Lilian Topic  
Secretary Legal & Social Issues Committee  
Parliament House, Spring Street  
Melbourne Victoria  3002  
10th August 2015

To the Parliamentary Inquiry into the end of life choices,

We are a Catholic Congregation who have cared for Elderly and seriously ill members of local community in our Houses across Australia and overseas for over a hundred years.

We strongly oppose the forthcoming legislation “End of Life Choices” on the basis of the teachings of the Catholic Church.

In our Ministry we have witnessed Elderly Residents who always die with dignity and peace. Our staff are trained in Palliative Care which encompasses a multidisciplinary approach with a focus on family and friends involvement. This Palliative Care Pathway has a strong emphasis on Residents’ Advanced Care Directive and their personal wishes for a peaceful and pain free death. The terminal phase of the Elderly Resident’s life often allows quality time for family and friends to make peace with the person or each other, and grants permission for the dying person to be at peace.

Yours sincerely,

Sister Patricia Hilton  
Sister Anne Rodgers  
Sister Veronica Cooney

Sister Sipona Ah Kuol  
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