Dear Sir,

Though I live in NSW I would like to add to you in the south my concerns about how we end our lives. These days we all live longer due to the expertise of modern medicine but this is often not a happy time, often something that has to be endured rather than enjoyed. We wait in various ways to find a reason to die and this can often bring great pain and discomfort. How stupid to put ourselves in this situation when a kindly doctor, like a kindly vet, can put us out of our misery. Imagine the cost of keeping old people alive, many are vegetables, when this money could be put to far better use. Families could live their lives without having to care for their infirm, huge complexes could be used for the homeless and new medical technologies discovered.

I, personally, would like the chance, when I realise life no longer has any quality, to call my family around, sip an aged red, say my good-byes and then have that lovely injection that would put me peacefully asleep. I would not suffer and neither would my family. Is this not common sense and common kindness?

We know it works in other countries - surely we can grow up too. We will have to in the long run - there will be too many old people to house - so let's do it NOW.

Yours sincerely,

Millicent Jones.