

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into End of Life Choices

Ms Judith Miles

## SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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Current legislation is not adequately meeting people's needs regarding their fundamental right to be able to plan for the end of their lives in a way that is reliable, peaceful and at a time of their choosing.

Laws allowing for assisted suicide must be passed to prevent unbearable suffering and to remove the threat of imprisonment for all involved.

The decision to end one's life is surely a very personal one - a decision which deserves protection from interference or punishment by those with differing views.

A clear majority of people, particularly those over 50 years of age, support assisted suicide. Their Government should be the author of reforms so strongly supported by its constituents, not the last opponents.

Government would not be pioneering such reform. Legislation has been enacted in similar constituencies whose Governments have understood and responded to the wishes of their electorates.

On a more personal note, I am not a young person and quite simply, I want to live as long as I want to, and when I no longer want to live, I want access to a speedy death preferably with someone I love with me. If I'm able, I want to make that decision myself, however, I also want to specify what decision I would like made if I am unable to make such a decision myself. Really, we rattle on about the rights of the individual - surely this is a rather important one - it's my life and I want a say in how I end it! I also want to be able to be there for the people I love if they need me to be with them when they decide to die.

I'm sure my preferred manner of exit would be more economical to the public purse than my current options.