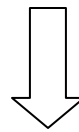
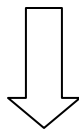


We need a Midwives Act

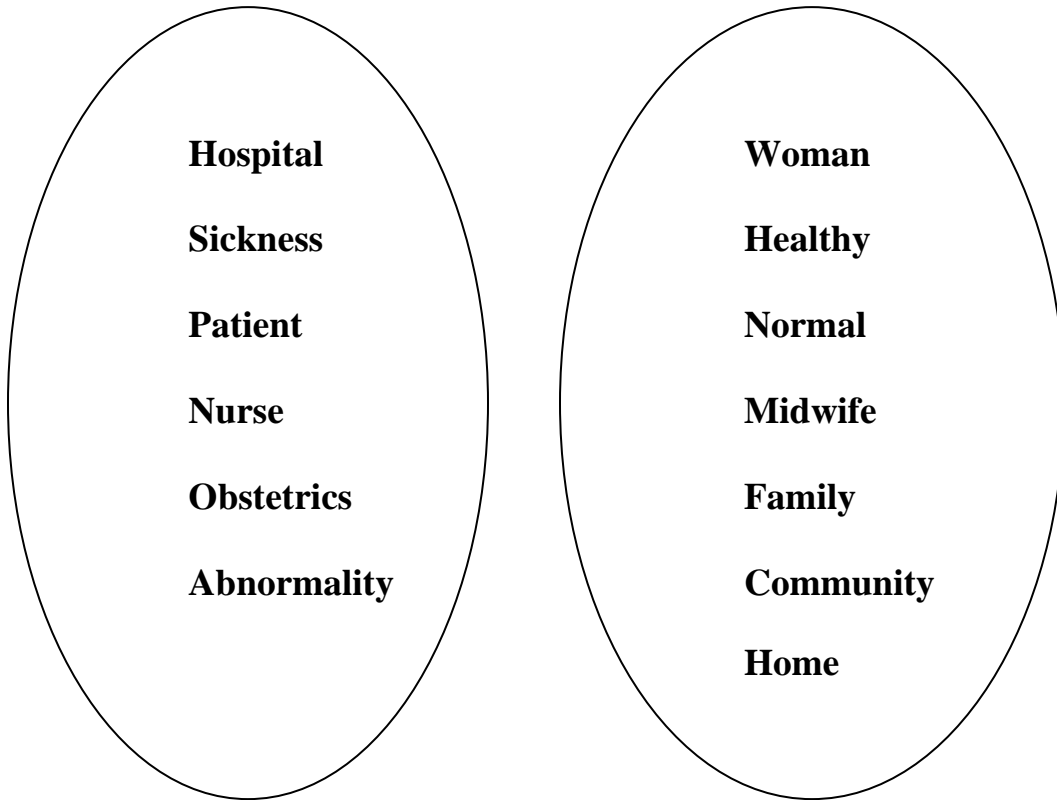
Why ?

Because Pregnancy is not an illness
and Birth is a normal natural event

Pregnancy and Birth
Maternity care Choices *



Available to less than 0.5%
of women in Ireland



Hospitals do not cause health.

Social and maternal health
services, education, housing,
jobs, and equal rights, set the
scene for health.

Hospital based maternity care is not appropriate for everyone, and is unnecessary for most. Centralised, hospitalised birth, leads to increased interventions such as induction of labour and Caesarean birth and reduces healthy choices like breast feeding. Hospitals are overloaded, understaffed and inconvenient.

We will not change the system overnight but a good first step would be to properly recognize the skills and expertise of midwives. The WHO recognizes midwives as the most appropriate professionals to care for women who have an uncomplicated pregnancy.

Midwifery led and women centred care can transform maternity services. Enable midwives to do their job so that better maternity service models can flourish.

The proposed Nurses and Midwives bill is weak, it goes only part of the way to recognizing the invaluable contribution that midwifery makes to the future health of the nation.

Help give women what they want for birth, by supporting strong legislation for midwives.

* for more information www.childbirthchoicesireland.com