

From: [Inquiry into End of Life Choices POV eSubmission Form](#)
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Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into End of Life Choices
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Inquiry Name: Inquiry into End of Life Choices

Mrs. Maureen Scarlett
[REDACTED]

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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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My mother died nearly 21 years ago from Liver Cancer. She was treated in Hospital and we were able to take her home to die. It was her wish. My mother was a widow living with me her daughter and my family. My mother and I are Irish and as such as a child I remember seeing my grandad in his coffin and taking the kids in the street up for a sneak peek when the adults were in the parlour drinking at the Wake. Being poor, grandad was not sent off to the funeral parlour to be prepared for his burial, my nan did this herself with the help of family members. So with this being my family history helping my mum to die here in Australia preparing her for her burial was a very natural thing for me to do.

Having said this 21 years ago there was no talk amongst any of us at home about dying with or without dignity even when Mum was conscious but dying. We had the palliative care nurse come to give morphine injections but when she became critical we could not contact her own GP but we were very fortunate that our own GP came. He assessed her situation and gave us two alternatives 1. the hospital that would keep her alive on a drip till the end which he said would not be a kindness OR 2. put her on a morphine pump which would slow all vital organs until she passed away later that evening.

Ofcourse We took the later option. WE TOOK THE LATER OPTION not my mum who by then was out to it as I have said on morphine injections.

I do not want this to happen to me. I don't want my family to be put in that same position. I want instead for my children to know whilst I am healthy and living an active life how I want to die, when I want to die, how much or how little medical intervention I want depending on why I am going to die or even live in a very vegetative or very disabled state and I want this all to happen within a humane law that will give me the control in the way I die for when all is said and done the last thing I will have control over in my life when I am dying is for me to decide when the time has come to die and to die with dignity whether I do this consciously or whether it is carried out by others legally as per my wishes in my Living Will which I hope will become law before I reach this final stage of my life.

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File1:

File2:

File3: