

Vocabulary

<i>The following words are specific to the context of the programme. Make sure that you are familiar with them before listening.</i>		
Word	Description	Synonym
federal judge	the term federal relates to the central government, in contrast to the local government of individual states in the US. A federal judge is therefore a central government judge	national justice
abortion provider	a medical clinic that offers pregnant women the possibility of having an abortion	abortion clinic
foetal	relating to a foetus which is a human being or animal before birth	prenatal; unborn
reproductive health	physical health relating to the production of offspring (babies) by a sexual or asexual process	sexual health
evangelical right	conservative religious (Christian) groups joined together by similar moral values and political goals	
pro-life movement	groups of people joined together in opposition of women's rights to abortion. Note: <i>pro-choice</i> in contrast advocates women's right to choose abortion	choose life; anti-abortion
conception	the process of a male and a female sex cell joining and causing a baby to start to form	impregnation; fertilisation
civil war	a war fought by different groups of people living in the same country	
watershed	an event or period that represents a big change in how people do or think about something	landmark; milestone
referendum	a vote in which all adult people in a country or an area can give their opinion about an important political question	poll; vote
paramilitary	similar to an army, but not official and sometimes not legal	
MP	Member of Parliament, an elected member of a parliament	
<i>The following words are general in nature. Take note of these to expand your general vocabulary of the English language.</i>		
provisions	(here) statements within a law that something must happen before another thing can happen	conditions; terms
cardiac	relating to the heart or heart disease	heart
sue	to take legal action against a person or organisation, by making a claim for money because of some harm they have caused you	accuse; claim
persecution	unfair or cruel treatment over a long period of time because of race, religion, or political beliefs	oppression; affliction
affront	a remark or action intended to insult someone	insult; indignity
validate	to make something officially acceptable or approved	approve; endorse
partition	the dividing of a country into separate countries or areas of government	divide; separate
assemble	to come together in a single place or bring parts together in a single group	congregate; convene
hostilities	when people are unfriendly and show that they do not like something	antagonism; aggression
resentment	a feeling of anger because you have been forced to accept something that you do not like	animosity; bitterness
apprehensive	feeling worried about something	anxious; fearful

Content questions

USA: Pro-life vs Pro-choice

1. What are the two key provisions of the Texas Heartbeat Act?
2. According to Ashley Garcia, who are the people in control of producing the law?
3. According to Ashley Garcia, what group of people will be particularly affected by the Texas Heartbeat Act? Why this group of people?
4. Brittani Oglesby represents the views of the pro-life movement. What are some of her arguments? In contrast, what is the reasoning of the pro-choice movement.
5. Why are some clinics hesitant to resume abortions after the law was blocked in October?

Kenya: Dealing with discrimination

6. Why was the film *I Am Samuel* banned by Kenya's Film Classification Board?
7. What were Peter Murimi's hopes for the film in terms of what it could achieve?

India: An expensive aff(h)air

8. Not listening to your customers' requests can become expensive for hairdressers. What mistake had the salon in India made with the unnamed model's hair? How much did it cost them?

Jamaica: Rising star

9. Circle whether the statement is TRUE or FALSE
 - a. Jaz Elise was born in Kingston. TRUE/FALSE
 - b. Her involvement in music started when she was four years old. TRUE/FALSE
 - c. She sang at her local church in a children's choir. TRUE/FALSE
 - d. Her musical influences are Ray Stephens and Lennox. TRUE/FALSE

Ireland: Unity is a divider

10. In 1921, Ireland was divided in a treaty that has caused controversy ever since. How was Ireland divided?
11. Explain what the *Troubles* are.
12. According to Karen Cullinane, why are the young people of Ireland lucky?
13. Why would some people be apprehensive about talk of a united Ireland, according to Richard Garland?

Language points

Complete the following idiomatic expressions

14. The new law will come into ... at the end of the year.
 - a. ease
 - b. affect
 - c. effect

15. At the end of the ..., we wouldn't want to change a single thing.
 - a. day
 - b. deal
 - c. dance

16. Coming together in dialogue is a step in the right
 - a. position
 - b. direction
 - c. situation

17. Even though I am happy about your decision, it comes with a sting in the ...
 - a. leg
 - b. tongue
 - c. tail

18. Their shared experience marked a watershed ... in their friendship.
 - a. mile
 - b. moment
 - c. minute

19. It's time we reach out and start ... bridges rather than tearing them down.
 - a. building
 - b. constructing
 - c. arranging

Discussion points

Pro-life vs Pro-choice:

The passing of the Texas Heartbeat Act, and the subsequent blocking of the same have sparked outrage among pro-lifers and pro-choicers alike. Protests and marches organised by members from both groups are taking place in Texas and all across the United States.

- Could you imagine the concept of abortion triggering the same type of reaction in Sweden, with opposing groups coming head to head with each other? Why or why not?
- Who has the right to decide about the life of a foetus? Explain your reasoning.
- One major difference between death and birth, except for the obvious, is that death is absolute – you are either dead or alive. But at what point does an embryo become a human being? At conception? At the first heartbeat? At brain activity? At birth? Or at another point in time?
- Does your answer to the question above influence your opinion about when abortion can or cannot take place, provided that you think it can?

Referendums and political decisions:

Even though the so-called Troubles in Northern Ireland have been less intense since the Good Friday Agreement in 1998, Brexit has revived questions and potential conflict about relations between Ireland and the UK with a particular focus on how the border between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland should be managed. This dilemma along with a younger generation wanting to make a break with its violent past have incited demands for a referendum among some groups.

- Do you think a referendum on a unification between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland would lead to an end to the conflict between the different groups? Why or why not?
- What referendums are you familiar with and how have people dealt with the consequences of them? *Note:* here, you could take inspiration from the whole class or the internet to take inventory of what type of referendums have taken place in Sweden and in Europe in the recent past. *Hint:* there is one mentioned in the introduction to these questions.
- Do you think referendums are good ways of deciding on important political issues? Why or why not? Do you think that politicians should always follow the results of a referendum when deciding on an issue?

Teachers' note

Questions for working with the photo on page 1:

- Describe the scene in the photo to someone who cannot see the same photo as you. What is the atmosphere? Who are the people? What time of day and year is it? Where could it be?
- If you could use only five words about the photo, what would they be?
- If the photo were a poster for a film, what would you call the film?
- If the photo were a scene in a film, what music or song would you use to accompany it?

KEY

1. Suggestion: The key provisions are 1) that abortion providers are prohibited from ending a pregnancy if foetal cardiac activity is detected and 2) that anyone can sue abortion providers and others who help pregnant women to get abortions.
2. Suggestion: Ashley Garcia argues that the law is produced by white, old, conservative men who don't know what it means to carry a child for nine months.
3. Suggestion: Ashley Garcia thinks that the law will affect women of colour particularly as they are statistically most likely to be undocumented and most likely to have a low-income status.
4. Suggestion: Brittani Oglesby argues that a human is a human at conception and that unborn babies are vulnerable and marginalised. When we choose to end their life, we don't see their humanity, she claims. The pro-choice movement argues that women have the right to make decisions about their own bodies.
5. Suggestion: Some clinics are hesitant because it is still unclear if they could be sued in the future if the ban does become law.
6. Suggestion: The film was banned in Kenya because it promotes same-sex marriage which goes against Kenyan legislation. Peter Murimi hoped that it could validate gay people in Kenya and inspire constructive dialogue about LGBTB rights.
7. Suggestion: The salon cut her hair too short and against her instructions. It cost them 270 000 US dollars.
8. a. TRUE
b. FALSE
c. TRUE
d. FALSE
9. Suggestion: Ireland was divided into Northern Ireland, which remained a part of the UK and the Irish Free State, which is now called the Republic of Ireland.
10. Suggestion: The Troubles was the civil war between Protestant and Catholic groups in Northern Ireland who could not agree on the partition of Ireland into Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.
11. Suggestion: Karen Cullinane argues that young people in Ireland are lucky today because all they have ever known is peace and they have a unique opportunity of sitting down with people from traditionally opposing groups to discuss what Irish unity could mean for everyone.
12. Suggestion: Richard Garland argues that there is still a lot of resentment and paramilitary organisations and people who can still feel the loss of loved ones who have died in the conflicts. He contends that it would be difficult to persuade those people that they would be safe in a united Ireland.
13. c. effect
14. a. day
15. b. direction
16. c. tail
17. b. moment
18. a. building