



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

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From: Craig Johnson
To: [LA Committee - EOLC](#)
Subject: Inquiry into End of Life Choices in the ACT
Date: Thursday, 15 March 2018 10:32:11 PM

Hi there,

I believe that the End of Life Choices should be implemented in a manner consistent with our acceptance of human rights. As stated on the Australian Human Rights Commission website:

"Human rights recognise the inherent value of each person, regardless of background, where we live, what we look like, what we think or what we believe.

They are based on principles of dignity, equality and mutual respect, which are shared across cultures, religions and philosophies. They are about being treated fairly, treating others fairly and having the ability to make genuine choices in our daily lives.

Respect for human rights is the cornerstone of strong communities in which everyone can make a contribution and feel included."

<https://www.humanrights.gov.au/about/what-are-human-rights>

This should stand as the test for this decision, and I am confident that the committee will reflect this sentiment.

To aid your interpretation, please don't be selective in your reading of this description. It can be biased by emphasising one word or statement over another. Surely the best laws relating to individual choice do not shy away from making complex decision, but rather take the time to construct words that accept the diversity in our society.

For the record, if it matters, my opinion is that an individual should have the right to have access to voluntary assisted dying.

Regards
Craig Johnson

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