

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into End of Life Choices

Ms Jan Barrington

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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I fully support palliative care which aims to improve the quality of life of people with terminal illnesses by managing pain and distressing symptoms at their end of life. I believe that euthanasia and assisted suicide are not medical options and should never be made law.

We need to protect the vulnerable members of our society. Indeed, a community development committee report on the need for legislation on voluntary euthanasia in Tasmania found that the legalisation of voluntary euthanasia would pose a serious threat to the more vulnerable members of society and that the obligation of the state to protect all its members equally would outweigh the individual's freedom to choose voluntary euthanasia.

I would urge the Victorian government to put more effort into ensuring that all Victorians have access to the best palliative care at the end-of-life.