

From: [cathi](#)
To: [LSIC](#)
Subject: End of life decisions
Date: Sunday, 26 July 2015 2:57:33 PM
Attachments: [VE lobbying 11.10.2010.docx](#)

Submission to Victorian Parliamentary enquiry.

Hello, the attached was written some years ago, but I submit it now because nothing has changed.

Although it was written for South Australian members of parliament, I prefer to submit it as is.

I continue to work in an MPs office, and the phone call I cite in this letter still sticks firmly in my mind.

Future generations will regard us as barbarians for what we allow to happen now.

Kind regards.

Cathi Tucker

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Monday, 11 October 2010

Dear Member,

Over many years of working in an MP's office, one phone call sticks firmly in my mind. It was from a widow who lived in a working-class suburb of Adelaide; she had been prompted by media discussion on a voluntary euthanasia bill to call an MP for the first time in her life.

Her husband had died in a caring hospice in Adelaide. Towards the end of his life he had beckoned her close to him and in his weakened state had whispered to her: **'They say they can take away your pain, but don't believe them, they can't'.**

Whether his own choice would have been voluntary euthanasia I do not know, her choice for herself certainly would be, and she wanted to see the law passed so that people like her late husband could have that choice.

We all have our own beliefs, views and attitudes. If I disagree with you I may protest, but in doing so I do not take away from you the right to make your own decisions about how you live your life. As an elected MP you are not there purely to serve your own purpose in passing judgement on the community, but to pass good law for the benefit of the people of South Australia.

My choice is that, should I ever need to avail myself of it, voluntary euthanasia that is safe, legal, accessible and with adequate safeguards be there as an option for me. You choose your way, that's fine, but don't deny me the option to opt out of unbearable suffering should that ever befall me.

Lead the way SA, **freedom to choose the end of life that I want is all I ask.**

Yours sincerely,

Cathi Tucker

