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'Women on Waves' denies plans to fly abortion drones over Malta, could possibly visit by boat

Helena Grech

Monday, 23 May 2016, 15:00

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Pro-choice group 'Women on Waves' has denied that it will be flying drones over Malta which

drop abortion medication, as it did recently in Poland, but did not exclude visiting Malta on their infamous boat.

Women on Waves appropriately made waves after they flew 'abortion drones' from the border of Germany over Roman Catholic Poland, dropping abortion medication. The group considered it a success after it was found that two Polish woman had ingested the abortion pills.

"Just a few months ago the human rights committee [United Nations] had stated that making abortion illegal is a violation of women's human rights, so Malta is violating human rights as well. They should start changing their laws to be in line with other European countries and legalise abortion," said Dr Rebecca Gomperts, founder and director of Women on Waves.

A United Nations Committee on Human Rights ruled that in the case of a Peruvian women who was denied an abortion even though her child was sure to die within days of being born, her human rights were not respected and ordered the hospital in question to compensate her. This was a landmark case which "affirmed" the UN's position that abortion is a human right, according to *The Huffington Post*.



The Amsterdam-based group describes itself on its online platform as:

"Women on Waves aims to prevent unsafe abortions and empower women to exercise their human rights to physical and mental autonomy. We trust that women can do a medical abortion themselves and make sure that women have access to medical abortion and information through innovative strategies. But ultimately it is about giving women the tools to resist repressive cultures and laws. Not every woman has the possibility to be a public activist but

there are things we can all do ourselves.”

Medical abortions refer to ingesting medication that can induce abortion. This differs to surgical abortion, which tends to be done later at a more developed stage and involves an invasive procedure.

In Malta, if found guilty of having an abortion, women could face a three-year prison sentence, while carrying out abortions can land a person four years in jail, and a doctor could have his licence to practice medicine removed.

Dr Gomperts revealed that Women on Waves receives around 65 e-mails per year from Maltese women asking for assistance on unwanted pregnancies.

An article published in the *Christian Post* said that Women on Waves will be targeting Ireland and Malta next; however Dr Gomperts has denied this.

Asked why Malta will not see 'abortion drones' flying over its airspace, she said that "Malta is far away" and the drones do not have the reach to be sent from Sicily or Italy to Malta. She stressed however that the group does not exclude visiting the island again by sea. She also said that the group will continue to fly their drones.

"Basically Women on Waves always look for innovative ways to get abortion pills to women in need. We use the ship, the WOW online project; the drone is another tactic we are using to bring the medication to women," she said.



Back in 2007, Dr Gomperts came to Malta and held a press conference at Castille. Her visit was met with opposition by a pro-life group called 'gift of life,' together with other conservative sections of society.

Many media reports had emerged at the time stating that Dr Gomperts' pro-choice group would be visiting Malta by ship to provide women with medical abortions and counselling.

They would have remained in international waters in order to provide this service – however it was anticipated that due to their licensing requirements, which needed a regional hospital agreement, this could be an obstacle.

It was largely believed that no hospital in Malta or Gozo would agree to this; however it was reported that such an agreement with a Sicilian hospital could allow them to provide abortive services in international waters.

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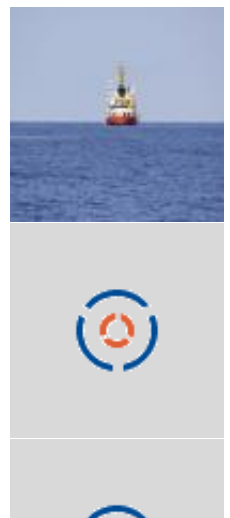
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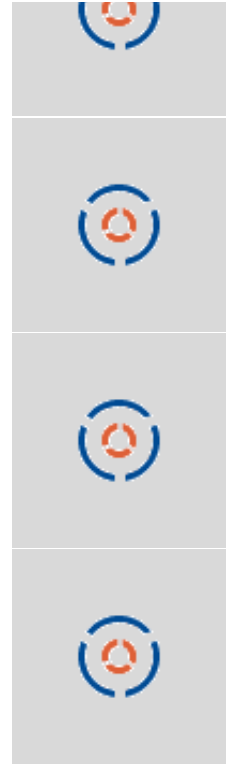
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Holiday99 • 2 years ago

Please, please, please, don't describe these people as pro-choice when they are pro-abortion!

Pro-Choice is a term invented to soften the reality of what these people support!

You can choose to go on a diet or to drink coke instead of 7-UP.

Killing another human being is not a choice but a crime.

5 [^](#) | [v](#) • [Reply](#) • [Share](#) >



leon 1 • 2 years ago

Tourists are welcome but "Women on Waves" NO NO NO.

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Joseph Lawrence → leon 1 • 2 years ago

And who made you Ambassador?

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



This comment was deleted.



Joseph Lawrence → Guest • 2 years ago

I happen to be Pro Choice Ms Smith. You make as much sense as the hatchet man. What choices my parents made is NONE OF YOUR F.KING BUSINESS. Don't ever bring up my parents into your comments anymore. You can say anything you want about me but leave the parents alone. I take offense to that. I thought you had more class than that.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Jessica Smith → Joseph Lawrence • 2 years ago

I never intended to insult anyone, but the comment was made to highlight the fact that had parents aborted those who are in favour of abortion their children wouldn't be here defending abortion.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



This comment was deleted.



Joseph Lawrence → Guest • 2 years ago

Same answer I gave Ms Smith applies to you Mr Vella. Same with you parents.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›

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Mal Tophile • 2 years ago

Typically, we see the humanistic viewpoint which not only denies the humanity of our own kind, but is quick to debase unborn human life to the lowest possible common denominator, such as "a meaningless clump of cells, worth no more respect than a drop of blood.!" Unborn human beings are conveniently denied any rights, since this would destroy those who profit from abortion and put the pro-abortion movement in a worse quandary than that in which they already find themselves. One only has to see the panic involving Planned Parenthood in the USA, with the massive opposition from so many states. Then there are those who like to put their own personal spin on the reality of the case surrounding the organisation which exposed Planned Parenthood for all the world to see, and which in fact they have not denied.

We wait to find out the meaning of the recent humanist call for "a mature discussion on abortion", but that rather depends what is intended by the word "mature".

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



This comment was deleted.



Joseph Lawrence → Guest • 2 years ago

Same to you Benjamin. Is this what you do when somebody does not agree with your beliefs? That shows what sort of a person you are. You must be a very hateful person. .

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Simon Oosterman → Joseph Lawrence • 2 years ago

On the basis of his comments, I would say he is definitely a Trump admirer. What do you think, Joseph?

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



This comment was deleted.



Ivan Grech Mintoff → Guest • 2 years ago

most eloquently put.

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



The Alchemist • 2 years ago

We have become the laughing stock of EU with this abortion stuff.

But then we always pretend that we are holier than the pope.

Last week there was a programme about Malta on Euronews about abortion in Malta and was aired specifically to highlight the fact that Malta like Poland do not allow abortion.

In a free country one should do as one wishes.

5 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



PM Camilleri → The Alchemist • 2 years ago

Even to murder innocent life?

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Angelo Vassallo → The Alchemist • 2 years ago

This is something that has nothing to do with being "holier than the pope". This has nothing to do with any practiced religion in the world. Here we are talking about MURDERING innocent children.

Living in a free country does not give you or anyone else (in that case) the right to MURDER unborn children, because that is what abortion is all about - PREMEDITATED LEGALISED MURDER.

3 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Joseph Lawrence → Angelo Vassallo • 2 years ago

If it is legalized why are you so worried? If it is legalized I don't think you can call it murder, can you. Let the woman decide, it is her right. Who appointed you judge and jury unless you were appointed as such by yourself. You should be preaching about ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS entering this country or Politicians breaking the laws of this land and getting away with it. You cannot protest against something that is LEGAL

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



leon 1 → Joseph Lawrence • 2 years ago

According to your reasoning, to accommodate a few individuals, if robbery and murder are legalised, then these will not be crimes.

Your place is at the AG office.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



toni → Joseph Lawrence • 2 years ago

and what about the unborn, does it have any rights?

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



the truth hurts → Joseph Lawrence • 2 years ago

get cure urgently onestly take care of your state a very poor state

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Joseph Lawrence → the truth hurts • 2 years ago

You take care of your state and I will definitiv take care of my verv

... you take care of your state and I will definitely take care of my very poor state as you put it..

