

From: [Frank Reale](#)
To: [LSIC](#)
Subject: Inquiry into Euthanasia and Palliative Care
Date: Friday, 24 July 2015 4:43:49 PM

I am making a submission into the above inquiry.

I urge that euthanasia not be enacted into law for the following reasons:-

1. The objective of medical practice is to promote life, not destroy it.
2. The practice of euthanasia can be abused for pragmatic reasons (e.g. financial costs to society, freeing up medical resources), and lives can be and in fact are sometimes wilfully destroyed prematurely where euthanasia has been legalised. Human life is precious, and should not be subject to pragmatism.
3. People may be placed under pressure to undergo euthanasia by parties with a vested interest, e.g. relatives who are burdened by their illness, and relatives who want to gain an inheritance quickly.
4. People may be placed under pressure to undergo euthanasia because they themselves feel they are a burden to society and their relatives, and suffer a sense of guilt.
5. People may be distressed by the pain they are undergoing and may make an adverse premature decision, when courses of action to manage the pain, or new medical procedures may be available. Even when an illness is terminal, good palliative care can help people approach death in a relatively painless and dignified manner without resort to the wilful taking of life.

Because of the above, I urge that more resources be directed to palliative care. This may be to establish more palliative care centres, more and better trained staff, and more research into the care of terminally ill patients.

Yours Sincerely
Frank Reale

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]