

## Pro-choice activists replicate 1971 'Contraception Train' journey

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28/10/2014 - 07:50:23

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A number of pro-choice activists are making the journey from Dublin to Belfast today in order to recreate the "Contraception Train" of 1971.

It is an effort to highlight the Ireland's continued ban on abortion and to repeal the 8th amendment.

One of the activists travelling on the train from this morning Rita Harrold has said that people in Ireland want abortion laws in Ireland reviewed.

According to recent statistics, over 150,000 women have travelled abroad for abortions in the last 30 years.

Harrold is from the group ROSA and she added the current Government are far too conservative where abortion is concerned.

"People want the 8th amendment repelled, the recent opinion polls show that."

"In reality the political establishment are some of the most conservative people in the country," said Harrold.

"They don't realise it will be a popular move to let women decide for themselves."

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### The Red Necked Phalarope • 11 hours ago

The current Gov. may be too conservative but is she actually saying a Gov elected by a PR system does not represent the will of the majority of the electorate? We are a democratic country so surely it should be put to a vote Yes or No, should abortion be available in Ireland or not. 2 A V • Reply • Share >

### Gunker • 11 hours ago

Harrold is from the group ROSA and she added the current Government are far too conservative where abortion is concerned.

"People want the 8th amendment repelled, the recent opinion polls show that."

Silly woman. The government cannot change the constitution. That's why we have referenda.

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### DrWhodunnit • 9 hours ago

The first question that has to be asked is why - are they trying to say abortion is a form of contraception?

If not (which I assume they would claim), then I fail to see the relevance of this recreation to be honest, it's not like Northern Ireland has the abortion system they want, so they can hardly claim to be even symbolically 'importing' something over the border as was done in '71..

"Abortion is legal in Northern Ireland but 95% of women needing an abortion are stopped from having one. They're refused an abortion even if: they've been raped, they've suffered incest, they've been given a diagnosis of fetal abnormality, their health is at risk from the pregnancy. Over 1,000 women a year come to England and pay up to £2,000 for a private abortion. Others travel to the European mainland."

### http://www.fpa.org.uk/abortion...

Sounds remarkably like the situation in the Republic. So what again is the significance of travelling from Belfast to Dublin - of course, other than a cheap attempt to gain publicity, attention and legitimacy by creating a spurious link between the two events.

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#### Coleman Kennedy • 11 hours ago

Misdirected enterprise and a waste of energy. Everyone knows the history. Every one knows the two sides. Just keep demanding the vote. Yes or no.

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