

Ms Lilian Topic,

Submission 889

Secretary,

Legal & Social Issues Committee,

Parliament House,

Spring St,

Melbourne.

VIC 3002

Wed 26th Aug 2015

Dear Ms Topic,

I wish to make a submission to the End-of-Life Parliamentary Enquiry.

The matters of prostitution and abortion are not pleasant to talk about but since these matters have been legalized with certain safeguards and controls, life in Victoria is a lot more civilized with less police corruption and "backyarders" performing a necessary service to the community. Now women can have abortions in safety!

I believe that someone with an incurable ailment and particularly in pain should be given the opportunity to die peacefully if that is their desire. People should not be forced against their will to undergo palliative care which simply prolongs the inevitable and frequently does not alleviate the suffering because not enough drugs are administered otherwise they would cause death. Stop unnecessary suffering!

The only way out at present is (if capable) to eg., shoot oneself, jump off a high structure or put one's neck on a railway line hoping the train does a proper job - It is a disgrace that people are forced to think of these things to bring relief to themselves. Not so long ago suicide was regarded as a crime. What rubbish!

Sometime ago I was very close to death with a serious heart problem and the specialist said there was a 1 in 5 chance of dying as a result of the operation. He was perfectly understanding when I said "That is a good way to go". If I had not pulled through I would not know about it. I look forward to the day when Australia follows other countries with medically assisted dying. To those who want it.

Sincerely,

JOHN MATHIAS