From: Bryan Hodgson

To: LSIC

Subject: End of Life Choices

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It has always seemed most illogical for Governments to complain long and loud about the costs of health care whilst at the same time doing whatever they can to keep people alive for longer and longer periods with not only escalating health costs to consider but also Centrelink pensions etc,.

At the same time there are thousands in the population who would be happy to escape from the sometimes agonising pain of their illnesses who are unable to do so because they are not able to do so under present legislation; and yet if a dog is in pain, a visit to the vet costing \$100 or so will put him out of his misery....lucky dog, say I.

I am suffering from heart troubles, having undergone a triple bypass operation and am awaiting an Aortic Valve implantation, and at the same time I have multiple myeloma (bone marrow cancer ) and prostate cancer, and at the age of 81 the logic, the ethics of keeping me alive at huge cost to the taxpayer are not only immense but inexplicable. The pain spreads further if my wife in her '70s if to be burdened by having to wash, bathe, feed me etc or face nursing home costs which will exhaust her financial resources quickly.

Since I read that some 80% of people approve voluntary euthanasia, Christian bodies included, surely it is time we followed the examples of more enlightened countries around the world, Canada have recently approved legislation as have a growing number of States in America and in other European countries. Though of course, to obtain relief in those countries one has to be a resident, Switzerland being the only exception.

I hope the voice of reason will prevail but fear it may be too late for me, but thank you for whatever can be done to at least allow anyone in a terminal situation to take their own action to resolve their problem. Thank you

Robert Hodgson