From: Inquiry into End of Life Choices POV eSubmission Form

To: LSIC

Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into End of Life Choices

Date: Tuesday, 14 July 2015 9:24:30 PM

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into End of Life Choices

Mrs Kerri Laidlaw



SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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My sister was diagnosed with breast cancer at age 25. By 39 she had died of secondary cancer undetected but assumed to be numerous small tumours throughout her abdomen.

She exhibited "Ascites" the build up of fluid between the organs in her body that could only be drained at a rate of 2 litres per week to avoid her body going into shock. Needless to say the fluid built up faster than it could be drained. The ascites was literally crushing her organs. She blew up like a nine month pregnancy. She suffered vomiting and difficulty breathing, apart from the obvious discomfort of suddenly being in the later stages of pregnancy. Her doctor could find no Chemotherapy that would make any creditable difference to her state. She was dying. At first she refused drug treatment to ease her pain. I advised her that it would be impossible for her to be administered a lethal dose if she refused all drugs and suggested she just keep asking for more pain relief. Her new Doctor, a good Catholic, believed that "nature should take it's course". I challenged him as to why she was being administered saline via a drip if her issue was fluid retention. The next day the drip was gone. She hung on for 8 weeks. every time she awoke from the drugs her eyes would cast around the room and she would breathe a heavy sigh, realising she was still alive. When nurses asked would she like anything, she replied " A lethal dose?" It was akin to torture her being kept alive. She wanted to die. She was declared "incurable". Her life was pointless. She had said all of her goodbyes. Nothing could be done but she was left to suffer in the name of good medicine. She and I have always been firm supporters of euthanasia. To add insult to injury my parents were left with significant medical bills for her torture and for "nature to take it's course" IT IS INHUMAN TO KEEP ALIVE A PERSON WITH NO HOPE!

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File1:

File2:

File3: