

It is beyond comprehension that over 80% of the population continue to be denied their Right to a Dignified Death at their chosen time.

I joined Exit International after my husband died of cancer in 1996, & have since joined the Voluntary Euthanasia Party & Christians for VE, in an effort to assist in the desperate bid to have VE legalised.

In the intervening years I have regularly visited beloved relatives – Stepmother & Aunt - in Nursing Homes. My Aunt suffered the indignities of dependence on staff & myself for 8 years, & my dear Stepmother for 6 years. The two terms coincided, in different Nursing Homes, so it was an emotional, stressful & frustrating time for me.

Both were mentally alert until shortly before their deaths at 91 (Stepmother) & 99.1/2 (Aunt). Despite having deep religious convictions, my Stepmother became extremely emotional at each visit, truthfully stating she was only waiting there to die & wishing she could choose her own way out.

I also fail to understand the concern over legal issues when, to the best of my knowledge, Switzerland, Holland, parts of America etc. have not experienced any legal challenges in all the years they have conducted euthanasia. It would therefore seem prudent to conduct VE in Australia under their guidelines.

Once Quality of Life is lost, there is absolutely no reason to linger & suffer pain &/or the many indignities of being dependent upon others.

Please accept this submission in support of legalising voluntary euthanasia and medically assisted dying as an “end of life” choice in Victoria.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Joyce Wall

[Redacted Signature]