



**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

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**From:** Helen & Lindsay Dennis  
**To:** [LA Committee - EOLC](#)  
**Subject:** End of life choices  
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To any Politician who will listen.

In December 2004 my Mother, aged 88, died from terminal stages of Alzheimer's Disease after 8 years in a dementia care unit. She had been in a vegetative state for the last 3 years of her life. We were forced to wait until she was in a distressed state before we could instigate palliative care.

During the last 3 weeks of her life, my brother wrote to a number of politicians inviting them to visit and see first hand what we and she endured. Not one 'Polly' showed up! Any persons wishing to witness this distress should visit a terminally ill person in a Nursing Home every day for a week and see how they feel, especially if it is their loved one.

If we treated our pet dog in this manner we would be sued for cruelty.

Voluntary Euthanasia is an essential option for anyone in a vegetative state who has NO quality of life.

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