



29th July, 2015

Lilian Topic, Secretary,
Legal & Social Issues Committee,
Parliament House,
Spring Street,
Melbourne, Vic 3002

to the Enquiry into End of Life Choices

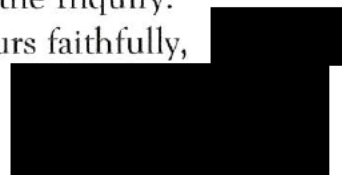
I submit that no law in Victoria should allow a citizen to end his /her life or permit any other person to assist in such a process.

1. Under a law allowing assisted suicide, doctors are the persons most likely to be called upon to assist in the suicide, yet their life's work aims to preserve life. Here we have a conflict of interest. This would place a heavy burden of guilt on doctors, especially when the request for suicide was apposed to the advice which their conscience dictated they should offer.

2. A law allowing the option to end one's life immediately raises questions: Where do you draw the line? How do you police the law? Experience in countries foolish enough to try such a law shows that choices can easily expand beyond what the legislation allows. And how can frail elderly be protected from persons pressuring them into believing that assisted suicide was the best way forward for them?

I do not wish to make a submission in person to the Inquiry.

Yours faithfully,



F.R.Fogarty
Retired Primary Teacher & School Principal