the DUP's part, balancing stopping abortion law against an Irish Language Act, one they could not avoid making. The headline (see below) does rather pinpoint that aspect.   
Paisley wrote, with unprecedented personal remarks about the journalist:

The North Antrim MP is really riled by Sam McBride's News Letter article this morning. I know Sam and he is a proper journalist looking for reasons and motives behind issues. He is also historically well grounded being a master of the annual release of papers by PRONI. Perhaps as interesting as the insulting tones of Ian Paisley is the hatred of those commenting on the News Letter itself and how they want it out of business. These are largely from the normally inaudible DUP loyalists whose loyalty to the party is absolute. They simply could not see, even if they read them, the News Letter's host of articles questioning the Legacy Bill and lawfare in general. A side issue is the DUP silence on the imminent equal marriage enabling change which takes effect on 21 October (like abortion) if the Assembly does not reconvene by then. With luck, the Westminster legislative avenue will open again in the autumn to bring about compensation for victims of institutional abuse and paramilitary activity not to mention libel law reform and an end to the teacher exception from Fair Employment law.

[This content isn't available at the moment.

When this happens, it's usually because the owner only shared it with a small group of people or changed who can see it, or it's been deleted.]

[**Ian Paisley**](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100008888739665&__tn__=%2CdC-R-R&eid=ARDPmk-OguvynNd83nnZDVGsZUUStmbomj47bYLoY0UmLJ9HGHn9cJP2QkAsEegN04RyFb29WxbQ5tH-&hc_ref=ARSjcKhSOODG__xsTwxJft_WN368l5YkTlLMyzIGKgn7UevSy5PshMe4utqhzZuG_L8&fref=nf)

Facebook post 14 September 2019

I have just read the lies printed in the News Letter today and authored by Sam McBride claiming that the DUP has deliberately and calculatedly planned to effectively support abortion and oppose the Irish language act in some sick trade off for votes. Nothing could be further from the truth.

It is very clear that the Christian ethos of the DUP is under attack from the press. In particular today from Mr McBride who apparently has an agenda to attempt to undermine and destroy the DUP by besmirching it’s name and suggesting that members have taken a cold and calculated decision to support the termination of innocent lives as preferable to doing ordinary politics. It is a lie from the deepest pit of hell that Mr McBride is spreading. Clearly the media hate the Christian testimony and hate those who would defend the unborn and have decided that the best way to attack us is to claim we are on the side of killing innocent life. It is lowest of low journalism.

Christians are called to contend for their faith but are warned that all manner of evil will be said against them. Today Mr McBride’s comments prove those words that he will say anything against the DUP including the false claim that we are now effectively a pro abortion party. What a despicable and low character he is. Considering he is from a Christian background and went to an exclusively Christian school those who know him must be thoroughly ashamed of him.

There has been no calculated exchange on these policies. The reason why abortion law is about to be changed in Northern Ireland is because of a failure of politics and because of the failure of the assembly to meet. My party did not walk out of the assembly, my party did not make it unworkable. My party opposed every effort by Westminister to introduce this legislation - that in Parliament is a free vote but in NI is a party whipped vote.

The bizarre thing is that those who claim to be opposed most to British rule have created the circumstances where the British Parliament has now ruled on this matter against the overwhelming wishes of the citizens of Northern Ireland. Sinn Fein who brought the assembly down and who are steadfastly refusing to come back into it until after Brexit are solely responsible for preventing the will of the people of Northern Ireland being recognised on this matter.

Mr McBride who is an incredibly immature, intellectually weak and a simplistic fellow has this twisted logic that the DUP have some grand plan to neglect its greatest of all policies and beliefs (the protection of life). He seems to really believe that if the DUP just agreed today to implement an Irish language act suddenly the assembly would be back up and running and all would be sweet and rosy in Stormont.

Already Sinn Fein have debunked that message. In their letters to constituents and in their public utterances they support what they call improvements to “women’s health” issues ( ie liberalisation of abortion law). They have gone further. They say they will not support an assembly that implements a “Brexit veto”. In other words they are not even contemplating a return to Stormont once Brexit concludes in October because they may have to be party to assembly decisions on Brexit.

So the rather childish view that Irish language is a trade-off for abortion law is just not accurate. If a language act was conceded immediately something else would take its place. For the record my party has said we will return to Stormont tomorrow, even for a time limited period and in the normal process of governance agree a way forward for the assembly on all matters. That’s without red lines.

My party has not been found wanting on the campaign to prevent the implementation of the most draconian abortion laws. My party has fought this at Westminister and did all that we could to prevent it being implemented. It is quite typical of the press and even those who falsely take the title “unionist newspaper” to blame unionists for a decision that was not theirs.

Sam McBride has demonstrated by these scribblings that he is not capable of sustaining an argument that lays the blame at the feet of those who are really responsible. Instead he just wants to blame unionists and in particular the DUP because he has a long term agenda against this party.

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