



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: Mary-Anne Brownlie
To: [LA Committee - EOLC](#)
Subject: Euthanasia submission
Date: Friday, 23 March 2018 1:33:00 PM

Hello,

I wish to contribute to the discussion on euthanasia in the ACT. I am passionately pro euthanasia and want to add my voice to this discussion as someone who has valid reasons to have an opinion. I have progressive MS and as so lovingly described by my diagnosing neurologist I will progress inexorably into total incapacity, a factual statement supported by my carers who look after the people that have progressed into total catatonic incapacity and have a daily parade of carers to turn them regularly and insert tubes to insert and then remove various body fluids from various orifices. I have two grown-up children and a husband and a community and my greatest fear is having them watch me in this state especially because it's highly likely I'll be aware that they are watching me given I am aware of my incapacity now.

As this eventuality is intolerable to me and euthanasia is not available and anyone who helps me to end my life will be sent to jail for murder I'll have to arrange for my own death and I ponder how I should do this. Drug overdose in a hotel room and have the cleaner find me, perhaps throw myself under a truck and permanently traumatise the driver, overdose in my home and destroy the family home for the family for ever etc etc.

This being bullied into living by the medical and deluded religious fraternity has to stop. The reasons bewilder me. It's a fact were not a religious culture as factualised in the last census and besides saying that it's up to God to decide our time of death is ludicrous considering the number of people who are technically alive due to medication and machines. I can only think that the medical fraternity don't like their life expectancy figures being mucked around with. How dare they force the terminally ill in excruciating pain to soldier on for their inexplicably selfish reasons. We have to stop confusing being technically alive with living.

Absolutely no one is calling for euthanasia to be compulsory. No more than we the people called for gay marriage to be compulsory.

Please do all you can to end this inhumanity and allow people the choice to die with dignity.

Thank you for your consideration

Mary-Anne Brownlie

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