

Annemarie Burt

From: Pam Sumpter [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 28 July 2015 5:55 PM
To: LSIC
Subject: Submission to committee/ enquirey into end of life choices

In 2001 my beautiful mum tragically suicided after losing her life partner, my dad to cancer. She saw no point in continuing her life and took the risky option to drive over a cliff with her seatbelt wrapped around her arm and her wallet for identification. She was 82 years of age. She and Dad had been long supporters of euthenasia as they watched my grandmother linger without life quality in an institution for years with dementia, dying at 86.

In 2014, my sister in-law died after many years from alzheimers disease. She spent her final years in a high care aged facility unable to communicate or care for herself. This beautiful, vital and vivacious woman passed away a mere husk of her original self, which was heartbreaking for her family and close friends to witness. She was aged 77.

In 2013 my wonderful husband, aged 68, her younger brother was also diagnosed with alzheimers disease, he is in the early stages and undergoing trials and treatment to attempt all that is available for his situation.

He is adamant that if all fails he wants to be in control of the time and how he wishes to die. He does not want to end his life in a high care institution with no quality of life. Our children and I fully support him in his wishes.

I believe that there has to be a choice available for people in my husbands situation, it is cruel and intolerant of our lawmakers and politicians not to see this as an urgent issue that needs addressing. There is great support in the wider community. I believe that community attitudes in support of euthenasia are far more advanced than the understanding and empathy of many politicians.

I am committed to do what ever possible to progress the acceptance of euthenasia as an option for those who wish to end their lives in dignity and full control of ther personal situation

Pamela Sumpter
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