

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into End of Life Choices

Mr Brian Andrews

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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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TERMS OF REFERENCE (3): Change of legislation.

I believe that the individual should have more personal freedom in making the decision to terminate his/her life, and that willing members of the medical profession should be legally permitted to assist. In my opinion, outside forces (e.g. religious groups/beliefs) have far too much influence in this very personal matter.

I frequently read how medical and pension costs for the aged are rising, and that the percentage of aged persons in the population is growing. In my opinion, it is ridiculous that those older persons who actually wish to die should not be allowed to, and be assisted to do so in a civilized fashion.

I would suggest that an age factor be considered, for example that the laws be different for persons over a certain age, perhaps 65 or 70. I do not believe that terminal illness should be an absolute requirement of the right to request euthanasia. If and when I reach a time that I feel that my life is complete, and that I no longer wish to load the planet and other people with my presence, it is my intention, one way or another, to terminate my life. I would prefer a dignified, rapid and painless death rather than the other options.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Andrews.