



**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

**Submission Number: 386**

**Date Authorised for Publication: 19/4/18**

**From:** Paula Handreck  
**To:** [LA Committee - EOLC](#)  
**Subject:** I am an ACT resident, here is my submission to the inquiry  
**Date:** Thursday, 22 March 2018 9:03:29 PM

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

Dear Secretary,

As a healthcare professional who works primarily with the elderly, I am writing to express my grave concern that euthanasia would greatly increase the risk of elder abuse. Euthanasia would facilitate elder abuse by making it easier for family members and significant others to pressure the elderly into ending their lives early. Not only would euthanasia increase the risk of elder abuse, but it would also negatively impact on their emotional well being by creating conditions in which they are more likely to feel like they are a burden, and that 'voluntary-suicide' is 'the right thing to do.' I ask that you please take these concerns into consideration as you consider this life and death issue.

Sincerely,  
Paula Handreck

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Ngunnawal, AU-ACT 2913

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