

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [LSIC](#)  
**Subject:** Inquiry Name - Inquiry into End of Life Choices - Submission by Bruce Trousdell  
**Date:** Thursday, 13 August 2015 5:17:40 PM

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## SUBMISSION CONTENT

I am a resident of the Australian Capital Territory –

I feel very strongly that laws allowing for the terminally ill to have the option of seeking and obtaining assistance to die should be enacted in all States

This is an issue supported by the Greens in the ACT and they are working toward achieving this outcome.

Some years ago my 89 yro mother in law contracted bowel cancer.

She was in severe unbearable pain, and had other health issues, so she declined any operation. She couldn't eat. She was given morphine, ice blocks to suck, and took about 10 days to die slowly. In her final days she lost her sight.

Every day, for the 10 days, my wife and her brother took turns to be by her side 24/7.

It was something I would not like to see again.

I believe it is an important human right to be able to determine how and when one wants to die. It shouldn't be decided by others.

All polls taken in the last decade show over 75% of adults believe that the terminally should be able to seek and obtain assistance to die.

As you are no doubt aware euthanasia is legal in the Netherlands Belgium, Columbia ,Luxenberg Assistance to die is also available in Switzerland, Germany, Japan ,Albania and in the United States, in Washington, Oregon, Vermont, New Mexico, and Montana.

If the terminally ill were legally able to obtain the assistance to die that many desperately desire than the Government health budget would also substantially benefit.

I would hope that you will check yourselves how legalised assistance to die has progressed in other countries.

I think none have sought to revoke the legislation.

I sincerely hope the Victorian government decides to legislate and pass this reform, then hopefully other States will follow.

Bruce Trousdell

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Inquiry into End of Life Choices  
**Date:** Thursday, 13 August 2015 6:43:20 PM

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## SUBMISSION CONTENT

I believe that a person who is terminally ill should be able to obtain assistance to die peacefully at a time of their choosing.

Currently there is no legislation in any state of Australia that permits this.

Laws allowing for assisted suicide must be passed to prevent unbearable suffering, and to remove the threat of imprisonment for all involved.

All opinion polls taken by reputable polling agencies show there is over 75% public support for laws to be enacted.

Euthanasia and assistance to die has been legalised in a number of countries –

The Netherlands, Belgium, Colombia, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Germany, Japan, Albania,

In the United States – Washington, Oregon, Vermont, New Mexico, Montana

About ten years ago my mother-in-law died with bowel cancer – She was in her late 80's and had other health conditions too so surgery

was declined. She would have chosen assistance to die a peaceful and quicker death if the option was available.

She died slowly of starvation over a period of 10 days and in her final days was blind. She was given ice to suck on, and morphine for pain relief.

My wife and her brother took turns of being by her side 24/7 for the whole period of her dying.

I think in the 21<sup>st</sup> century it is terrible that we are not a more compassionate and enlightened.

If the terminally ill was able to die legally with assistance at a time of their choosing, it would also have a beneficial effect in reducing Government health care costs.

I sincerely hope that the Victorian Government does legislate to allow assistance to die for the terminally ill.

Bruce Trousdell