I have recently been forced to live through the dying process of a dear, 89 years old, friend. For a long time I have held a mild acceptance of the right to ask for euthanasia. This feeling has been multiplied tenfold and is now trenchant.

A society that is not evolving and changing becomes frozen in time and decays. Change should be incremental and should not be delayed until a more extreme, bigger step change is forced.

A 5 year cooling off period may be a way of softly introducing legal euthanasia. In my case I would declare my request for assistance over at least a 5 year period until I decide the time for me to die.

Time to allow family & friends to accept that it is totally my choice to decide when I no longer wish to live. A five year period should preclude “family”, “friends” or “society” from being able to object when I finally decide to make, what should be, my free choice any way.

There is a need for a change in the philosophy of dying. Social commentator Hugh Mackay hopes for a future with greater awareness & moral maturity. Greater awareness of the aging process and acceptance of diminishing quality of life until we ultimately die.

As we move to a post theocratic, religion free era there is still a need to prevent superstitious twits like kevin...
andrews (2007 howard government notoriety) from preventing me having a dignified death of my own choosing.

I think it criminal that anyone’s money be paid to a medical industrial complex that will profit from prolonging my life until it decides to allow my death. A medical industry that funds itself on prolonging life till finally starving a person to death or waiting for pneumonia to manifest is a bizarre and callous industry. True validation of a hypocritic oath.

Presently, if I euthanased myself now, money would have to be found for an unnecessary autopsy!! This time and money could be spent in an infinity of better ways. (Maybe a lobotomy for kevin andrews?)

I used to wish to donate my body and organs to a medical hospital when I die. I would like to make this as convenient as possible to all concerned, but to minimise money being spent on expensive organ donations instead of basic health care for many I do not want to be an organ donor.

I can only hope kevin andrews (and his family) gets the choice to choose the living death he is inflicting on others.

I am not seeking my philosophy for all. If some people wish to stay alive as long as they and my taxes can pay, that is their business and merely deserves my disapproval. All I ask is not to be forced to be as asinine as some others while going through the trauma of my dying.

the above was also submitted to the Senate Committee inquiry in support of the Rights of the Terminally Ill (Euthanasia Laws Repeal) Bill 2008

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