Human Rights in Ireland

Hope Project would like to take you through the situation in Ireland of some major areas of rights. First and explanation: we have two Irelands, the leaders/political establishment, what will be referred to as official Ireland and the people. These are very different entities.

**Life**

Official Ireland
- the State has unfortunately allowed the creation of new embryonic humans which has resulted in the stockpiling of them in freezers.
- the State agencies are allowing chemist to sell the Morning after Pill which is a heavy duty medication designed to destroy newly conceived human. This abortificent is even sold over the counter without prescription.

People of Ireland
- We as people love and defend life.
- have the lowest maternal mortality rate in the world and an impressively low infant mortality rate as a result of our respect for life.

**Mental health**

Official Ireland
- legislation still allows ECT and Lobotomy
- the first and in most cases the only publicly available treatment for mental illness is pharmaceuticals with an almost complete lack of alternative. Once people are in the mental health system pharmaceuticals are effectively mandatory with involuntary admission to hospital or constant home surveillance for anyone who refuses them.
- only token public funding is provided for less invasive therapies. Eg. a Cork psychiatrist alleges that there was only one psychologist for 30,000 patients.
- conditions in some of the residential facilities in Ireland are cruel and primitive especially for those disabled by mental health and the treatment they have received and for people who are intellectually impaired and find themselves in mental health services.

The people of Ireland
- campaigns to end legalized ECT and lobotomy are active
- groups like GROW, Mindfreedom, Mad Pride, etc. support and encourage people with mental health issues
- People do recover with the support of family and community but to do so they must struggle against the treatments of “Official Ireland”

**Disability**

Official Ireland
- at every stage the attitude to a person with a disability or their carer is minimalistic. It is as if our government asks itself, “What is the bare minimum we can offer and not be sued or cause a public outcry?” In the area of education,
the State has fought through the courts on many occasions that the person with
disabilities should only be entitled to what is adequate not what is appropriate.
They have also fought to have the sole right to say what is appropriate or
adequate for every person with a disability. Since they have passed two pieces of
disability legislation, one general and one specific to education that make the
state the sole arbiter of needs and services.
-there is gross neglect of persons with special needs that results in a greater
degree of disablement and in some cases ensures that a short term disablement
becomes permanent.
-though there are many people disabled in Ireland allegedly because of State
health policies like vaccination programs, there is not vaccine compensation
program.

The People of Ireland
-throughout the years the people of Ireland have supported people with
disabilities both personally and with their finances. Most disability services,
facilities and organizations are the result of the dedication of people in the
communities through volunteer effort, campaigning and donating.
-if the people had their way, we feel no person would be left behind.

Children
Official Ireland
- Irish governments and State agencies over the last 15 years seems to be mostly
focused on control of children rather than on their true welfare. They will for
example remove children from parents and pay a fortune to foster parents rather
than put even the most basic support in place to enable the parent. On the other
hand State agencies seems to ignore some very bad parenting situations. The
experience of many children in care is scandalous, especially when it comes to
teenagers. Many teenagers allegedly have become drug addicts while in care. The
State seems to want to be seen to meddle in the lives of children and teens with
policies of displacement, medication without consideration for individual
susceptibilities and psycho educational programs in schools without any
consideration of acceptance of consequences.

People of Ireland
-love children and have always placed a high value on them and on their welfare.
In communities, people will watch out for children, fundraising playgrounds,
supporting the local school activities, helping neighboring families. The family
especially in rural areas remains strong and in most cases provides a stable
environment for children.

Elderly
Official Ireland
-falls down in the area of care of elderly both in the support it provides to enable
them to remain independent and in residential care.

People of Ireland
-again there is a great love of the elderly and great support within the family. Where things fall apart is when people do not have family and there can be a problem of isolation and lack of care. Though many communities especially religious groups have outreach to the elderly.

**Sick**
- State policy has closed many local hospitals forcing people in to crowded and distant hospitals. Though this is supposed to create a better medical outcome this has not in many cases been the result.
- EU and Irish government have also been very involved in restricting vitamins, mineral, etc that give people the ability to work on their own health while allowing potentially dangerous prescription medications to be readily available.

People of Ireland - have campaigned for their local hospitals - want to have the options of natural remedies without the overbearing restrictions being currently imposed.

**Family**
Official Ireland
- for decades, government policies have ignored, undercut and put more and more pressure on the family rather than working with and supporting family as the primary unit of society and the best environment for children and other dependents.

People of Ireland - families have done their best to keep going despite government neglect and even harassment.