



**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: 423**

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

**From:** Timothy Coleman  
**To:** [LA Committee - EOLC](#)  
**Subject:** I am an ACT resident, here is my submission to the inquiry  
**Date:** Friday, 23 March 2018 1:32:19 PM

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

Dear Secretary,

I am writing to express my opposition to euthanasia and assisted suicide (or what some term assisted dying). Euthanasia undermines and contradicts many of the principles we enjoy in our community: \* Medical practitioners are trusted to preserve and/or restore health where possible by assisting the patient to overcome sickness and disease, and should not be assisting diseases in overcoming the patient. Euthanasia will lead to distrust of the medical profession. \* Experiences in other jurisdictions that have allowed state-sanctioned killing shows that any 'supposed protections' are soon eroded, and the criteria for being considered "eligible" for euthanasia becomes broader (eg. it is reported that in Belgium, euthanasia now extends to the mentally-ill, an eery echo of the actions of the German Nazis attempting to "purify the gene pool" during the 1940s) \* Euthanasia contradicts the thinking that requires many in our community to regularly undertake "Working with Vulnerable People" checks for their work by creating situations where the aged and disabled people become vulnerable to pressure to view themselves as a "burden on the community" and possibly even being coerced into ending their life. \* Euthanasia encourages the reduction of people to mere economic entities, fostering a view that people are only worthwhile as long as they are able to contribute to our Nation's economy, and should be 'discharged' from life when they are no longer able to contribute. \* Euthanasia contradicts the work done by many (including organisations such as Beyond Blue and Lifeline) in seeking to reduce the occurrence of suicide, and even the concerns expressed just last year by Australian Labor Party leader Mr Bill Shorten (one suicide is one too many). \* Euthanasia contradicts and undermines the high value that we as a community rightly place on the lives of people which prompts concerns over workplace safety, safety standards for buildings, vehicles, appliances, power tools and even children's toys. Most importantly, it must be noted that the God who created life says that it is wrong to take the life of a person (which includes being involved in taking the life of another person, or taking one's own life). Disobeying God's laws will always bring adverse consequences (not just those mentioned above). Best regards, Timothy Coleman [REDACTED]  
WANNIASSA ACT Ph. 02 [REDACTED]

Sincerely,  
Timothy Coleman  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Wanniassa, AU-ACT 2903

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