



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

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From: Michaela Samman
To: [LA Committee - EOLC](#)
Subject: ACT Inquiry into End of Life Choices 2018
Date: Friday, 16 March 2018 1:28:27 PM

Dear ACT Legislative Assembly

I strongly endorse the submission from Exit International, of which I am a member.

The choice for an individual to claim autonomy for the quality of their own life *and* death, legally, with dignity, without fear or recrimination, in the face of unbearable terminal illness, is long overdue. Indeed, Australian Polls consistently show majority support for Assisted Dying.

Good effective palliative care is *not* always possible for every one.

Just the knowledge that a peaceful method of ending ones life is legally available, can reduce the fear and distress that aggravates grave illness further, and brings its own comfort, often prolonging the will to live.

For myself, I do not want some self righteous, religious zealot, dictating to me, the terms and quality of my own death, against my will and need.

I do not want to adversely or illegally implicate another who may sympathize with my condition, so currently my only choice is a violent and lonely end, and much more disturbing for those whose task it is to mop up after me.

Please consider carefully the plight of those who consistently and genuinely plead, to end their lives peacefully among those who care and comfort them. Do not condemn them to a painfully prolonged, or furtive violent lonely death.

Please allow all of us the option of voluntary euthanasia, for terminal and chronic illness.

Most Sincerely,

Michaela Samman

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