From:	Inquiry into End of Life Choices POV eSubmission Form
	<cso@parliament.vic.gov.au></cso@parliament.vic.gov.au>
Sent:	Sunday, 23 August 2015 10:21 AM
То:	LSIC
Subject:	New Submission to Inquiry into End of Life Choices

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into End of Life Choices

Mr Michael Smith

## SUBMISSION CONTENT:

---

Death IS NOT a solution to the variety of difficulties that we experience as we age.

To accept that a person's "end of life" can be safely assessed on the basis of "guidelines" supported by "competent medical examination" is a direct denial of our human limitation to see beyond a condition that is evident at that moment.

In our care of elderly parents, friends with dementia, all who have had operations ranging from bypass surgery, double hip replacements and strokes; we have found that in all their difficulties they have enriched and encouraged us with their wisdom, life experience and advice with our lives. Our friends with dementia, whilst unable to recall our names would always enjoy our company. To have accepted the "end of Life" criteria as applying to their lives at the moment of their profound difficulties would have denied them the opportunity to give something of their life experience to us.

The sanctioning of euthanasia by legislation is a denial of the right that every human being has to a NATURAL death. The provision of legislation gives, in a practical sense, rise to a coercive attitude by medical staff in hospitals and nursing homes to families and friends of the elderly when they are facing the challenges of aging. The legislation will never provide the safeguard against those who seek to financially benefit from the death of an elderly relative or friend.

Only a NATURAL death affords a person the assurance they have accomplished all they can in this life. We need to acknowledge that through our human limitations we DO NOT have the mastery and competency over death to justly enact legislation that would follow from the "End of Life Choices" parliamentary enquiry. To promote death as a solution to elderly afflictions has a connection to our younger members of society who when troubled by any variety of mental health and other physical afflictions will find this as an endorsement to end their life.

Natural death is the most positive "End of life Choice" that we as a society should embrace without

1 1 of 2 --

File1:

File2:

File3: