

**From:** [Inquiry into End of Life Choices POV eSubmission Form](#)  
**To:** [LSIC](#)  
**Subject:** New Submission to Inquiry into End of Life Choices  
**Date:** Wednesday, 15 July 2015 3:46:32 PM

---

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into End of Life Choices

Mr Joel Murray  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

## **SUBMISSION CONTENT:**

--

To Whom It May Concern:

I think this is a very important committee inquiry for the people of Victoria, as it provides the opportunity to discuss the various ways in which people will be able to have the individual choice to their end of life wishes. I believe that it is choice that provides people autonomy and freedom, and that the role of government should not be in legislating for a particular moral cause.

This submission is about my support voluntary assisted dying.

I am of the view that potential legislation to legalise voluntary assisted dying should include the following provisions:

1. That the person seeking a voluntary assisted death consult two practicing medical professionals and that they agree that the person is suffering from an incurable or extremely painful disease and is making the decision to die on a voluntary basis.

It is important to ensure that a person is not being coerced. The first medical professional should have known the person for a determined period of time. The second opinion should be a professional who is not known to the person and vice versa. I do not believe that a person suffering from incurable long term depression/suicidal attempts should be excluded from accessing a voluntary assisted death and that guidelines are developed in consultation with mental health professionals.

2. That a cooling off period of ten days or more exist. This is to ensure that a person given the 'green light' has the opportunity to reflect on their decision before enacting upon their decision to die. Where voluntary assisted dying or euthanasia is legal overseas, the majority of people do not end up accessing a voluntary assisted death once given the 'green light'.

3. Provisions for voluntary assisted dying should be made so that a person can

safeguard their future wishes through means such as advanced directions.

4. That the age of consent to access a voluntary assisted death be along the same lines as the age of consent for sex, that is, 16.

--

File1:

File2:

File3: