

From: [Inquiry into End of Life Choices POV eSubmission Form](#)
To: [LSIC](#)
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into End of Life Choices
Date: Monday, 27 July 2015 7:12:47 AM

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into End of Life Choices

Mrs Helen James
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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Thank you for the opportunity to present my point of view.

I am an active carer for my husband with terminal Fronto Temporal Dementia (Semantid and Behavioural Variants). He has been living with this for 10 years and slowly declining and has been transitioned to a high care facility. He is in the advanced stages of his dementia, and has no quality of life at all, cannot engage in conversation or communicate. He has behavioural issues and needs assistance with all aspects of his existence as well as being heavily medicated to be managed.

Dementia robs the person with dementia of any dignity and is heartbreaking for families to watch the decline.

I support assisted dying with dignity in situations as this, as long as there is an advanced care directive and all the boxes can be ticked.

I understand nothing can be done for my husband (but I do know he would support my comments if he had a choice), but if I have a diagnosis such as he has, I certainly would not wish to continue living in this way and would want to be able to have the choice to end my life, as per my end of life directive.

Until one walks in the shoes of a Carer and observes these once able, beautiful people struggling daily, or sleeping, it is almost impossible to understand.

I would prefer the expenses which would keep me alive to be directed towards helping people who have an opportunity to improve their lives to their best potential, rather than prolonging my life unnecessarily.

I know it will be difficult to resolve the dementia area, because of definitions, with the dementia person having no capacity to make their own decision at the end of their life, but there has to be a way around this.

I also suggest members of the Parliamentary Committee visit a high care

dementia specific facility for a couple of days, 24/7 to witness first hand the struggles of these beautiful people. This is not living.

Thank you for your time.

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File1:

File2:

File3: