Inquiry Name: Inquiry into End of Life Choices

Mrs Carol McLennan

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

Once again I am visiting a friend who is in palliative care. This is the 7th person (including my Mother and Aunt) who I have had to witness dying in this undignified and inhumane system. It is usually a painful and humiliating experience for the patient and a devastating experience for the friends and family watching their loved ones losing their faculties attached to numerous tubes and machines and gasping for breath day after day until they eventually succumb to their illness. When is the legislation going to reflect the wishes of most people to be able to die in dignity. It is also ridiculous that two Australian states have already legislated for appropriate Euthanasia practices and that the Federal Government have overturned their legislation. Euthanasia has been practised in the Netherlands very successfully and humanely for over 30 years why is this not available for Australians.
I implore you to hold a referendum to calculate how many Australians are in favour of Euthanasia and if as I suspect the support is overwhelming change the legislation so that Euthanasia is a Federal law and applicable to any State that my wish to adopt these practices.

Carol McLennan, 30/06/2015