

## **Admin, LACO**

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**Subject:** FW: Submission: End of Life Choices Inquiry

**From:** Gerrit and Karina Ballast  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 11 October 2017 8:57 PM  
**To:** Joint Select Committee on End of Life Choices  
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Dear Members of the Joint Select Committee on End of Life Choices.

We thank you that we have the opportunity to present a submission on the End of Life Choices.

All human beings are created in the image of God and therefore have worth, no matter what their state of health is. If someone is incurably ill, demented, or severely handicapped, it is not up to us to decide about their span of life. Life comes from God, and He is the only one who has the right to take away human life.

If euthanasia is legalised, we would be suggesting to the sick and elderly that their life isn't worth living. Our job in this regard should be to show these people that they have worth by giving the best possible palliative care, rather than killing them.

We are concerned about the consequences if euthanasia is legalised. You can look at other countries to see that patients are euthanized even without their consent and the elderly fear for their lives (and carry around 'Don't Kill Me' cards in their purses or wallets)! We would prefer to see that more attention is focused on good palliative care and good pain management, rather than continually trying to legalise euthanasia.

For the above reasons we are strongly against legalising euthanasia.

We pray that God will give you the wisdom you need to listen to His voice, and that God will help you in your important task.

Yours sincerely

Gerrit & Karina Ballast