

From: [Kathie Williamson](#)
To: [LSIC](#)
Subject: Palliative care and end of life.
Date: Monday, 27 July 2015 5:27:53 PM

To whom it concerns.

I have my own story to tell. Our daughter was diagnosed with a brain tumour at the end of November 2014. We were told a two year life expectancy which was shock enough in itself. Dawn was 27.

The tumour was over her brain stem and cerebella.....so surgery was not an option. We endured 3 weeks of radio therapy but unhappily it did nothing. We ended with 5 months.

Dawn was admitted to the hospice in Bendigo when I could no longer care for her at her home. After she had been in the hospice about 10 days, my husband and I were pulled aside in the corridor and told that Dawn could not stay in the hospice and we needed to take her home with a hoist and a bed chair or put her in a nursing home. Then I was told that we would have to sell her home to pay the ingoings.

I had already promised my girl that I would not do that. We had it all in place to take her home..... hospital bed, hoist, shower chair and so forth. Dawn was due to go home on Wednesday, but happily for Dawn, she died on the Tuesday night. While she was alert and sending text messages right to the end, the tumour had taken her ability to walk, made her incontinent and was taking her sight, hearing and swallow reflex.....

So, my concern is that Bendigo has a 10 bed facility that is supposed to cater for such a large area and thousands of people.

The other part of this was a nursing home for a 27 year old!!!!!!.....so little in the way of any facilities for young people who are disabled and even less for those unfortunate enough to need hospice/end of life care.

As for euthanasia, I can see so many problems with people dying because they can't see a way out of their problems.....yes....I just did a course on suicide..... greedy relatives seeing it as a soft option..... not to mention I have a very deep faith that says our times are in God's hands. Happily Dawn had a deep faith too and was not at all worried about dying and we have the hope of seeing her in Heaven.....she'll be waiting at the gate.

So... a mixed bag for you to pick apart, but at least I have had my say.

Yours sincerely Kathie Williamson. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Anything else you need to verify me? I will be happy to supply.