



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

Submission Number: 325

Date Authorised for Publication: 29/3/18

From: dira horne
To: [LA Committee - EOLC](#)
Subject: Submission
Date: Tuesday, 20 March 2018 3:38:00 PM

Hi

I strongly support the introduction of legislation that allows voluntary assistance dying . I am and have been a POA for an elderly woman who is now 94 living in a nursing home in the ACT.

This person has expressed her desire to end her life since becoming totally bedridden over a year ago. She would say she has no quality of life and is dependent on the carers of this nursing home for all her needs and I would have to agree with her.

Her husband passed away just over two years ago and they both came to this country as refugees from Europe after the second world war, worked hard and she feels to have ended up like this has stripped her of her dignity and wishes to die on a daily basis. Examples include being left naked on a chair with the door open for all to witness, over an hour wait to use the bathroom, carers yelling and the list goes on.

The treatment she receives is incredibly poor and does not wish to make a complaint for fear of retribution which does exist and I have witnessed this myself.

You might be thinking that if these issues were to be resolved she may not wish to end her life, I would also be thinking the same thing, however even with the best and kindest care if that indeed exists in our aged care system, her daily life lying in bed waiting to die brings her no joy or meaning to her life.

She is ready to die and has been for a long time her only desire is for there to be no pain and go gently.

Please give hers and other peoples stories the consideration this matter deserves.

Regards

Dira Horne