



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON END OF LIFE CHOICES IN THE ACT

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Submission Cover Sheet

End of Life Choices in the ACT

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Tel +61 [REDACTED]

Valerie DAVIES

[REDACTED] [REDACTED], VICTOR HARBOR

E-mail: [REDACTED]

SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5211

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Secretary, Select Committee on End of Life Choices in the ACT

I write in the strongest support of the proposed Voluntary Assisted Dying bill for the ACT.

With no opportunity to use assisted dying, my Mother at the age of 93, deaf and almost blind, chose to refuse food and drink to terminate her suffering. It took over two weeks for her to die. No-one could make her change her mind - she had discussed assisted dying over many years but, having been an active person, a barrister, she could no longer tolerate days simply sitting in a chair waiting to die, unable even to complete her favourite daily crossword puzzle.

Being a Christian, as was my Mother, the thought that we allow suffering and pain to continue at the end of life, with no relief, is abhorrent. If we are regarded as criminal if we allow an animal to suffer, how can we permit human loved ones a lesser consideration?

Please enact a Bill which will allow Australians choice at the end of life.

Valerie Davies

Valerie Davies (Mrs)