

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [LSIC](#)  
**Subject:** Re:Euthanasia debate  
**Date:** Monday, 31 August 2015 12:33:34 PM

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Lilian Topic  
 Secretary  
 The Legal and Social Issues Committee

Dear Madam,

- As a nurse and working in residential aged care I am a witness of a care business with systemic emphasis on how to maximize business profit with minimum expenditure for the welfare of vulnerable people.  
We do not need any legislative change to allow assisted suicide or euthanasia. Instead we need improved and accessible palliative care for all who need it. According to Dr Rachel Carling-Jenkins MLC in a speech to the Legislative Council on 14 April 2015, less than 50% of people who want palliative care can access it.

- We don't want euthanasia as it opposes the right to life of everyone, especially the most vulnerable. As we age we become more vulnerable and sensitive to our environment we live in. We need more love and acceptance of our vulnerability when we become older, ill or disabled. This is best accomplished in family environment/proper palliative care therefore the government have to work to create true support of our families ,current structure support through various not for profit organizations does not work. These organizations manipulate the government subsidies to develop diversified business and trickle little care to those whose need it most.

A license to kill is bad public policy. It creates groups of people whose lives are deemed "not worth living. "By introducing public killing policy we will undermine confidence in our medical ,judicial and all other social and legal structures as they will be all subjected to acts of discrimination and corruption.

- People, who do not want to die, will be killed. Inevitably such policy brings into mind Nazi Germany policy of elimination of vulnerable citizens as they were viewed a burden to the society We already have financial and emotional elder abuse and this opens the door to the ultimate in elder abuse.  
The most vulnerable people in our community may be coerced or pressured to "stop being a burden" on others or the health system.
- As a nurse I witnessed people viewed as unresponsive and ""Looking peacefully"" but these people were grabbing my hand and tried to kiss it when I comforted them. Current medical knowledge about our body is still minimal still based on probability therefore Euthanasia undermines medical research.

Autonomy is important but never absolute. Assisted suicide and euthanasia affects the family and community, not just the person who suicides. Euthanasia changes the public conscience.

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Euthanasia violates medical ethics – “First do no harm.” It upends the role of the doctor as healer and carer, doing what is in the best interests of the patient, not the hospital or health budget.

Overseas in the Netherlands and Belgium, the slippery slope has extended euthanasia to children and those with mental health issues. Any safeguards have failed.

Please take into consideration my objection to euthanasia ,lets built our society based on Joy of Life, Respect, Love and support for each other.

Thank you for your attention

Krystyna Wielechowska

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