

**Health and Social Care Committee
Human Transplantation (Wales) Bill
HT(Ind)62 – Paul & Diane Botto**



12th January 2013

Dear Mr Drakeford,

Thank you for your invitation to respond to the Assembly's plans to change the law, or make a new law concerning Human Organ Transplantation.

We have been involved in the debate about the possible change in the law to allow the taking of Human Organs without the consent of the person deceased and without the consent of living relatives. We are seriously concerned at this attitude of our Government which is more in line with extreme left wing (communist) or extreme right wing parties – really state control. How can politicians be so bereft of the natural instinct of what is just.

States and Governments do not own people, even children are not owned by their parents who are their first teachers. It is shocking that we hear the Minister Lesley Griffiths state on television that relatives will have no right to say No to organs beings taken from their loved ones, if they cannot prove that the deceased relative said No while alive. This is beyond reason and belief.

Perhaps if and when a decision is made at someone's death, the person to receive the organ should be told that permission was not given by the deceased, or the family, for the organ(s) to be used – Why not? We would if in this position want to know this and would reject the organ(s) under these circumstances.

But the real issue is that of 'presumed consent', what a nonsense. Typical political jargon and because the people understand that this is in actual fact not consent but stealing, we get the less understandable, but better sounding 'deemed consent'.

It is our honest opinion that the Assembly Government are not listening. We are not their servants, but they are the servants of the people, that is if we are a democratic society.

Under this Bill trust in Health Professionals will go out the window. Trust in Politicians who vote for this Bill will certainly disappear.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Botto". Below the main signature is a smaller, more stylized signature that appears to be "D Botto".

Paul & Diane Botto