



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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**SELECT COMMITTEE ON END OF LIFE CHOICES IN THE ACT**

Ms Bec Cody MLA (Chair), Mrs Vicki Dunne MLA (Deputy Chair), Ms Tara Cheyne MLA,  
Mrs Elizabeth Kikkert MLA, Ms Caroline Le Couteur MLA.

## Submission Cover Sheet

### End of Life Choices in the ACT

**Submission Number: 40**

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**From:** John Kelly  
**To:** [LA Committee - EOLC](#)  
**Subject:** Opposition to euthanasia and assisted suicide  
**Date:** Thursday, 1 February 2018 10:17:33 AM

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Dear Members of the Select Committee on End of Life Choices in the ACT,

As a teacher and a parent I wish to express grave concern about the messages currently being sent, especially to our young people, on the dignity of human life and the doctor-patient relationship.

At both extremities - birth and dying - of life in Australia now, we have legislation that permits the direct destruction of human life (abortion and euthanasia) and a growing industry that thrives on both.

Effectively, what this legally ratified situation says is that the human right to life, which all other natural rights presuppose, is not inviolable; the value of human life is egregiously demeaned, and implicitly a nihilistic outlook on life is promoted. Moreover, the trust in proper care by members of the medical profession that any person is entitled to assume is radically compromised when the legal ban on direct taking of human life is struck down.

Accordingly, I urge you to oppose strenuously any legislative initiative that seeks to permit the direct destruction of human life, supporting instead the development and public promotion of improved palliative care in the case of critically ill patients.

Yours sincerely,

John Kelly

  
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