Inquiry Name: Inquiry into End of Life Choices

Miss Andrea Griffith

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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I wish to request most emphatically that individuals be allowed to be treated differently instead of the current one-size-fits-all baloney that is the current vogue.

I have heard the story that euthanasia is unnecessary because of advances in palliative care. I have not heard much less uninformed balderdash (although there is some). I for one am unable to take advantage of analgesics. I do not react to most medications as expected; in fact analgesics make my already considerable pain worse. I don't need that.

If you wish to be stuck in a bed, tied down with tubes in your arms, legs and all bodily orifices, you're out of your mind, but it's your mind and body, go ahead. Just allow me the same consideration that I DO NOT wish any of that and would much prefer to be dead.

Shane Watson (OK, no longer plays for Victoria) is currently pushing awareness of MND, an indescribably vile illness which decreases a person's ability to swallow along with many other dreadful symptoms. Pain involved with this is not the only issue, it is the degradation of the human being who is left with the only option, in order to keep them "alive" - not a life in my opinion - of having food forced down a tube lodged in their throat, and evacuating similarly via tubes as their muscles no longer perform properly. I in some ways admire the people who have to do that, feeding and cleaning up after such a person is not something I would care to do, and do not care to have done for me: let me die instead, there is enough cruelty in this world without keeping alive human beings who have no wish to continue their lives.

I watched my grandmother scream for Jesus to take her for 10 of the 13 long months it took her to die. The other 3 were just too painful for me to watch, I couldn't bear her misery and pain. So much for your assertions about palliative care.

It makes it even more important for me to have as much control as possible over
the timing of my demise. I not only have a poorly functioning, painful body, I also have the mental torture of some inkling of how much worse it can get, from watching my grandmother. That in itself is a terrible burden to me. None of her offspring benefitted from her death financially; we all benefitted from knowing she was no longer in pain and degradation.

I don't believe death is the enemy, I believe it is a joyous thing, and I have my reasons for doing so. I don't care if you think I'm nuts, I think wanting to live in a pain-wracked, joyless body is nuts, and the FACT is, you will die anyway, that is the one thing that is unavoidable; why prolong the inevitable?

I think the instance of relatives killing off a rich but ill person is not nearly as prevalent as is commonly believed. I think it is ridiculous to make 10,000 poor people who want to die suffer for every rich person who dies "early" because of grasping heirs. Quite frankly, if that's all the use they have for me, good riddance to them and the ailing body!

I do not believe the various Churches have any right to tell me what to do with my body, or soul. They have systematically abused children for decades if not centuries which abolishes any rights they have to comment on anyone's life, much less someone suffering. What about the sure and unending belief in life everlasting? Or the total belief in Jesus' forgiveness? They don't even believe their own scriptures! How dare they try to enforce them on me?!

Please, please accept that not everyone has larceny in their hearts when they help a desperately ill person to die. Not everyone experiences the joy of life, or believes that life is a gift that must be accepted no matter how untenable it becomes. There are different aspects to compassion, and I believe compassion is to be valued above any $ figure.

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File1: 

File2: 

File3: