



**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:** 232

**Date Authorised for Publication:** 29/3/18

## **Submission to the**

### **Select Committee on End of Life Choices in the Australian Capital Territory.**

John Leslie Crowder Edge

[REDACTED] Melba ACT 2615.

Thursday 15 March 2018.

I am a long term member of Exit International (ACT Chapter). I joined this organisation in support of my partner, who having nursed her brother, then her mother, and finally her husband, to their deaths, was determined that she would not suffer as they had done if she could avoid it by voluntary euthanasia or rational suicide.

The sad fact is that she was unable to avoid the type of death she so much wished to avoid because a brain tumour (Glioblastoma multiforma or GBM for short) caused her rapid descent into dementia and finally death before she could obtain the peaceful and dignified death she had so long planned and hoped for.

I write this submission at, a time too close to her death, and when I am about to accept bereavement counselling for her loss. I am still so disturbed by this loss that I have few words to submit to this enquiry. I want to say so much in support of “End of Life Choices”, but find myself still too raw to adequately express what I want to say.

What I will say is this:

*I have studied the submission from Exit International (ACT Chapter) to your enquiry and I strongly endorse that submission. I humbly beg you to give that submission your earnest consideration as it so comprehensibly covers the subject of your enquiry. It is my hope that the Select Committee will make recommendations which will lead to the people of the Australian Capital Territory gaining legal access to each and everyone's private and personal decision of “End of Life Choice”. I believe it should be the fundamental right of every Australian to have their decision, regarding their end of life choice, respected and legalised.*

Yours sincerely,

John L C Edge.