

Health and Social Care Committee
Human Transplantation (Wales) Bill
HT(Ind)49 - Sharon Morgan

Good evening,

I saw the poster inviting comments about the consultation on this draft bill in Carmarthen library, and I would like to express my views on this matter if this is acceptable.

I am in favour of automatic consent and believe that those who do not agree should opt-out in writing if this is what they desire.

27 years ago I gave consent to switch off the ventilator that was keeping our 3 day old daughter alive. Her lungs had not developed during the pregnancy and there was no way that she could survive on her own. We were not asked whether her organs could be used for others, however had we been asked I would have given permission in an instant.

You see, had there been the slightest possibility of Haf's life being saved by a lung transplant I would have begged the doctors to do this. And if you are willing to save a loved one's life by accepting organ donation then surely you must be prepared to save another person's life by donating organs should the opportunity arise. I am just sad that the opportunity to perhaps improve some other child's quality of life was lost but at the time I did not even think about this possibility. In how many cases is the opportunity lost because the next of kin and the medical staff are too upset to broach the subject, even when consent would be given if asked for? Deemed consent would go some way towards avoiding this type of scenario.

Anyway, these are my views.

Sharon Morgan