



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: Christina Brooks
To: [LA Committee - EOLC](#)
Subject: Select Committee on End of Life Choices
Date: Tuesday, 6 February 2018 11:53:54 AM

To whom it may concern

I would like to make a submission to the above Select Committee regarding End of Life Choices.

I am a 74 year old female who has had cancer in the past 5 years. I have had an Advanced Care Directive drawn up, signed and lodged with my family and General Practitioner. I do not want any medical intervention that would require me to be either resuscitated or tube fed and would wish to "go gently into the night".

I have made my wishes plain to my immediate family so that they do not have to make these kind of decisions if and when they may be medically required.

I resent that my choice of how I will die has been high-jacked by organised religious zealots who would rather have people suffer than be able to take the necessary steps required to end their life should they so desire. I think if someone is lucid and able to make that decision with the support of their loved ones (and without pressure being put to bear) and qualified medical practitioners then that would be a much more preferable outcome.

No doctor who is trying to alleviate suffering should be legally penalised in the above circumstances.

Any medical practitioner who has strict religious views that preclude them from assisting someone to die, then of course they should have the ability to say no. Likewise a medical practitioner who has similar views to my own, should not be legally penalised. The Victorian legislation should be backed up in every State of Australia - this is humane legislation and will prevent suffering.

I hope you will take my personal views into consideration.

Christina Brooks (Ms)



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