Inquiry Name: Inquiry into End of Life Choices

Mr Johannis (Hans) Paas

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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Please consider that your deliberations should take into account the simple fact that medical science has not as yet discovered a wholly effective analgesic. Therefore, the only choice available for dealing with chronic pain is opiate based drugs. While these drugs may reduce pain or in many cases eliminate it, for many people, this relief or elimination often comes as a result of a very significant compromise to quality of life. Without quality of life I would submit there is no real life for the chronic pain sufferer. Therefore, even if the state decides to continue to refuse the citizen the option of physician assisted suicide as of right, while the current situation continues; ie. lack of a wholly effective analgesics, to prohibit physician assisted suicide to those experiencing chronic pain is not the behaviour of a civilised society. As a practicing Christian who strives to be faithful to God I am very concerned that my religious views and those of my fellow Christians or indeed all people of faith should NOT influence our Parliament. Those who drafted our Federal Constitution were clear about the need to keep religion and government separate and I believe the Victorian Electorate would agree with that. The committee and our parliament should wholly discount submissions that are made by religious organisations or individuals that are based on religious beliefs. These minority views will otherwise have the effect of hijacking good government.

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File1:

File2:

File3: