From: Inquiry into End of Life Choices POV eSubmission Form

To: LSIC

Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into End of Life Choices

Date: Thursday, 27 August 2015 11:10:03 AM

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into End of Life Choices

Mr Gary McNamara



SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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As a husband of women who has MS since she was 30, a brother with cancer, a mother with bowel cancer and another who died at 40 of complications associated with complete renal failure the right to choose end of life strategies is forefront in my mind.

During the last two years I have been aware of 3 situations in my extended family where the decision to remove life support and extensive expensive intensive care were faced. The first,my wife's father pulled through and is alive and well but the memory of how traumatic the treatment was has coloured my view. The second,my Uncle was a sudden road trauma where he remained aware of his situation long enough allow his family to make their farewells. The thing third was my Auntie a stroke victim but in her life a long time healthcare professional closely engaged with the elderly and dying, though grief remains the wish and the choice was exercised respectfully.

On this issue I see no place for moral groups, I see no role for academic medical practitioners to test the boundaries of what they can do, I only see individual choice and the enormous opportunity cost of prolonging life and in doing so denying better health opportunity's to others.

I only ask that in mandating a format for end of life choices it be required for a clause specifically affirming or refusing organ donation to be compulsory.

File1:

File2:

File3: