

Political Briefing: House of Lords amendment to Crime and Policing Bill (424) that would stop sex-selective abortion becoming legal in England and Wales

The House of Lords amendment

- Stop-Gendercide is asking peers to vote in support of [Amendment 424](#) to the [Crime and Policing Bill](#) to stop sex-selective abortion from being legalised.
- Clause 208 was added to the Bill in the House of Commons. If the clause becomes law, it would legalise sex-selective abortion in England and Wales for women administering their own abortions.
- Baroness Mordaunt has tabled Amendment 424 to remove this clause, which is expected to be put to a vote on Wednesday, 18 March.

Background

- Tonia Antoniazzi MP belatedly added an amendment to the Crime and Policing Bill in the House of Commons at Report Stage that would legalise sex-selective abortion in England and Wales for women administering their own abortions at home.
- The clause that was added to the Bill (Clause 208) would disapply existing criminal law relating to the permitted grounds for accessing or procuring abortion care for women acting in relation to their own pregnancies, meaning it would no longer be an offence for a woman to have an abortion for any reason, throughout all nine months of pregnancy, including for the purposes of sex-selection.
- The Telegraph reported on a legal opinion by Stephen Rose KC, a leading criminal barrister, commissioned by Sir Edward Leigh, the Father of the House, ahead of the amendment being voted on in the Commons, which confirmed that the amendment would make it legal for a woman to perform her own abortion on sex-selective grounds.