ALL BRITISH MUSLIMS SHOULD WRITE AND OPPOSE THE "FORCED TAKING" OF OUR ORGANS(PRESUMED CONSENT) AT TIME OF DEATH!

Dear Muslims

Assalam Alaykum

We would like to draw your attention to this serious proposal/Consultation regarding ORGAN DONATION which will be based on **PRESUMED OR DEEMED CONSENT?**

in which people living and resident in Wales or visiting for a period of six months or more will be <u>opted-in automatically as organ donors</u>. Their organs will be taken ,automatically and "by force" without any consent from them when they die?This will include prisoners, tourists, and students. The whole idea is to take the organs of people who have just died in Wales (Muslims and non Muslims),although they did not give any permission to do that?

Only those who have REGISTERED or made A WILL in their life ,not to take their organs after death,will be exampted. What make it worse:

Relatives can <u>not stop</u> the organs from been taken from their loved dying ones?

The consultation is open to everyone living in the UK.

Any one from the public can send his/her view and response regarding this dangerous Consultation.

You do not have to be a doctor to send your response

Unfortunately, most Muslims(olds/parents/youth) are not and will not be aware of this new proposed Bill and this current consultation/Bill . Some Muslims(young and old), like others, die suddenly and unexpectedly, due many reasons and without doing any preparation in advance, such as registering or writing a will and opting-out of presumed consent systems, in order to avoid any doctor/hospital taking his or her organs.

But in this proposed system:Presumed consent, And when a Muslim dies, his/her organs will be taken without permission unless they have explicitly opted out. This could make the family and relatives MORE ANGRY MORE DISTRESSED AND BEREAVED and very much OFFENDED.

AMOST ALL BRITISH MUSLIMS WILL NOT BE AWARE OF THIS NEW LAW, if it comes, AND THEY DO NOT KNOW HOW TO GO ABOUT IT TO REGISTER AND PREVENT THE TAKING/"STEALING" OF THEIR OEN ORGANS AT TIME OF DEATH!

MOST WILL BE UNAWARE OF THIS NEW POLICY!

For many reasons, we like to OBJECT to this Consultation on PRESUMED OR DEEMED CONCENT:

First:The issue of organ transplantation is **not fully agreed by all Muftis/Ulamas and Muslims in the world**, there is no concencus on that, even those who agreed on organ transplantation, have put first 5- 6 strict conditions before doing any transplantation. Also we still have another Muslim camp who refuses and opposes completely the concept of organ donation and transplantation. So this Muslim view should be fully RESPECTED and no Muslim should be "forced to give his/her organs" because they haven't opted-out before.

Second: The ethical requirements for organ donation must be met, and there are serious questions about the definition of death as "brain death" or "Brain Stem death" that call into question the current medical practice.

As Dr David W Evans MD, FRCP has noted:

"the basis upon which a mortally sick patient is declared "deceased" – for the purpose of acquiring his or her organs for transplantation without legal difficulties – is very different from the basis upon which death is ordinarily diagnosed and certified and that highly relevant fact is not fully and generally understood."

The proposals ignore the facts concerning this area of scientific dispute, yet this is a question with enormous ethical implications. Most organ donors are unaware that **their hearts may be beating when their organs are taken**, and that they may be pink, warm, able to heal wounds, fight infections, respond to stimuli, etc.

They are also unaware of common practices of paralysing and (sometimes) anaesthetising supposedly brain-dead donors before their organs are taken.

Simply signing a donor card does not in any way indicate that the prospective consenting donor understands what will be involved, and those who are merely 'presumed to consent' are likely to know even less.

In other medical contexts, informed consent is the gold standard. So it really must be asked why in this particular setting informed consent is being set aside.

Third: Many people are not aware that :"ABUSE" DELAY" AND PLAYING UP" with the moment of death do occur? Doctors try to delay the moment of death in order to take the organs while they are lively and fresh and the HEART IS BEATING?

There is no natural death as fixed by our GOD, the Creator, the Owner of life?

This is very serious and merges on Blasphemy!.

Fourth:Spain who introduced this new scheme:Presumed Consent,according to medical reports,it was stated that this scheme did not make any difference in the number of organs available for transplantation.

Fifth: the UK ORGAN DONATION TASKFORCE and the WALES ORGAN DONATION have OPOSED clealy this new proposed scheme : Presumed consent.

