Graeme Reid

Submission to: "Inquiry into End of Life Choices"

Since my mother died in early 1998, the way she was treated before her death, and the way she died in the Kingston Centre has concerned me. The gross discomfort and accordingly, the undignified death she had to accordingly endure, were a disgrace to the system.

It became clear to me some years later that what was obviously done back then, was similar to the way in which Terri Schiavo in the United States was caused to die in 2005. My mother was obviously caused to die, some seven years even before Terri Schiavo suffered the same fate at the hands of some in the U.S. medical profession and others whose agendas are to ensure this sort of thing would happen to people in such circumstances. There were even armed guards posted at Terri Schiavo's bed to ensure no one gave her sustenance to keep her alive.

It seems to me, that the only basic difference between Terri Schiavo's death and the death of my mother, is that Terri Schiavo's husband, Michael Schiavo, applied to the courts to have Terri's feeding tubes removed and thus starve and dehydrate her to death; whereas concerning my mother who required feeding tubes for survival, she either was not allowed any at all, or had them removed; and had them withheld by those treating her and consequently she suffered an undignified and very distressing death as did Terri Schiavo seven years later. I didn't see my mother with feeding tubes on any of my visits and even had to moisten her lips with water.

In my view, those in the medical system in Victoria, who were involved with what they did to my mother and consequently ensured the ending of my mother's life, had not honestly conferred with myself or others, and the situation was, that my mother was in a worse position in their hands than Terri Schiavo was had been in at the hands of those who finally ensured her death.

Essential food and water to keep either my mother, Terri Schiavo (or even any one of us) alive, sick or not, is 'not' medical treatment; Withdrawing food and water is not withdrawing medical treatment therefore, but rather it is the withdrawing of essential nourishment. I view the death of my mother therefore as deliberate starvation and dehydration until she died.

If any one of us, who is not sick would have food and water purposely denied until we died, it would be seen as murder and unjust killing. Well is is obviously
no different to murder if food and water is similarly withdrawn from anyone sick or suffering to ensure that they die. Such cannot be classed as the withdrawal of medical treatment.

My mother had paid a fortune into private insurance coverage for many many years because she believed that she would be able to have good and proper medical treatment if ever anything would happen to cause her to need such treatment; and this insurance was also to entitle her to treatment in a private hospital. This however, did not happen, she had a stroke which among other things, disabled her ability to swallow properly and she was taken - not to a private hospital as would be expected, - but to a public hospital.

Before her condition became too bad because of lack of water and nourishment, the public hospital, without any consultation whatsoever with myself or the family, moved her to the Kingston Centre which is obviously government run and we were told we would have to sell her house to obtain money to support her as there were hefty charges there and other places we may have to send her.

In not too long she was said to have had another stroke and was put in a room by herself; obviously to die. She had been obviously deprived of food and water for so long that she was too weak to survive.

she was in a sort of coma and was puffing and panting for breath and water which we could not give her as there were no tubes, but we knew she could hear when we spoke to her because she moved her head towards us when we spoke. A Doctor Green, at one time, who was on one side of the bed she was in, while I was on the other side, nevertheless, spoke across her as she was laying and said - You mother is dying, you will have to accept it. That was so insensitive a thing to say but I didn’t answer because my mother would have surely heard and she was in no condition to hear what I would have liked to say at the time.

She became worse and worse and died in that room in the same way Terri Schiavo had died in America some seven years later. It more than seemed that no one there cared very much. That's the treatment my mother received for all her payments during her life for expensive health insurance. Instead of the proper far better quality due care she deserved, she was handed premature death.
How often does this sort of thing already go on in Victoria?

My mother was opposed to the ending of the lives of the incurably ill, and so am I as are the rest of my family. The killing off of the sick, the disabled, the menally ill, the depressed, the unborn, the newly born, and more, were all agendas and policies that the nazis implemented.
As has been proved in the Netherlands, they start off with the terminally ill and before too long, the policies and agendas are extended to all the categories above and more, that and would certainly happen here if such initial agendas are authorised.

There are reports that people in the Netherlands are afraid their relatives can give permission to end their lives against their will should anything happen. And such is the extent, that many people carry cards in their wallets saying they do not want to be euthanised hould they have to be taken to hospital.

The move towards this situation locally, is evidenced by the abortion laws in Victoria which are reported as the most liberal in the world - These are laws supporting the carrying out of the 'most severe form of child abuse' involving the crushing of, and the ripping of the baby apart in the mother's womb and then pulling it out piece by piece; and there is also so called partial birth abortion where the baby is killed before being taken completely out of the womb. Had such agendas been applied to any of us at that time of our lives, then we would not be here today. However, there are countless thousands of lives who have been terminated and are therefore not here today. Supporters of such fascist like agendas are therefore, obviously very hypocritical.

Such draconian laws passed that allow this, should surely be repealed. They have as little respect for life as those proposed to exterminate the sick and other categories some class as expendable. Any further legislation along the lines of exterminating or preventing the lives of human beings, is another obvious step along the road to implementing more such nazi agendas. But these have now become globalisation agendas pushed by elite and associated organisations favouring such genocide, like Emily's List, an organisation that chooses political party candidates, particularly women candidates in the Labor party for the people to elect, on the understanding that they will support such agendas and so called same sex marriage agendas. Such candidates are stood in for people to elect for such organisations at elections, and yet voters are not even told about Emily's list and its agendas; and the hidden intentions of many they are encouraged to vote for. The agenda to kill off the terminally ill and others, is no exception.

It is rather, not up to some so called judge as in the Schiavo case, a husband, relation, friend politician, or anyone in the medical profession to decide and dictate the time and reasons that a persons life can be taken from them by such means as described, or by any other means, any more than I had authority over decisions regarding my mother's life. It was not mine to make a decision about, and no one else had such a right either; not ever to dehydrate her to death. Even if it was my life, such similarly does not belong to me but rather it belongs its Creator as not even one of us, willed ourselves into existence any more than
anyone who is dying once did.

Life comes by the providence and will of God; and all human life belongs to God its creator. Human beings are a spiritual and physical combination. The spirit gives life to the body and it is in the separation of body and spiritual soul that is called death. No doctor or scientist can make, create, replace or even understand the mysteries of life and creation, they can't even cure terminal illnesses regardless of how clever they claim to be; thus the only cop out solution of many of them is to kill the targeted person; i.e. cause the separation of their eternal soul from their body prematurely by some foul method and then call it mercy.

Life on earth is a gift and is brief anyway, but not without purpose; and from a Christian point of view suffering is redemptive and thus has an important reason as the suffering and death of Christ was for redemption. The purpose is not fulfilled by killing off others who are suffering; but rather in genuine concern for others.

When I was going to school, we had a small catechism and there were two questions near the start. 1. Who made you? and 2. Why did God made you. The answer to the first question is obvious in the second question; the answer to the second question is: God made me to know Him, to love Him and to serve Him here on earth and to be happy and with Him for ever in Heaven. So how do we serve God? We serve God by self sacrifice and concern for one another and by helping and assisting others, as each of us, regardless of how resentful or disbelieving we may be towards God, and His commandments, are nevertheless, creations of God, not ourselves, and therefore all are all part of His family.