



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: 328

Date Authorised for Publication: 29/3/18

From: Bronwyn Copp
To: [LA Committee - EOLC](#)
Subject: I am an ACT resident, here is my submission to the inquiry
Date: Tuesday, 20 March 2018 9:49:00 PM

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

Dear Secretary,

I am very concerned about the ACT Government looking into the option of assisted suicide. There are limited safeguards for killing people. It can progress to include more people other than adults with a terminal illness. In Belgium the mentally ill can choose to die and this has been extended to assist children to be euthanased. My father had a severe stroke last year at the age of 81. Fortunately he survived due to some quick thinking medical experts who had him flown to Sydney for an emergency operation. I am so thankful that he is alive. Although he now has some paralysis in his right side and some other issues, given the severity of the stroke he has done very well. People can still positively contribute to society with physical limitations and pain. People with disabilities can teach us a lot about the important things in life. His desire to improve and his positive attitude in the face of such difficulty is remarkable. He could be seen by some as a 'burden' to society but certainly not to our family. The stroke has enabled me to grow closer to him. I love my Dad and we want him to live, to improve, and time spent with him is very precious. I can understand that it must be hard to suffer in pain or to watch loved ones in pain but it is far better to fund counselling, spiritual support or palliative care to kill the pain not the person. It is better to choose life, to choose pain management and to let people die a natural death when the time is right. Facing the death of a loved one is hard enough let alone the guilt people can feel if they either pressure people to end their lives or agree with loved ones terminating their lives. This can result in conflicts in relationships and emotional pain for the people who are left to deal with it. Please do not support any bill advocating for any form of euthanasia. It is a very serious issue and the arguments against euthanasia need to be carefully investigated. Thank you for the opportunity to have my say on this very important issue. Yours sincerely Bronwyn

Sincerely,
Bronwyn Copp

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[REDACTED]

Wright, AU-ACT 2611

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