Sixth: The best and proper way in order to deal with the rising number of organ damage and failure is to address the CAUSES and work on preventing the damage and the failure of the organs called in the medical world: PRIMARY PREVENTION: For example: We know well today that the liver will be damaged and fail following the repeated drinking of ALCOHOL. This will create the need for the donation of liver and Liver transplant...when the most easy ethical and proper and economic

solution is to STOP the drinking of alcohol to avoid the demand for Liver donation. This will too will prevent about 50 diseases., no one is stopping any from organ donation.

Similarly, Smokers suffer from the damage and failure of their lungs and they chase us after for donation of lungs, when the sensible way in order to address the issue is to STOP smoking and save us another 25 diseases too;

Today: Anyone interested to donate an organ can become an organ donor, people still have free choice. We are not stopping any organ donation, but to take our holy organs "by force" in PRESUMED CONSENT is quite wrong unethical and unfair and is going too far and will be very much opposed by Muslims, Christians and others. No one should be "forced" by taking his/her organs.

It is a free donation/gift by consent and not an organ to "steal"

SPUC (Society for the Protection of Unborn Children) has produced a <u>briefing</u> and <u>summary</u> assisting pro-lifers and MUSLIMS to fill in the consultation.

.The Consultation on the draft bill "Human Transplantation (Wales) Bill" opened on 18 June 2012, and closes on 10 September 2012. The consultation is open to everyone at any place in the UK.

SPUC blogged about the dangers of presumed consent for organ donation in <u>January 2008</u> when Gordon Brown, the former British prime minister, wanted the law on organ donation to allow presumed consent, and <u>July 2008</u> when the Welsh Assembly rejected presumed consent for organ donation.

These measures could impact negatively on the seriously-ill and dying and their families, who may not be aware of medical controversies surrounding the determination of death which, if known to them, might make some reluctant to donate their organs. The evidence seems mixed about whether such a change would increase the number of organs available. Some countries with presumed consent systems do worse than the UK but some do better, suggesting that other factors may be more important.

There are many serious objections to the proposals that are not addressed at all (or only inadequately) in setting out these proposals; most importantly the question of whether so-called 'brain-death' or 'brain stem death' is actual death. Presumed consent effectively <u>abolishes</u> organ donation understood as a free gift (providing all ethical considerations are fulfilled).

The key documents are:

- the draft Bill http://wales.gov.uk/docs/dhss/consultation/120618billen.pdf
- the bill's explanatory memorandum http://wales.gov.uk/docs/dhss/consultation/120618memoen.pdf
- the consultation document http://wales.gov.uk/docs/dhss/consultation/120618documenten.pdf
- the response form (scroll down to bottom of page. The response form is the Word document) http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/healthsocialcare/organbill/?lang=en

How to respond:

- online: http://goo.gl/kvovB
- email: fill in the consultation response form (above) and email it to organdonation@wales.gsi.gov.uk Please mark the subject of your email: Consultation on the Draft Human Transplantation (Wales) Bill
- post: print out the consultation response form (above), fill it in, and post it to: Organ Donation Legislation Team,
 Medical Directorate, 4th Floor, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ
- telephone: call the following number and ask for a response form to be posted to you. Large print, Braille, and alternative language versions are available. 029 2037 0011

Finally:

I appeal to all the British Muslims to:

- -Act and respond quickly to this Consultation as time is short
- -Inform the Imam or give him a copy of this urgent request/my letter, so to mention it on coming 2 Friday prayers
- -Publish it in Magazines/newspapers
- -Put it on websites
- -Send it to all your Muslim contacts

REMEMBER THE MORE LETTERS/RESPONSES WE WILL SEND ,THE MORE CHANCE WE WILL HAVE TO STOP THIS "dictatorious" unethical and unislamic law in our society, AND WIN AFTER, GOD willing.

So please please SPREAD OUICKLY THIS MESSAGE in order to protect our all SACRED ORGANS!

Dr A Majid Katme: Muslim Coordinator to SPUC/Spokesman:Islamic Medical Association/UK(tel: 07944 240 622) **Mr John Smeaton**:National Director(SPUC) Website: www.spuc.org.uk/campaigns

NB: Another easy way to answer or respond to the Consultation is to send:

A simple letter, which can be based on some of the ideas/reasons for the objection of Presumed concent without going into the Consultation

This will work well after putting your name and address.

Please see the E mail address and the address above in order to send your e mail or letter

Please contact me(Dr A Majid Katme) at any time for any query or question on:

0208 345 6220 or 07944 240 622 Or by E mail: <u>akatme@hotmail.com</u>