



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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: 298

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From: Mark Bailey
To: [LA Committee - EOLC](#)
Subject: I am an ACT resident, here is my submission to the inquiry
Date: Sunday, 18 March 2018 9:11:49 PM

Re: I am an ACT resident, here is my submission to the inquiry

Dear Secretary,

I have just moved back to the ACT after almost a year away (I'll be living in Watson from 24 March) and I am very concerned about the push to legalise 'euthanasia', the deliberate termination of human life, in the ACT. The European experience proves that the slippery slope argument is perfectly real in the case of 'euthanasia' - oh, lets drop the pretence and call it what it is - state-sponsored deliberate killing. In Belgium, they are now performing involuntary deliberate killing. Last time I looked, deliberately killing someone without even the fig-leaf of their supposed agreement was called murder. Certainly it was so regarded at the Nuremberg war crimes trials in regards to the German National Socialist 'euthanasia' campaign of deliberate killing called Aktion T4. Don't bring Aktion T4 back, please. Is the slope of state-sponsored deliberate killing something the ACT really wishes to start on? Even setting aside the active evil which such legislation has always, repeat always, led to in the past and in the present, there are completely valid alternatives that do not bring back the sort of state-sponsored deliberate killing that made the 'euthanasia' of spate sponsored deliberate killing like Aktion T4 a byword for barbarity and evil. Clare Holland House is one such - Hospices and palliative care made my mother and my father's final days peaceful, pain-free and dignified. Overseas experience proves that the concept of deliberate, state-sponsored killings leads to great expansion of the reasons such deliberate killings are made for: in Europe, depressed persons and even children may now be killed, mentally ill persons are killed rather than treated (shades of German National Socialist Aktion T4 indeed!), and the defenceless elderly may be killed as well. There is absolutely no way that supporters of this can control it, and overseas experience in recent years proves that beyond any doubt. Those who support deliberate killing do make all sorts of promises, and decry the slippery slope argument, but (to be frank) they are either foolish or deliberately deceptive - and what has happened with the expansion of these deliberate killing programs in Europe proves this beyond any possible doubt. No. This is something to avoid, and it is totally unnecessary anyway. Build another Hospice, and expand palliative care capability. Firmly do the right moral thing and reject something which history proves is not only morally and ethically wrong, but which leads to the worst possible outcomes. Remember that Aktion T4 was morally and ethically wrong to the point of being defined as evil at Nuremberg - those who created and ran it were hanged for what they did - and it was defined as a crime against humanity. Do not bring even a hint of that into the ACT. Regards:

Sincerely,
Mark Bailey

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (from 24 Mar 18)
Watson, AU-ACT 2602

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