

From: [Peter Tung](#)
To: [LSIC](#)
Subject: Fwd: End of Life Inquiry
Date: Friday, 24 July 2015 5:00:19 PM

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Subject: End of Life Inquiry
Date: Thu, 23 Jul 2015 21:05:20 +1000
From: Peter Tung [REDACTED]
To: lsic@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Sir

I am a medical practitioner with over 40 years of experience.

I find it unconscionable that any medical practitioner should be called on to end a person's life. This is a role that has traditionally been held by executioners, Mafia hitmen, the military, reckless drivers and similar types of people. There is no shortage of people who can play that role, and doctors do not need to be involved.

Furthermore, any law that allows medically assisted dying has been found to be very difficult for non-legally trained people to follow, and leaves the medical practitioner open to prosecution. Therefore the legal decision to end the life of a person should rest on the legal profession, not the medical one. Therefore it should be up to the judges and magistrates (excuse my poor knowledge of the exact terms to use here) to adjudicate on each case and pronounce the legality of ending life in each particular case where it is called for. After all, it is not long ago that these same judges pronounced the death sentence on people who deserved it in the eyes of the law, and this is simply an extension of that power, only now being used to allow a requested death rather than enforce an unwilling death. This would make the judges' task that much easier to bear.

I hope that this very reasonable course of action can be made into law.

Yours sincerely

Peter Tung, MBBS, FRACS
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[REDACTED]