

I am severely disabled and use a wheelchair full time. I have spina bifida, hydrocephalus, emphysema and osteoporosis. I write on my own behalf, and also on behalf of No Less Human, a group I run for disabled people, their families and carers.

The Interim Analytical Report on Disability Strategy contains many useful suggestions for improving the life chances of disabled people. All these suggestions, however rest on an assumption which is not actually true – that disabled people have a right to life.

How can the "life chances" of disabled people be improved at a time when the Government is spending vast amounts of money on providing pre-natal tests to detect disability in the unborn to facilitate their abortion. Disabled babies can, of course, be aborted at any time up to the moment of birth.

This is a form of fatal discrimination specifically against disabled people, yet no mention is made of it in the interim report.

If the Government is serious about improving the "life chances" of disabled people, it should stop this policy of doing everything possible to ensure that disabled people are never born. Without the right to life - the base right, without which all other rights are meaningless; indeed the "right to have rights" - all the Government's other (worthy) suggestions are entirely meaningless.

I request that my comments be seriously considered by those drawing up this strategy.

Sincerely,
Alison Davis