From: Graham Nerlich

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To: LSIC

Subject: Voluntary euthanasia

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I write to support a change in the law to allow a suitably guarded form of voluntary euthanasia. It is strongly endorsed in the community. It permits escape in the case of those end of life occasions where acute suffering beyond the reach of palliative care becomes a terrible burden. It would remove a reason for premature unskilled unassisted suicide in such cases. It would remove a cruel dilemma from doctors and nurses. Most opposition to new legislation is dogmatic and bigoted. Overseas models in Switzerland and Holland have been successful: e.g. they have sound safeguards and have reduced premature suicide among those take that step because they fer that later it may be beyond their competence.

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