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Angelo Vassallo → Joseph Lawrence • 2 years ago

"Let the women decide, it is their right"

No it is not a woman's right at all to abort. Unborn children have their own RIGHT TO LIVE just like you and me did, Nobody can decide if an unborn child should live or die. Only nature can do that. And I repeat, legalizing abortion in Malta will mean LEGALISING PREMEDITATED MURDERS.

3 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



This comment was deleted.



The Alchemist → Guest • 2 years ago

What a stupid comment!

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



This comment was deleted.



Joseph Lawrence → Guest • 2 years ago

Just remember that Sicily is only a boat ride away. Those women that want to have an abortion will have an abortion maybe not in Malta but somewhere else. I remember when an unmarried girl got pregnant in Malta they were sent to be with the nuns in Gozo. In those days it was a shame for the family to have an unmarried girl get pregnant. You might be a bit too young to remember those days. Sometimes I think we are still living in those dark ages.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Joseph Lawrence • 2 years ago

Oh come on. What happened when couples could not get a divorce or annulment in MALTA? Couples went overseas to get a divorce or annulment and women that want an abortion will do the same.

IT IS STILL A WOMAN'S RIGHT TO CHOOSE, IT IS HER RIGHT.

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Emmy Agius → Joseph Lawrence • 2 years ago

A woman has the right to decide what happens to her body. The baby growing in a woman's womb is NOT the woman's body so she has NO RIGHT to murder it!

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Joseph Lawrence → Emmy Agius • 2 years ago

Everybody is surely entitled to their opinion.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Sid 1002 → Joseph Lawrence • 2 years ago

Seems to me from the ones are commenting are all males , putting their opinions over a woman right of choice . In my opinion I think this should be down to women to choose .

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Ivan Grech Mintoff → Sid 1002 • 2 years ago

men don't have an opinion or a say if it disagrees with yours? Since when?

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Sid 1002 → Ivan Grech Mintoff • 2 years ago

Since the subject don't affect them .All of you anti , none,or one mentioned the absent fathers , when the girl get pregnant and all alone .

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Ivan Grech Mintoff → Sid 1002 • 2 years ago

>Since the subject don't affect them

Ah but it does on three levels.

Firstly because you need men to produce babies. therefore a man has 'equal say' in the matter.

Secondly because the murdered children also include males.

Thirdly because, like it or not (and you don't seem to like it!) everyone has a right to discuss and decide upon everything that they wish to. Its called democracy. As opposed to a very small minority imposing on the majority.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›





Joseph Lawrence → Sid 1002 • 2 years ago


Agree but the law won't let them do that. In Malta women are not given the right to choose. So they either have to have an abortion underground or go to Sicily or any other foreign country (except Poland of course) to have an abortion.


^ | v • Reply • Share ›





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 **C. Zammit** → Guest • 2 years ago
It is not a child...
^ | v • Reply • Share ›


 **Emmy Agius** → C. Zammit • 2 years ago
And you're not intelligent!
^ | v • Reply • Share ›


 **C. Zammit** → Emmy Agius • 2 years ago
Are you not?
^ | v • Reply • Share ›


 This comment was deleted.


 **C. Zammit** → Guest • 2 years ago
I agree.
^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 **Simon Oosterman** → Guest • 2 years ago
If there is anything you are not, it is Logical.
^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 **Joseph Lawrence** → Guest • 2 years ago
"Women do have a choice to say No and they should also have the right to say YES."
^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 This comment was deleted.

 **John Vella** → Guest • 2 years ago
Ara Vincenti, I was thinking of how long it will take for you to crawl out from under the rock. Tell us why we should not be killing babies.
^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 **Joseph Lawrence** → Guest • 2 years ago
We vote for capable candidates who can run the country at least most of us do.
^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 **The Alchemist** → Guest • 2 years ago

And what about the voice of the woman who does not want the unborn for a multiple of reasons?

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Emmy Agius → The Alchemist • 2 years ago

Well, if the woman had any brains at all, she wouldn't have become pregnant. Are you stupid or simply an imbecile?

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



This comment was deleted.



Ivan Grech Mintoff → Guest • 2 years ago

That is legal already. Even then the choice is for the parents to make and not automatic.

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

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